

### **Anthropology of Afro-Brazilian groups (African Matrix Religions)**

The course explores classical and contemporary issues related to the so-called “afro-Brazilian studies”, especially with regards to African matrix religions in Brazil. Various themes will be discussed, such as possession and trance, ritual, personhood, cosmology, syncretism, and their links to current anthropological debates. Thus, the course will both provide an introduction to the study of such religions, based upon the analysis of key texts in the area, and develop a research on the various modes of articulation between ethnography and theory drawing upon the reading of recent ethnographies on afro-Brazilian studies. Upon completing the introductory section the readings will be defined by the participants to the course.