#### ANT 384M/LAS391 AZTECS AND SPANIARDS

Fall, 2013

Unique no.: 31545, 41015 Time: Wednesdays, 2:00-5:00

Classroom: SAC 5.124

**Instructor: Enrique Rodríguez** 

Office: SAC 4.144

Office Hours: Mondays 1:00-3:00

The Aztec and the Spanish empires have attracted the attention of scholars and the public for a long time with stories of gold, human sacrifice, warfare, and the meeting of two different civilizations. In this class we will study both empires, taking advantage of the varied lines of evidence available for their study, especially historical and archaeological evidence, as well as monuments and works of art. The focus of the class will be on how imperial expansion affected the daily life of people in the Aztec empire and after the Spanish conquest. In addition to studying the daily life of different people in these empires, we will examine some of the themes that have fascinated both scholars and the general public, including human sacrifice, conquest warfare, and religion. The goal of the class is to examine social and cultural heterogeneity in both of these empires, to familiarize students with the diverse lines of evidence we have to study these empires, and to understand processes of historical change among the Aztecs and the Spanish empire.

The class will be roughly divided equally between the Aztec empire and the Spanish empire. Prior experience in archaeology is not required to join the class.

Class requirements include active participation in seminars and discussions, as well as completion of written assignments and a presentation for the class.

<u>Students with disabilities:</u> Any student with disabilities should talk to me as soon as possible so that we may make arrangements that will make for a better learning experience and that will allow the student to show his or her abilities fully.

### **Assignments:**

Attendance and participation are required, as is, of course, completion of readings before class. In each class we will discuss the readings and do other activities related to the weekly theme. All students are expected to read before class, and bring a set of questions that they wish to discuss in class. We will go over the questions at the beginning of class and figure out discussion then.

The term paper will ask students to expand and build upon one of the chapters in *The Aztec World*, edited by Elizabeth Brumfiel and Gary Feinman (2008). I will explain the assignment in detail early in the semester.

## Grades will be determined as follows:

Participation: 30% Assignment 1: 20% In-class presentation: 15% Term paper: 35%

# **Class Schedule:**

Journal articles may be found at the library or on line. Books will be placed on reserve at the PCL.

### **CLASS SCHEDULE**

Week 1 (August 28): Welcome to the Aztec World

No readings for this week.

Week 2 (Sept 4): Predecessors: Teotihuacan and Tula

Read: Sugiyama, Saburo 2004 Governance and Polity at Classic Teotihuacan. In *Mesoamerican Archaeology*, edited by Julia Hendon and Rosemary Joyce, pp. 97-123.

Umberger, Emily 1987 Antiques, Revivals, and References to the past in Aztec Art. *RES: Anthropology and Aesthetics* 13:62-105. http://isites.harvard.edu/fs/docs/icb.topic1163485.files/Umberger 1987.pdf

Smith, Michael 2008 Aztec City-State Capitals. University Press of Florida. Chapter 3.

Week 3 (Sept. 11): History

Read: Boone, Elizabeth Hill 2000 *Stories in Red and Black*. University of Texas Press. Chapters 1, 2, 3, and 8.

Week 4 (Sept. 18): Ethnicity

Read: Berdan, Frances, F., John K. Chance, Alan R. Sandstrom, Barbara L. Stark, James M.
Taggart, and Emily Umberger (editors) 2008 *Ethnic Identity in Nahua Mesoamerica*.
The University of Utah Press, Salt Lake City. Read Chapters 1-5.

Week 5 (Sept. 25): Daily life of the Aztecs

Read: Brumfiel, Elizabeth M. 2001 Asking about Aztec Gender: The Historical and Archaeological Evidence. In *Gender in Pre-Hispanic America*, edited by Cecelia Klein. Dumbarton Oaks. Available for downloading at doaks.org.

De Lucia, Kristin 2010 A Child's House: Social Memory, Identity, and the Construction of Childhood in Early Postclassic Mexican Households. *American Anthropologist* 112(4): 607-624.

Smith, Michael 2008 Aztec City-State Capitals. University Press of Florida. Chaps. 6 and 7.

Excerpts from The Florentine Codex, TBA.

Week 6 (Oct.2): Aztec economies, trade, tribute, etc.

Read: Berdan, Frances F. 2003 The Economy of Postclassic Mesoamerica. In *The Postclassic Mesoamerican World*, edited by Michael E. Smith and Frances F. Berdan, University of Utah Press, Salk Lake City, pp. 93-95.

Berdan, Frances F. Marilyn A. Masson, Janine Gasco, and Michael Smith 2003 *An International Economy*. In *The Postclassic Mesoamerican World*, edited by Michael E. Smith and Frances F. Berdan, University of Utah Press, Salk Lake City, Pp.96-108.

Charlton, Thomas H., Deborah Nichols, and Cynthia Otis Charlton 1991 Aztec craft production and specialization: Archaeological evidence from the city-state of Otumba, Mexico. *World Archaeology* 23, 98-114.

Parsons, Jeffrey R. 2008 Environment and Rural Economy. In *The Aztec World*. Edited by Elizabeth M. Brumfiel and Gary Feinman. Abrams, New York. Pp. 23-52.

Week 7 (Oct. 9): Religion and sacrifice.

Read: Brumfiel, Elizabeth M. 2001 Aztec hearts and minds: religion and the state in the Aztec empire. In *Empires: Perspectives from Archaeology and History*, edited by Susan E. Alcock, Terence N. D'Altroy, Kathleen D. Morrison, and Carla M. Sinopoli. Cambridge University Press. Pp. 283-310.

Brumfiel, Elizabeth M. 2007 Solar Discs and Solar Cycles: Spindle Whorls and the Dawn of Solar Art in Postclassic Mexico. *Treballs d'Arqueologia* 13:91-113. (I will provide a copy).

Duran, Fr. Diego 1994(1588) The History of the Indies of New Spain. Translated by Doris Heyden. Oklahoma. Chapters XXIII, XXXVIII, LXII.

López Austin, Alfredo, and Leonardo López Luján 2008 Aztec Human Sacrifice. In *The Aztec World*. Edited by Elizabeth M. Brumfiel and Gary Feinman, pp.137-152. Abrams.

Week 8 (Oct.16): Tenochtitlan and the Templo Mayor

Read: Matos Moctezuma, Eduardo 1995 Life and Death in the Templo Mayor. University Press of Colorado.

Week 9 (Oct. 23): The Conquest: War and Technology, and Indian conquistadors

Read: Matthew, Laura E. and Michel R. Oudijk (editors) 2007 *Indian Conquistadors: Indigenous Allies in the Conquest of Mesoamerica*. Introduction and Chapters 1 and 2.

Restall, Matthew 2003 Seven Myths of the Spanish Conquest. Oxford University Press. Chapters 5 and 6.

Week 10 (Oct. 30): Daily life: issues of change and continuity

Read: Lockhart, James 1992 *The Nahuas:* After the Conquest. Stanford University Press, Stanford. Chapter 4, 10.

Kellogg, Susan 1997 From Parallel and Equivalent to Separate but Unequal: Tenochca Mexica Women, 1500-1700. In *Indian Women of Early Mexico* edited by Susan Schroeder, Stephanie Wood, and Robert Haskett. University of Oklahoma Press, pp. 123-144. (Readings for this week continued on the next page).

Charlton, Thomas H., Cynthia L. Otis Charlton, and Patricia Fournier García 2005 The Basin of Mexico A.D. 1450-1620: Archaeological Dimensions. In *The Postclassic to Spanish-Era Transition in Mesoamerica: Archaeological Perspectives*. Edited by Susan Kepecs and Rani T. Alexander. University of New Mexico Press, Albuquerque. Pp. 49-64.

Week 11 (Nov. 6): Castas and class in colonial Mexico

Read: Cope, R. Douglas 1994 *The Limits of Racial Domination*. University of Wisconsin Press.

Week 12 (Nov. 13): Religious conversion

Read: Tavárez, David 2011 The Invisible War: Indigenous Devotions, Discipline, and Dissent in Colonial Mexico. Stanford University Press, Stanford.

Week 13 (Nov. 20): Student presentations

Week 14 (Nov. 27): The Turkey, an Aztec bird

Week 15 (Dec. 4): Aztecs today

Read: Matos Moctzuma, Eduardo 2008 The Aztec World's Presence in Colonial and Modern Mexico. In *The Aztec World*. Edited by Elizabeth M. Brumfiel and Gary Feinman, pp. 209-224. Abrams.

Carrasco, David 2008 Imagining a Place for Aztlan: Chicanismo and the Aztecs in Art and Resistance. In *The Aztec World*. Edited by Elizabeth M. Brumfiel and Gary Feinman, pp. 225-240. Abrams.

Zamudio-Taylor, Victor 2001 Inventing Tradition, Negotiating Modernism. In *The Road to Aztlan: Art from a Mythic Homeland*. Edited by V.M. Fields and V. Zamudio-Taylor. LACMA, Los Angeles. Pp. 38-77.