Philosophy 118

Latin American Philosophy

Prof. Carlos Alberto Sanchez

MW 1:30—2:45 SH 238



Is “Latin American” philosophy possible? There are two answers to this question. The affirmative answer, by the Mexican philosophers Leopoldo Zea and his followers, says that there is a “Latin American” philosophy because philosophy arises out of, and is a response to, the Latin American circumstance. The negative answer, forcefully voiced by the Peruvian philosopher Augusto Salazar Bondy and his followers, says that “Latin American” philosophy is impossible, since hundreds of years of colonial oppression, economic underdevelopment, and ideological imperialism have made it impossible for an original and genuine Latin American philosophy to exist. In his course, we will look at this debate and its repercussions for the future possibilities of a Latin American philosophy or for philosophy in Latin America.

Students will be required to write four short papers, participate in class discussion, and present, once, to the class.

For questions, contact Prof. Sanchez at carlos.sanchez@sjsu.edu