LTAM 370: Exam 1

Paper length: 6-8 pages double-spaced
Paper due: Friday, October 12 at noon. Please deliver a printed copy to Professor López’s mailbox and deposit an electronic copy of the paper in the course folder for Professor Montero.

Answer ONE of the following questions:

We have argued in this seminar that Getúlio Vargas catalyzed a national project for Brazil. Discuss the historical factors that enabled Vargas’ project and then examine the implications of his rule (before, during, and after the Estado Novo) for (a) national identity as reflected in cultural institutions and traditions and (b) the Brazilian state and economy.

Explain Schwarz’s concept of “misplaced ideas” and apply it to three aspects of Brazilian cultural and political history that have figured prominently in our readings and class discussions. How has the Brazilian experience differed from the “ideal” (i.e., European or North American experience) and what are the primary reasons for this difference? Examine the implications of these differences for the evolution of the Brazilian political system and cultural identities.

Choose one cultural text (Bras Cubas, Manifesto Antropofago, Bachiana Brasileira #5), analyze it in detail and show what uniquely Brazilian predicament helps understand the emergence of this text at a particular moment in time. Make use of the historical, economic and political texts that you have read about the historical period to situate the text, the questions it poses and what it tries to resolve.