

**HIST 04
Latin American History**

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Office Hours: Wednesday, 11:45–1:00 and by appointment

Course Description.

This course surveys Latin American history from pre-Columbian times to the present. It explores economic and social dimensions of the major Amerindian civilizations; the colonial incorporation of the region into the Atlantic economy; the imperial efforts to adjust the colonial space to a changing international order; the emergence of independent and peripheral nation-states and their diverse and also convergent economic, political, social, and cultural paths; and the challenges of earlier internationalization trends and current globalization.

Course Requirements

1. Reading.

Required readings are listed in the course schedule below. Most required book chapters and articles are on Moodle and marked with an asterisk (*). Some materials are also available through McCabe as e-books.

2. Writing Assignments.

Two take-home exams aiming at contextualizing, connecting related issues, and identifying key problems in the making of the Latin American experience. The exams have two parts. In the first one, and using your class notes, readings, primary sources, movies, and any other additional material you consider relevant, you will answer two of several questions in at least six pages in total. In the second part you will write about a primary source I will provide. As in the first part you should use all types of secondary sources in order to articulate your focused and contextualized interpretation of the primary source you have chosen; this answer -in fact a short essay- should be two/three pages in length.

3. Work with primary sources and visual materials. Written documents or visual materials assigned for discussion on a certain day are indicated in the schedule that follows. Written documents and visual materials available in Moodle are marked with (*). Visual materials available in Moodle (Streaming Video section) are marked with (*). For those on campus, Netflix access is available at the McCabe Family Room (3rd floor), which has the Libraries' Netflix account logged in. If you do not have Netflix access, please inform me in an email.

4. Attendance and Class Participation. All students in the course are required to attend class, arrive promptly and participate in discussions. Attendance is mandatory. In the event that you missed class you are responsible for all material covered (assignments, announcements, etc.). Please keep in mind that the History Department attendance policy states: “Students are required to attend all classes for the successful completion of the course. Unexcused absences will result in a lower grade.”

Additionally, tardiness is not acceptable. Let me know in advance if you cannot make a class or there are special circumstances that will delay your arrival to class.

A significant part of your grade will be determined by your class participation. The professor will be responsible for providing additional, contextual material to frame class discussions. Lectures and discussions will highlight and/or build upon the readings. You need to prepare for class each day. Do the assigned readings for each class *prior* to coming to class. It is a requirement then to show evidence of your effort to read and discuss the material critically and historically, understanding its context, social location, and author's point of view.

5. Accommodations. You are also welcome to contact me privately to discuss your academic needs. However, all disability-related accommodations must be arranged through the Office of Student Disability Services (studentdisabilityservices@swarthmore.edu) to arrange an appointment to discuss your needs. For details about the accommodations process, visit the Student Disability Service Website at <http://www.swarthmore.edu/academic-advising-support/welcome-to-student-disability-service>.

6. Cellular telephones. For the sake of civility and common sense, please turn off your cell phone when you enter the classroom.

Course Schedule

(This syllabus is not definitive. During the semester, please check Moodle on a weekly basis in order to access to the last version.)

Week 1

Thursday, February 11

Introduction

The Peripheral Condition of Latin America

Latin America: Unity and Diversity

Reading

Keen, Geographical Background (*)

Latin American Physical Maps (*)

Primary and secondary sources in historical studies

Reading

How to analyze primary sources (*)

Optional Reading

Rosenstone, The historical film (*)

Schoppes, What is Oral History (*)

Berkin, Maps in history (*)

Kozloff, Foreword to How to Read a Photograph (*)

Nord, A Plea for Journalism History (*)

Week 2

Tuesday, February 16

Overview I: From Pre-Columbian to Colonial Times

Reading

Skidmore, The Colonial Foundations (*) 13-36

Maps. Colonial Latin America (*)

Overview II: Between Independence and the 1880s

Reading

Skidmore, The Colonial Foundations (*) 36-41

Maps: Modern Latin America (*)

Thursday, February 18

Overview III: Modern and Contemporary Latin America, 1880-1960

Reading

Skidmore, The Transformation of Modern Latin America (*) 42-55

Skidmore, Patterns of Change in Modern Times (*)

Friday, February 1

Overview IV: Modern and Contemporary Latin America, 1960-Present

Reading

Skidmore, The Transformation of Modern Latin America (*) 55-67

Skidmore, Neoliberalism (*)

Skidmore, Patterns of Change in Modern Times (*)

Week 3

Tuesday, February 23

Thursday, February 25

US-Latin American Relations

Reading

Smith, Talons of the Eagle (*)

Roniger, US Hemispheric Hegemony and the Descent into Genocidal Practices in Latin America, 23-43 (*)

Primary sources: Cartoons on US-Latin American Relations (*)

China's arrival in Latin America

Reading

Gardini, Latin America in the 21st Century: Between Change and Continuity (*)

Ray and Gallagher, 2013 China –Latin American Economic Bulletin (*)

Optional Reading

Ray et al, China in Latin America 2015 (*)

Week 4

Tuesday, March 2

Pre-Columbian Times

Reading

Lockhart and Schwartz (*)

Stern, Andean Pre-Columbian Landscapes, 2 parts (*)

Primary Source

Acqilas and other officials according to Huaman Poma (*)

(A complete digitalized version of Poma's book at <http://www.kb.dk/elib/mss/poma/>)

Optional: Hassig, Mesoamerica and the Aztecs (*)

The Conquest I

Reading

Restall, Seven Myths of the Spanish Conquest (*)

Cook, Born to Die (*)

Media

The Conquest of the Incas (*)

The Conquest II

Reading

Holloway, Whose Conquest is This, Anyway? (*)

Rosenstone, The Historical Film (*)

Media

Aguirre, the Wrath of God (*)

Thursday, March 4

Colonial Times I: The Colonial State

Reading

Brown, Colonial Institutions, pp. 117-137 (*)

Primary source

Maps: Colonial Trading Routes (*)

Colonial Times II: Race, Ethnicity, and Representations

Primary source

Colonial paintings on *Castas* (*)

Week 5

Tuesday, March 9

Colonial Times III: Slavery

Reading

Klein, Blacks. 2 parts (*)

Media

The Last Supper (*)
Photographs of slavery in mid 19th century Brazil (*)

Thursday, March 11

Colonial Times IV: The Catholic Church

Reading

Brown, Colonial Institutions, pp. 137-149 (*)
Saegger, The Mission and Historical Missions (*)
Blake, The Mission, an Epic of the Soul (*)
Ramirez, The Literary Life of Sor Juana (*)

Optional

Wilde, Jesuit Missions and the Guarani Ethnogenesis (*)

Media

The Mission (Netflix)
I, The Worst of All (*)

First take-home exam will be posted on March 12, early morning. It is due by midnight on March 15. Send it by email, Word or PDFs versions.

Week 6

Tuesday, March 16

Crisis of the Colonial Order

Reading

Chasteen, Late Colonial Transformations (*); Independence (*); Postcolonial Blues (*)

Primary Sources

Colonial maps: Viceroyalties in Latin America by 1780 (*)
Bolivar's letter, 1815 (*)
Bolivar's letter, 1829 (*)

Media

Simón Bolivar: Liberator (*)

Thursday, March 18

Nation Building and Urbanization in Argentina: Buenos Aires, 1880-1930

Reading

Walter, Buenos Aires in the 1920s (*)
Rocchi, The Market as an Object of Desire: The Rise of Domestic Industrial Consumption (*)

Primary sources

Alberdi, Immigration as a Means of Progress (*)
Buenos Aires Photographs, 1870-1930 (*)

Optional Media

Buenos Aires in 1932
http://www.youtube.com/watch_popup?v=O2Bvvt7sUA4&pop_ads=NoAdSlots#t=14

Week 7

Tuesday, March 23

Peronist Argentina

Reading

Corradi, Uneasy under One Roof (*)

James, Peronism and the Working Class, 2 parts (*)

Primary source

Evita by Evita (*)

Thursday, March 25

Modern Revolutionary Cuba I

Martínez-Fernández, The Cuban Revolution (*)

Media

The Cuba Libre Story (Netflix)

Week 8

Tuesday, March 30

Guillermoprieto, The Harsh Angel (*)

Primary Source

Che Guevara, Latin American Revolution (*); Man and Socialism (*)

Media

El Che (*)

Thursday, April 1

Radical Reformism in Chile I

Reading

Skidmore, Socialism via Democracy. (*)

O'Shaughnessy, "The 1,000 Days Presidency: the Rise of Allende" p. 32-47

Week 9

Tuesday, April 6,

Radical Reformism in Chile II

Reading

Primary Sources

Allende's speeches: 8, 10, 11, 18, 19, 20 (*)

Media

The Battle of Chile (*)

Thursday, April 8

Migration and Social Change in Urban Modern Peru I

Reading

Golda-Pongratz, The Barriadas of Lima: Utopian City or Self-Organization? (*)

Primary Sources

Lima Chola photographs

Website (in Spanish) on Villa El Salvador

<http://www.amigosdevilla.it/video/archivo/videovilla028.htm>

Week 10

Tuesday, April 13

Migration and Social Change in Urban Modern Peru II

Reading

Lobo, A House of my Own (*)

Lloyd, The Young Towns of Lima (*)

Primary Sources

Lima Chola photographs

Website (in Spanish) on Villa El Salvador

<http://www.amigosdevilla.it/video/archivo/videovilla028.htm>

Thursday, April 15

Ethnicity and Race I

Reading

Chanady, Identity, Politics and Mestizaje (*)

De la Fuente, The rise of Afro-Latin America (*)

Primary source

Cartoon on Mexican Chinese (*)

Week 11

Tuesday, April 20

Ethnicity and Race II

Reading

Winn, A Question of Color (*)

What Color Are You? (*)

Mixed Blood (*)

NYRB Talking about Brazil

The Economist, Affirming a divide (*)

The Economist, Ethnicity in the Caribbean. Favoring Curry (*)

Primary source

Painting by Modesto Brocos y Gomez (*)

Media

Americas, Mirrors of the Heart (*)

Thursday, April 22

Popular Culture: Soccer

Reading

Miller, Studying football in the Americas (*)

Primary Source

Pictures: Latin American soccer 1900-2000 (*)

Week 12**Tuesday, April 27****Military Dictatorship in Chile****Reading**

Wright, Chile under State Terrorism (*)

O'Shaughnessy, Pinochet. The Politics of Torture (*)

Primary Sources

National Security Archive

<https://nsarchive.gwu.edu>

Thursday, April 29**Globalization and Neo-liberal times****Reading**

Vanden and Prevost, Structural Adjustments and the Move to Neoliberalism (*)

Collier, On Globalization: Two Issues of Critical Concern (*)

Primary Sources

Images of Bolivian Cholas (*)

Week 13**Tuesday, May 4****Latinos in the US I****Reading**

Rumbaut, Latin American and Caribbean Peoples in the US (*)

Cornelius, Central American Migrants (*)

NPR, "Answers to Census' Race Question Changes Over Time" (*)

New York Times, "Culture and Color among Latinos" (*)

The Economist, Spanish in America: The long adios (*)

Zuñiga, "Mexican Migration to the US" (*)

Thursday, May 6**Latinos in the US II****On the 2019 Central American caravan**

A conversation with journalist/documentary maker Nicolas Lupo

Reading

TBA

Movies (optional)

A Day without Mexicans (*, Netflix)

The City / La Ciudad (*)

My American Girls: A Dominican Story (*)

Note: Second take-home exam will be posted on May 13, early morning. It is due by midnight on May 18. Send it by email, Word or PDFs versions.