

Modern Latin American History Fall 2012

Course #: 39335 HIS 346L & 40275 LAS 366-3 MWF 10:00 am – 11:00am in Burdine 130
Professor: Dr. Del Castillo Teaching Assistant: Juandrea Bates
Office: Garrison Hall 3.216 Office: TBA
Hrs: Tues. 10:00am – 1:00pm Office Hrs: Thurs. 2-4pm.
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Flags: Global Cultures

Overview:

This course introduces students to the history of Latin America from the eve of the wars of independence to the present. Major issues to be covered include the breakdown of Spanish and Portuguese Empires, the struggle to form independent nation-states, the re-integration of the region into the world economy, the emergence of national politics and mass culture, Cold War cycles of revolution and counter-revolution, the promise of democracy in the region, and implications of immigration from the region to the United States. In addition to highlighting the political history of the past two centuries, the course readings and lectures will examine the importance of ethnicity, race, class, nationality, and gender in understanding the changing characteristics of Latin American societies. A combination of primary sources and scholarly works will shed light on the historical development of Mexico, Brazil, Colombia, Guatemala, and Argentina, among other countries.

Over the course of the semester, students will consider the following broad questions: how has Latin America come to be imagined as a particular kind of place? What elements went into forging the imagined national communities of the region? How have different ideas of “progress” and “modernization” been applied over time in Latin America and what impacts have they had in practice? Why have hierarchical social orders proved so durable in Latin America? What have been the motors of reform, revolution, and counter-revolution in the region? And finally, what how has the relationship between the United States and Latin America changed over time?

Through weekly discussions, essays, group work, and examinations, students will hone their talents for historical interpretation, including their critical thinking and writing skills. In addition, the course provides tools for understanding present-day problems in the Americas from a broader historical perspective.

Grading Policy on Major Course Requirements and Assignments:

Map quiz (In class on Friday, Sept. 14)	5%
Overall Attendance and Participation in Friday Discussions	15%
Mid-Term (In class on Friday, Oct 24)	25%
Paper (1200-1800 words due in class Friday, Nov. 19)	30% (25% paper; 5% prep for paper)
Final Exam (During Exam Week)	25%

*****MISSED EXAM / LATE ESSAY POLICY*****:

A missed midterm or final exam (with no documented, accepted excuse) will result in a deduction of 2 full grades (eg. from a B on the make up to a D). Late written work will result in a deduction of one full grade per 24-hour period after the deadline (including weekends & holidays). Exceptions will be made **ONLY** in cases where students have a **documented** personal or health related excuse.

Note – All requirements must be met in order to pass this course. In other words, if you miss the map quiz, miss an exam, neglect to turn in the paper, or miss five (5) or more discussion sessions,

you will receive a failing grade for the entire class. Plus and minus grades will be used for final course grades.

Academic/Learning Goals:

Note on map quiz: One goal of this course is for you to become familiar with basic Modern Latin American political geography. This will help “place” our discussions.

Note on attendance, readings & participation: Since you cannot participate if you are not in class, attendance is required. But attendance is not enough. You are also required to complete weekly readings (approximately 75-100 pages of reading per week; this is a history class, after all!) and participate in our discussions of them. The readings are intended to complement and enhance class lectures. Typically these discussions will occur during our Friday sessions. Because this is a large lecture class, you are required to purchase an “i>clicker” in order to ensure your individual class participation (and our tracking of it). Expect in-class quizzes on the week’s readings on Friday discussion days. If you are experiencing problems keeping up with the pace of the class please come see me, or the TA, during our office hours.

Note on the paper: Your paper (1,200-1800 words) will consist of a “mini-historiography” on a topic that interests you about Modern Latin American History. You will select the topic. You then will research online (via JSTOR or other related search engine). You will select 3 articles that are based on original research (i.e. author uses primary sources; journal articles that review other scholarly works are NOT acceptable). You will discuss your topic in terms of what scholars have written about it: what questions have they asked; what arguments have they made; what sources have they used; what conclusions have they drawn; which scholars are most convincing and why; and you will indicate where more work needs to be done to better understand your topic. The point of this assignment is to introduce students to how historians go about selecting a new topic to research and to understand the ways scholarly debates emerge and take place. It also is intended to help students with their critical thinking and writing skills.

Note on exams: At the start of each lecture, students will be provided with a “study sheet” that outlines the lecture and that includes some “key terms” to be covered. These “key terms” will appear on the exams. On exam days, you are expected to provide a short, (4-6 sentence) explanation of why the terms are historically significant. You are expected to draw on lecture notes and assigned readings for your answers. Exams will be a combination of these “short answer” questions with an essay. The final exam is not cumulative; i.e., it will only cover material from the mid-term until the end.

Required Materials

The following texts are available from the UT Co-op. They may also be consulted on reserve in Perry Castañeda library.

John Charles Chasteen. *Born in Blood and Fire: A Concise History of Latin America*. Second Edition (New York: Norton, 2011) ISBN: 0393911543

John Charles Chasteen & James Wood, *Problems in Modern Latin American History: Sources and Interpretations* (Rowman and Littlefield, 2009) ISBN: 978-0-7425-5645-4

Rebecca Earle, *The Return of the Native: Indians and Myth-Making in Spanish America, 1810-1930* (Duke UP: 2007). ISBN: 978-0-8223-4084-3

Greg Grandin, *Empire’s Workshop: Latin America, the United States, and the Rise of the New Imperialism* American Empire Project (NY: A Metropolitan/Holt Paperbacks Book, 2007) (paperback or e-book ok). Paperback ISBN-13: 978-0-8050-83231

i>clicker remote for in class discussions

Occasional articles posted online via Blackboard

Suggested Further Readings:

A useful study guide and source for further readings related to Latin American History can be found at: <http://www.vwnorton.com/college/history/chasteen/welcome.htm>

Useful Info and links:

Consider visiting the Undergraduate Writing Center located at FAC 211 for help with your papers. Call 512-471-6222, set up an appointment online, or drop in. The UWC will be open for the fall semester from August 29 to December 12. The UWC will be closed September 3 for Labor Day. Hours are Monday—Thursday 9:00 AM—7:00 PM, last appointment at 6:00 PM. Friday 9:00 AM—3:00pm, last appointment at 2:00 PM. Last consultations begin 1 hour before closing. If your paper is due in two hours or less, you cannot meet with a consultant because you will not have enough time to revise after your consultation. The UWC uses a swipe card system at the check-in desk. Remember to bring your UT ID when you visit. <http://www.uwc.utexas.edu/students/appointment>

Students with disabilities may request appropriate academic accommodations from the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement, Services for Students with Disabilities, [512-471-6259](tel:512-471-6259), <http://www.utexas.edu/diversity/ddce/ssd/>

Regarding academic dishonesty: UT Honor Code (or statement of ethics) and an explanation or example of what constitutes plagiarism (Link to University Honor Code: <http://registrar.utexas.edu/catalogs/gi09-10/ch01/index.html>)

Regarding accommodations for religious holidays: By UT Austin policy, you must notify me of your pending absence at least fourteen days prior to the date of observance of a religious holy day. If you must miss a class, an examination, a work assignment, or a project in order to observe a religious holy day, you will be given an opportunity to complete the missed work within a reasonable time after the absence.

Regarding emergency evacuation routes and emergency procedures: www.utexas.edu/emergency. Occupants of buildings on The University of Texas at Austin campus are required to evacuate buildings when a fire alarm is activated. Alarm activation or announcement requires exiting and assembling outside. Familiarize yourself with all exit doors of each classroom and building you may occupy. Remember that the nearest exit door may not be the one you used when entering the building. Students requiring assistance in evacuation must inform their instructor in writing during the first week of class. In the event of an evacuation, follow the instruction of faculty or class instructors. Do not re-enter a building unless given instructions by the following: Austin Fire Department, The University of Texas at Austin Police Department, or Fire Prevention Services office.

Behavior Concerns Advice Line (BCAL): [512-232-5050](tel:512-232-5050)

Course Schedule

Part I

Latin America's Long Nineteenth Century, 1780-1930

Week 1	Introduction
Aug. 29	Course Introduction
Lecture 1	What is Modern Latin America?
Readings	<i>Born in Blood and Fire</i> : “Introduction,” “Encounter,” & “Countercurrents” Map quiz study guides are available on blackboard

- Week 2**
 Sept. 3 **Emergence and Fragmentation of Colonial Rule**
 Lecture 2 Labor Day Holiday, NO CLASS
 Lecture 3 Iberian Colonialism and the Rise of the Castas
 Readings: Breakdown of the Spanish Empire
 Born in Blood and Fire “Colonial Crucible” & “Countercurrents”
 Problems, “Introduction” and “Legacies of Colonialism”
 Return of the Native, “Introduction” pp. 1-20
- Week 3**
 Lecture 4 **Independence and Map Quiz**
 Lecture 5 Wars of Independence Part I
 Sept 14. Independence Part II
 Map Quiz & Discussion:
 -----**Map Quiz TODAY FRIDAY Sept 14**-----
 Readings: *Born in Blood and Fire* “Independence” & “Countercurrents”
 Problems: “Independence and Its Consequences” & “Reading Images”
 Return of the Native, pp. 21-46
- Week 4**
 Lecture 6 **The Challenge of Independence in Spanish America**
 Lecture 7 Liberalism of the early 19th-century
 Sept. 21 Rise of the Caudillos
 Readings: Discussion: Finding a national identity in midst of civil war
 Born in Blood and Fire, Postcolonial Blues & Countercurrents
 Problems, Caudillos
 Return of the Native, pp. 47-78
- Week 5**
 Lecture 8 **The Brazilian Empire**
 Lecture 9 The Movable Portuguese Empire
 Sept. 28. Brazilian Empire
 Readings: Discussion: Brazil vs. Spanish America
 Problems, “Chapter 3 Slave Culture & Reading images”
 Return of the Native, 79-99
From Blackboard:
 Emilia Viotti da Costa, “Independence: The Building of a Nation,” in *The Brazilian Empire: Myths and Histories* (Chicago UP ,1985) pp. 1-23
- Week 6**
 Lecture 10 **The Emergence of a Postcolonial Order**
 Lecture 11 Liberalism and State Formation in Spanish America
 Oct. 5 Liberalism: Land and Labor
 Readings: Discussion: Liberalism in Politics, Economics, and Historical Memory
 Born in Blood and Fire, Progress & Countercurrents
 Problems, Liberalism and the Catholic Church
 Return of the Native, pp.100-132
- Week 7**
 Lecture 12 **Liberal Progress and Its Problems**
 Lecture 13 Mexican Case: Liberal Reforms and the Porfiriato
 Oct. 12. Slavery and Republicanism in Brazil and Cuba
 Readings: Discussion: Links between Neo-colonialism and Pre-Columbian civilizations?
 Born in Blood and Fire: Neocolonialism

Problems: Neocolonialism
Return of the Native, pp.133-160

Week 8 **Re-imagining the Nation**
Lecture 14 The Era of Oligarchic Republics
Lecture 15 The Revolutionary Exception: The Mexican Revolution
Oct 19. Discussion: Nationalism and the Indian “Problem”
 Born in Blood and Fire: Nationalism & Countercurrents
 Problems: Race and Nation building
 Earle, *Return of the Native*, pp. 161-219

PART II:

From the Twentieth Century into the Millennium

Week 9 **Increasing US-Latin America Relations**
Lecture 16 United States’ growing influence on Latin America, 1898-1930
 (will appear on exam)
Oct. 24. -----**Mid-Term Exam (in class Wed. Oct 24)**-----
Lecture 17 Lecture/Discussion: Donald Duck Diplomacy?
 In-class view of Disney Shorts
 Problems, Reading Images: US LAT AM Relations
 Grandin, *Empire’s Workshop*, Introduction (pp. 1-9)

Week 10 **Nationalism and Politics in the Era of the Masses**
Lecture 18 Migration and Urbanization at the Turn of the Century
Lecture 19 Class, Ethnicity, Gender and Nationalism in Early Twentieth Century
Nov. 2. Discussion: “Indigenismo” and Gender in early 20th century
 Problems, Nationalism & Women and Social Change
 Return of the Native, pp. 184-220

-----**Due Nov. 2: Paper topic (worth 1 point of your final avg.)**-----

Week 11 **Populism in the Mid-Twentieth Century**
Lecture 20 Political Economy of Populism
Lecture 21 From Populists to Dictators, and Post-war Modernization
Nov. 9 Discussion: Populists vs Revolutionaries
 Born in Blood and Fire, “Revolution and Countercurrents”
 Problems: “Populism and the working class”
-----**Due Nov. 9: Topic with Annotated biblio (worth 4 pts of final avg.)**-----

Week 12 **The Cold War**
Lecture 22 Cold War: Myths, Realities, and Proxy Armies
Lecture 23 From PBSUCCESS to the Cuban Revolution
Nov. 16 Discussion: Evaluating justifications for combating social revolution
 Born in Blood and Fire, “Reaction and countercurrents”
 Problems: “Latin America, the US and the Cold War”

Week 13

Turkey Week

Nov. 19. ----**Due Nov. 19: Papers in Class** -----

No readings assigned this week; work on your papers. Class discussion on Monday will be a “go-round” on your topics.

Nov. 21 Class canceled: Baste your turkeys...

Nov. 23. No Class: Thanksgiving

Suggestion...READ AHEAD!! Grandin: *Empire's Workshop*, pp.11-251

Week 14

Latin America's 1960s-70s

Lecture 24 A new political spectrum: New Left, New Center-Right & New Right

Lecture 25 Alliance for Progress and National Security Doctrine

Nov. 30. Discussion: Evaluating US intervention in the Region

Chasteen & Wood, *Problems*, “Social Revolution”

Grandin, *Empire's Workshop*: pp. 87-120

Week 15

The Neo-Liberal Era and Beyond

Lecture 26 The Quest For Democracy in the 1980s

Lecture 27 Neo-Liberal Era, Migration Patterns & Globalization

Dec. 7 Discussion & Exam Review

Chasteen, *Born in Blood and Fire*, *Neoliberalism*

Chasteen & Wood, *Problems*, “Globalization.”

Grandin, *Empire's Workshop*, 121-251

Exam Week: Dec 12-18