This class takes a look at Latin American cultural history from the point of view of popular myths of resistance to power. Pirates define the history of the Caribbean, bandits can be regarded as either terrorists or patriots, and gamblers are the stockbrokers or rural Latin America. Folklore, literature, music have created a parallel culture of Latin America that defies the official, public culture of the nation-state, and the roots of these cultural practices can be found as far back as the colonial times. Students in this course will read texts such as poems, novels, reports and essays and will watch significant films to discuss whether this culture of resistance has become the defining mode of Latin American cultural production.