INDIGENOUS PEOPLES OF MESOAMERICA
alternatively (as in the course directory)

INDIANS OF MEXICO AND GUATEMALA

Ant. 322M (31305), Las 324L (40200) TTH 11-12:30 UTC 4.112 Spring 2012

Brian Stross Office Hours W 11-noon, 1-2 & by appt. - Office SAC 4.124 bstross@mail.utexas.edu.

TA: Eunice Garza Office Hours (tba)

Final Exam will be on Monday, May 14, 9:00-12:00 noon

Global Cultures Flag
This course carries the Global Cultures flag. Global Cultures courses are designed to increase your familiarity with cultural groups outside the United States. You should therefore expect a substantial portion of your grade to come from assignments covering the practices, beliefs, and histories of at least one non-U.S. cultural group, past or present.

Text
TEXT (req) Carmack, Gasco, Gossen. 2007. The Legacy of Mesoamerica. (2nd ed)

Lecture Topics and Reading Assignments

Week 1 GEOGRAPHY 1/17, 19,
climate, fauna, flora, geology, hydrography, physiography (tabasco, yucatan, quintana roo, chiapas)
(Mexico map 1, map 2, map 3, map 4, map 5)
(Guatemala map 1, map 2, map 3) (detailed Mexico state maps)
Film on Thursday, The Mayo Tribe – Desert Speaks *28 *

Reading: Text CH 1 (1996 ed) or Introduction (2007 ed) and flora and fauna page

Week 2 CULTURE AREA 1/24, 26
some shared traits, contiguity (some music, 2, 3)
Mesoamerica as a (culture area). Kirchhoff, Armillas
Film on Thursday The Tree of Life (VIDCASS 9978 AVL FAC)
**Week 3**  
**THE PAST**  
1/31, 2/2

Prehistory  
(Maya Vessel, Olmec Portal, Isthmian Stela)  
(Mark Van Stone’s FAQ)  
(earliest inhabitants, e.i.2, e.i.3-migrations, e.i.4 – migration models)  
(FAMSI maps of Mesoamerica)  

**History**  
(seeing the other),  
(the colonial caste system).  
(Cortés as Quetzalcoatl)  
(Columbus) (Columbus2 longer)  
(NAFTA)  
(The Requerimiento)  

Film on **Thursday**: **Popol Vuh**  
(DVD 6990 AVL FAC)  
*60*  
Q's  
*free book version of Popol Vuh is at:  
http://www.mesoweb.com/publications/Christenson/PopolVuh.pdf*

**Present**  
(an example of current indigenous empowerment - Amuzgo)

Reading:  
Text CH. 2,4,5,6  
(1996 ed) or  
Text CH 1, 4, 5, 7  
(2007 ed)

**Week 4**  
**LANGUAGE AND CULTURE OVERVIEW**  
2/7, 2/9

Language distribution  
(Languages of Mexico, Languages of Mexico, Belize, Guatemala)  
Language characteristics, culture characteristics and worldview  

Film on **Thursday**:: **Shunka’s Story**  
(Vidcass 6294)  
*20*  

Film on **Thursday**:: **The Lacandon Maya Balché Ritual**  
(Vidcass 6290)  
*40*  
Q's  

Reading:  
Text CH. 11, 12  
(1996 ed) or  
CH 11, 6  
(2007 ed) and  
(de Landa)  
(de Landa is at:  

**Week 5**  
**MACRO-MAYAN**  
2/14, 2/16

*Mayan diversification (Chart),  
*Mayan writing (Script)  
Lacandon, clans and communication.  
(hach winik pics)  
(Hach Winik Home Page)  
1, 2, 3  
(Lacandon and the future - Plan Puebla Panama)  
*Yucatec;  
relating to nature and supernature: food, (housing, customs  
in Spanish, Cancun & PdCarmen)  

Film on **Thursday**: **Todos Santos Cuchumatan**  
(Mam Maya)  
(Vidcass 1269 UGLAVC)  
*41*  
Q's  

Reading:  
McGee (or Perera & Bruce or Redfield & Villa Rojas or McClusky or Boremanse) (or watch Swidden Horticulture Among the Lacandón Maya VIDCASS 6291  [Lacandón]  
or The Living Maya VIDCASS 4811  (Programs 1-4) (Yucatec Mayans)
Week 6  MACRO-MAYAN II  2/21, 2/23
Huastec, an outlier. (Teenek) (teenek pictures 1,2,3,4 - TBA)
Quiche and the Popol Vuh. (Maya Perspectives videos in UGL AV Library) (Guatemala 2003)
Film Thursday: Todos Santos: the Survivors (VIDCASS 22O2 UGLAVC) *58* Q’s

Reading: Popol Vuh and (Ariel de Vidas or B. Tedlock or Hernandez Castillo
Or watch Discovering Dominga in AVL or watch When the Mountains
Tremble (1983 DVD 8185) (Popol Vuh is at
(Cacao in the Popol Vuh – Michael Grofe)

Week 7  MACRO-MAYAN III  2/28, 3/1
Tzeltal, divination, souls, colors, dreams, reincarnation, numeral classifiers.
(the biopiracy debate) (batz’il winik pics 1,2,3)
Film on Thursday: Appeals to Santiago (Tenejapa Tzeltal)
VIDCASS 6293 *27* Q’s

Reading: Vogt (or Gossen, or Nash or Eber or Rosenbaum) (or watch
Chac: the Rain God in AVL)

Week 8  MACRO-MAYAN IV  3/6, 3/8
Tzotzil, gossip, insults, and proverbs *(Slides: Tzeltals and Tzotzils) Film Thursday: Sacred Games (Chamula Tzotzil)
(VIDCASS 1812 UGLAVC) *75* Q’s

Reading: Wilson (or G.P. Gonzalez (A Maya Life) or G.P. González
Return of the Maya) or watch El Norte or any one of
the Maya Perspectives series in AVL)

(Spring break 3/12-17) - good time to start working on the 2 page book report (due on last day of class) by reading a book from this list: click here.

Week 9  MACRO-AZTEC-TANOAN  3/20, 3/22
Tarahumara, long distance runners, (Tarahumara and tourism)
(pillars of the world trailer)
(Rarámuri pics 1,2,3) alcohol Tarahumara society
MIDTERM EXAM on Thursday of Week 9; i.e., 3/24/11)
(to cover materials of Weeks 1 through 8)
Reading:  J. Kennedy or W. Merrill (Raramuri Souls) or watch Voices of the Sierra Tarahumara 52min (Tarahumaras) or Teshuinada, semana santa Tarahumara 60 min (Tarahumaras)

Week 10  MACRO-AZTEC-TANOAN II  3/27, 3/29
Huichol, the peyote quest, yarn painting (links) (article 1, 2) (tunnel to Catorce) (Real de Catorce) (Mara’akame Canta; huichol musical ej., 2) (flowers in the desert) (Huichol culture 1, wiki 2) Film on Thursday 3/29: To Find Our Life *63*

Reading:  Text CH. 8 (1996 ed) or Text Ch 14 (2007 ed), or Myerhoff’s Peyote Hunt or watch Huichol Sacred Pilgrimage to Wirikuta (VIDCASS 6019 UGLAVC) (or watch Huicholes y Plaguecidas 1 & 2) http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u0DDIIaUCSw

Week 11  MACRO-AZTEC-TANOAN III  4/3, 4/5
Aztecs: worldview, compadrazgo, cosmology (Quetzalcoatl) (article-wiki) (music) (Nahuatl lesson on video 2 3 4 numbers, numbers 2, lecture on Nahuatl in US) Films Thursday 4/5: Tepoztlan (VIDCASS 9580 UGLAVC) *30*; The Tarahumaras (VIDCASS 4900 UGLAVC) *30* Q's or Nahuatl on the Balsas (*52 min*)

Reading:  (Berdan or Soustelle or Bray, or Clendinnen) (or watch Blood and Flowers – In Search of the Aztecs 48 min youtube)

Week 12  MACRO-OTO-MANGUEAN I  4/10, 4/12
Mazatec: whistle speech, mushrooms, medicine bundles, shamanism. (Flesh of the Gods trailer, 2) Film Thursday 4/12: Guenati'za (Zapotec) or Sueños Binacionales (Chatino) and To Make the Balance (Vidcass 6292) *33*

Reading:  Text Ch 7, 10, 13 (1996 ed) or Text Ch 8, 9, 13 (2007 ed.) or María Sabina, mujer espiritu (1978) 80 min (Mazatecs)

Week 13  MACRO-OTO-MANGUEAN II  4/17, 4/19
Zapotec, trade, symbolism, witchcraft, asking for favors,intermediary. (Zapotec-wiki) (hear Zapotec tones) (zapotec lesson) Film Thursday, Blossoms of Fire *60* Q's)
Reading: Text Ch. 9 (1996 ed) or Text Ch. 12 (2007 ed) and (Chiñas, or Selby, or Berg or González or Cohen or Hunn)

Week 14 MACRO-OTO-MANGUEAN III 4/24, 4/26
Huave worldview. (pics 1, 2, 3) (youtube, song in Huave, song2, song3)
Film Thursday: Mayan Voices; American Lives (Vidcass 4792) *58* Q's

Reading: Kearney, (skim first half if available, read second half – on Blackboard)

Week 15 MACRO-HOKAN 5/1, 5/3
Seri the singers (Seri komka’ak nation) (some video, desalinizer)
Chontal of Oaxaca / Tequistlatec (Tequisistlan)
Film Thursday: Opata palm weavers *27* and/or
Film Thursday: The Tree of Knowledge *30*
(Vidcass 6990) *27* Q’s

GRADING AND EXAMINATIONS
You should complete the weekly reading assignments and prepare for exams by going over your notes on both lectures, readings and films. If puzzled by the fact that the lectures and the readings are complementary rather than purely mutually reinforcing or redundant, click here. This link also explains the rationale for what at first appears to be a large number of books and films, from which the individual is required to read or watch only a few.

The course grade will be based primarily on a midterm (about 31%) and a final examination (about 62%).
An example of the format of the midterm exam can be found here. Another consideration will be class attendance, Attendance is expected, and missing two classes can lower one's average by as much as a half grade. There will be a short book report, based on a book from the list at this link: book report (due last class day)
Exams will contain both objective and essay questions (with an edge to the objective).
The final exam will be longer than the midterm and comprehensive (i.e. it will include material tested on the midterm as well as from the rest of the semester), and will count twice as much.
The final exam will be held at the officially scheduled time and place (Monday, May 14, 9:00-12:00 noon place TBA). Click here for a sample of the final exam.

SAMPLE FINAL

BE ABLE TO IDENTIFY - For Midterm
Achiote, **Ahuehuete**, Amaranth, *Anona*, Atitlan, Atlatl, Atole (or Atol), Balché, Rio Balsas, Bark-cloth, Benito Juarez, Black Zapote, Bor, Bolim, Brocket Deer, Cargo System, Caribal, Ceiba, **Cenote**, Censer, Chac, Chapala, Chayote, Chiapas, Chicha, Chichen Itzá, Chilam Balam, Cabracan, Co-Essence, Comal, Copal, Chinampa, Diego de Landa, Divination, Eagle Dance, Ejido, Guanabana, Guava, Gucumatz, Hachakyum, Hero Twins, Hetzmek' (or Placing-Astride-the-Hip), Huastec, Hunahpu (or One Hunter), HunBatz’, Hun Chouen, Ihk’al, Indigo, Kayum (or K’ayum), Kin (or K’in), Kisín (or Quisin), Lacandón, Ladino, La Venta, Lerma-Santiago, Lints’i’, Macro-Otomanguean, Maguey, Malinche, Mam, Manioc, Masa, Metate, Mexico, Monkey Twins, Monte Albán, Motagua River, "Mother of Hand", Muxí’-maam (or Mushi-mam), *Naqual* (or Nahual), Nahuatl, Olmec, Onen, Orizaba, Palenque, Panuco, Papaloapan, Peccary, Peñon Woman, Petate, Peten, *Pinole* (or Pinol), *Popocatepetl*, Popol Vuh, Porfirio Diaz, Pozole (or Pozol), Pulque, Quiche, Ramón Nuts, Subin, Tamal (or Tamale), Teenek, Temazcal, Tenochtitlan, Teotihuacan, Tepeyoman Man, Tlapac, Tohil, Toltec, Totonac, Tonal, Treemoss, Trivet, Tzeltal, Tzotzil, Usumacinta, Veracruz, Voladores, Vu’uc Caquix (or 7 Macaw), Xbalanque (or Jaguar-Deer), Xibalba, Xmucane, Xoloitzcuintli, Xquic, Xtabay, Yucatec, Zacahuil, Zapote, Zinacantan, Zipacna.

**IDENTIFY** - For Final (include above words as well)
Aire (or Aigre), Amate-Fig, Antojo, *Aztec*, Cabecera, Chaneque, Chatino, Chinantec, Chipil, Cipactli, Coa, Coatl, Compadrazgo, Cocijó, Condoy (or Kondoy), Coral Bean, Deer-Maize-Peyote Complex, Divination, Dutuburi, Espanto, Esquiate, *Guelaguetza*, Gozona, Go-between, Horizontal Loom, Hot & Cold Classification, Haue/Wabi, Huichuete, Huichol, Huitzilopochtli, Indigenismo, La Llorona, Mara'akame, Matlacigüa, Mazatec, Mexico, Michael Kearney, W.J. McGee, Medicine Bundle, Mexico, Mictlantecuhtli, Mije (or Mixe), Mixtec, Muina, Nanahuati, Nixtamal, Norawa, Oaxaca, Oaxaca Chontal, Peyote, Pingo, Pochteca, Popoluca, Quetzalcoatl, Rain Dwarf, Seri, Shaman, Slash & Burn / Swidden, Structural Replication in Zinacantan, Susto, Tarahumara, Tarascan, Tecciztecatl, Tehuana, Tejate, Tepache, Tepoztlan, Tequistlatec, Tesgüinada, Tezcaltipoca, Tlapac, Tlazolteotl, Toloache, Whistle Speech, Wirikuta, Xolotl, Yacatecuhtli, Zapotec, Zoque.

*Books to be read - approximately 4 of these must be read as part of assignment (to be explained in class)*
*A. Ariel de Vidas. *Thunder Doesn’t Live Here Anymore*
*F. Berdan, *The Aztecs of Central Mexico* (pb) F1219.73 B47 PCL
*R.L. Berg, Jr., *Shwan: A Highland Zapotec Woman* F1221 Z3 B47 PCL
*D. Boremanse, *Hach Winik, the Lacandon Maya of Southern Mexico*. F 1221 L2 B67 1998 BLAC
*W. Bray *Everyday Life of the Aztecs
  J. Cohen, *Cooperation and Community: Economy and Society in Oaxaca*
*I. Clendinnen, *Aztecs: An Interpretation* (pb) F 1219.76 S64 C44 1991 PCL Reserves
*Gaspar Pedro González* *Return of the Maya* (El Retorno de las Mayas) *Yaxté Books*
R. González, *Zapotec Science: Farming and Food in the Northern Sierra of Oaxaca.* (pb)
*G. Gossen*, *Chamulas in the World of the Sun* (pb) F1221 T9 G677 PCL
R. A. Hernández Castillo, * Histories and Stories from Chiapas: Border Identities in Southern Mexico.* (pb)
E.S. Hunn, *A Zapotec Natural History.* (Zapotec)
M. Kearney, *The Winds of Ixtepeji.* F1221 Z3 K42 PCL
*J. Kennedy*, *Tarahumara of the Sierra Madre.* (pb) F1221 T25 K47 1978 PCL
*D. de Landa*, *Yucatan Before and After the Conquest.* (pb) G 7, 972.O15, M 451 M, no. 2O ; F1376 L24613 1978 PCL
*O. Lewis*, *Tepoztlán* (pb) G917.249 L587T PCL
*R. J. McClusky*, *Here Our Culture is Hard: Stories of Domestic Violence From a Mayan Community in Belize.* (pb) [Mopan]
*R. J. McGee*, *Life, Ritual and Religion Among the Lacandón Maya.* F 1221 L2 M4 1990 PCL Reserves
*R. J. McGee*, *Watching Lacandon Maya Lives* F1221 H9 M9 PCL
*B. Myerhoff*, * Peyote Hunt* (pb) F1221 H9 M9 PCL
*V. Perera and R.D. Bruce*, *The Last Lords of Palenque.* F1221 L2 P47 1982 PCL Reserves
*J. Nash*, *In The Eyes of the Ancestors* (pb) F1219.3 S6 N3 UGL
*R. Redfield & A. Villa Rojas*, *Chan Kom* (pb) F1435.1 C47 R3 1962 PCL
*B. Rosenbaum*, *With Our Heads Bowed.* HQ 1465 C52 R6 1993 PCL Stacks
*H. Selby*, *Zapotec Deviance.* F1221 Z3 S44 LAC
*J. Soustelle*, *Daily Life of the Aztecs.* (pb) F1219 S723 1970 PCL
*D. Tedlock*, *Popol Vuh.* (pb) F1465 P813 1985 UGL, LAC, F 1465 P813 1996 PCL Stacks
*E. Vogt*, *The Zinacantecos of Mexico.* G 97O,49274, V 868 Zin PCL, LAC
*C. Wilson*, *Crazy February.* (pb) G 813, W 692 C PCL, LAC & 813, W69l8C

*Videos at Audio Visual Library* (can be used for assignment)
El Norte 141min  DVD 4445  (Highland Mayans – Guatemalan Migrants)
Chac: The Rain God DVD 1950 (Tzeltal Mayans)
Letters from the other side 73 min  DVD 5427 (Migrants from Mexico)
Discovering Dominga 57 VIDCASS 10578 (Highland Mayans – Guatemalan Migrant)
Swidden Horticulture Among the Lacandón Maya 29min VIDCASS 6291 (Lacandón)
The Living Maya 232min VIDCASS 4811 (Programs 1-4) (Yucatec Mayans)
Daughters of Ixchel 29min VIDCASS 7721 (Highland Mayans - Guatemala)
Maya Perspectives Series (Vidcass 8245, Volumes 1-16)
Huichol Sacred Pilgrimage to Wirikuta 29 min (VIDCASS 6019 UGLAVC)
When the Mountains Tremble 103 min (DVD 8185) (Genocide of Mayans)

*Videos NOT at Audio Visual Library* (can be used for assignment)
Voices of the Sierra Tarahumara 52min (Tarahumaras)
Chenalhó, Heart of the Highlands 52 min (Tzotzils)
De Nadie (Migrants from Mexico)
La Tragedia de Macario (Migrants from Mexico)
Haunted Land 74 minutes (Highland Guatemalan Mayans – genocide)
Teshuinada, semana santa Tarahumara 60 min (Tarahumaras – Nicolás Echevarría)
María Sabina, mujer espíritu (1978) 80 min (Mazatecs – Nicolás Echevarría) (on YouTube)
Hikure-Tame (1982) (Huichols - Nicolás Echevarría)
As an aid to study, can print out this Mexico map and locate each indigenous society spoken of in the lectures on it, at least putting it in the correct state. It would also be helpful to locate some of the rivers, lakes, towns, and archaeological sites, as well as volcanoes and islands. Here is a list you might make use of for both the indigenous groups and the other features.

If you want to explore a topic in more depth, or make up for a missed class, e-mail me for a list of supplementary readings pertaining to a given week.

ADDITIONAL BOOKS WITH USEFUL INFORMATION (not part of assignments)
R.M. Carmack (ed.) Harvest of Violence. (pb) F1435.3 P7 H37 1988 LAC
J. Harbury, Bridge of Courage. (pb)
B. Tedlock, Time and the Highland Maya (pb) F 1465.2 Q5 T43 1992 PCL Reserves
S. Whiteford and Whiteford, Crossing Currents.
K. Warren, Indigenous Movements and Their Critics: Pan Maya Activism in Guatemala.

There are many internet sites with information relevant to this course.

The complete Chilam Balam of Chumayel by R. Roys

The Archive of Indigenous Languages of Latin America (AILLA) has downloadable narratives in various Mesoamerican languages, and other Latin American Indigenous languages.
Streaming radio from some Indigenous Mexican stations

Various links to Ancient Maya topics  (thanks Kara)

Images of Mexican Art and History   More Images

Mayan Calendar  (I. Van Laningham)   Maya Software

2012  All you wanted to know, and perhaps a bit more, about 2012 and the end of an era (Mark Van Stone)

Film Trailer 2012 La Palabra Maya   the website w/ trailer

Former Aztlan site   with some excellent article links

Ventana a mi comunidad  maiz 6  this is one of a series of you tube presentations About indigenous life in Mexico.

Ventana a mi Comunidad / Nahuas Huasteca y Tenek El Zacahuil

Ventana a mi Comunidad / Nahuas Huasteca y Tenek - Música

Ventana a mi Comunidad - Nahuas de Morelos / Nahuatl

Ventana a mi Comunidad / Triquis - Temazcal desarmable

Ventana a mi Comunidad / Chocholtecos, baño en el temazcal

Ventana a mi Comunidad / Mazahuas, cosechando y saboreando

Historical timeline for Mexico  not all the links are equally useful or accurate, but useful overall

Webpage for Guatemalan history   to 1970

News of indigenous activities and rights are prominent among the interests of the Mexico Solidarity Network

Chiapas Independent Media Center   news of indigenous and other activities in Chiapas and elsewhere in Mexico

Independent Media Network, Mexico   as its name indicates, a network of independent media, for news that is relatively independent of government and (other) corporate interests

Chiapas 95  The list-serve (and its relatives and descendants) documenting news and debate regarding indigenous and other grassroots action in Mexico.
Mexicolinks

Internet sites also host some important journals relating to indigenous Mesoamericans:

(Audiovisual Library  495-4467)

The following information comes from official UT policies

Please, read carefully

Academic Integrity

Each student in this course is expected to abide by the University Code of Academic Integrity. No plagiarized work will be accepted. Sources consulted from books, journals, or web pages should be acknowledged. Any work submitted by a student in this course for academic credit will be the student's own work. Papers bought online or otherwise plagiarized will receive a zero.

You are encouraged to study together and to discuss concepts covered in lecture and sessions. However, this permissible cooperation should never involve one student having possession of a copy of all or part of work done by someone else, in the form of an e-mail, an e-mail attachment file, a diskette, or a hard copy.

Should copying occur, both the student who copied work from another student and the student who gave material to be copied will both automatically receive a zero for the assignment. Penalty for violation of this Code can also be extended to include failure of the course and University disciplinary action. [During examinations, you must do your own work. Talking or discussion, comparing notes, and copying from others are not permitted during examinations. Any such behavior will result in failure of the exam,
Accommodations for students with disabilities

In compliance with the UT Austin policy and equal access laws, I am available to discuss appropriate academic accommodations that may be required for students with disabilities. Requests for academic accommodations are to be made during the first three weeks of the semester, except for unusual circumstances, so arrangements can be made. Students who require special accommodations need to get a letter that documents the disability from the Services for Students with Disabilities area of the Office of the Dean of Students (471-6259 - voice or 471-4641 – TTY for users who are deaf or hard of hearing). This letter should be presented to the instructor in each course at the beginning of the semester and accommodations needed should be discussed at that time. Five business days before an exam the student should remind the instructor of any testing accommodations that will be needed. See Web site below for more information: http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/ssd/providing.php

University Electronic Mail Notification Policy

(Use of E-mail for Official Correspondence to Students)

All students should become familiar with the University's official e-mail student notification policy. It is the student's responsibility to keep the University informed as to changes in e-mail address. It is recommended that e-mail be checked daily, but at a minimum, twice per week. The complete text of this policy and instructions for updating your e-mail address are available at http://www.utexas.edu/its/policies/emailnotify.html.

In this course e-mail will be used to communicate with students. You are responsible for checking your e-mail regularly for class announcements.

The University of Texas Honor Code

The core values of The University of Texas at Austin are learning, discovery, freedom, leadership, individual opportunity, and responsibility. Each member of the University is expected to
uphold these values through integrity, honesty, trust, fairness, and respect toward peers and community.

**Religious Holidays**

It is the policy of The University of Texas at Austin that you must notify each of your instructors at least fourteen days prior to the classes scheduled on dates you will be absent to observe a religious holy day. If you miss an examination, work assignment, or other project due to the observance of a religious holyday you will be given an opportunity to complete the work missed within a reasonable time after the absence.

**The instructor reserves the right to amend this syllabus**