

Instructor: David Weiland, Ph.D.

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Office Hours: By appointment

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Overview

This course surveys key periods, themes, and events in the history of Latin America from the period immediately preceding the arrival of Spanish and Portuguese explorers in 1492 until the 1820s. A brief introduction to the great civilizations of Ancient America will be followed by an examination of Spanish and Portuguese conquest, settlement, and three centuries of colonial rule. European rule in Latin America led to an indigenous demographic collapse, racial miscegenation, the imposition of European forms of government and economic activity, and the introduction of Catholicism. These phenomena, and their importance for the development of Latin America, will be examined in detail. The course will end with a discussion of the different causes and trajectories of independence during the early nineteenth century.

Goals

1. To provide a basic survey of the history of the peoples and events of the history of Spanish and Portuguese America from the fifteenth century to the early nineteenth century.
2. To offer an understanding of the impact of colonial rule on the economic and political development of Latin America up to independence in the early nineteenth century.
3. To offer an in-depth understanding of the development, organization and activities of Colonial Latin American social groups.

Course Readings

- 1) Bakewell, A History of Latin America to 1825 (textbook)
- 2) Weekly readings (As required, available via Blackboard)

GRADING

In order to receive a grade for this class, it is necessary to complete every assignment, even if the course is only being taken as pass/fail.

SUMMARY:

Midterms	(3 total, 20 IDs worth 5pts ea.)	(50.00%)
Research Papers	(4, 1500 words, worth 100pts. ea.)	(39.00%)
Class Presentation	(1, 100pts.)	(10.00%)
Quiz	(10 questions)	(1.00%)
Total		(100.00%)

GRADING SCALE:

A	94.00-up	C	74.00-76.99
A-	90.00-93.99	C-	70.00-73.99
B+	87.00-89.99	D+	67.00-69.99
B	84.00-86.99	D	60.00-66.99
B-	80.00-83.99	F	0.00-59.99
C+	77.00-79.99		

Make-up Policy: Please make note of the dates of the exams and other assignments. There are no alternative arrangements for taking the exams other than as specified by university policy. Missed exams without a properly documented excuse will be counted as an "F" - no exceptions - and no points will be awarded. Make-up exams will be different from exams given at the regularly scheduled times.

Last minute notification (defined as an excuse offered less than 24 hours before a deadline) is not acceptable unless written documentation is also provided. All work submitted after a deadline without a properly documented excuse will be penalized at -10% per day or fraction thereof. Computer hardware, software, printer, or floppy disk malfunctions are not acceptable excuses under any circumstances.

Notice: If at any point anyone finds that they are having trouble in the course, or there are any adverse conditions or circumstances which exist or arise that one needs to bring to my attention, I should be contacted as soon as possible.

Attendance Policy Attendance is required. Lectures will cover a great deal of material beyond what may be found in the readings.

Plagiarism The term plagiarize is defined by Webster's New International Dictionary (1949, p. 1878) as "To steal or purloin and pass off as one's own (the ideas, words, artistic productions, etc., of another); to use without due credit the ideas, expressions, or productions of (another)." If anyone commits an act of plagiarism (using another's words/arguments as their own without proper citation or footnotes) and are caught, they will receive no points for the assignment. They may also find themselves subject to disciplinary action from the History Department and/or the University, thus risking expulsion. If anyone doesn't know how or when to footnote or use appropriate citations, they are encouraged to acquire the Chicago Manual of Style.

Course Changes: The instructor reserves the right to make amendments to the course syllabus, with appropriate notice to the class, at any time.

ASSIGNMENTS

1) Midterm -

The three midterms will cover key names, places, offices, and institutions from the history of Colonial Latin America. Each exam will require the identification (definition and significance) of twenty (20) terms drawn from a list of 50+. Responses should range from three to five sentences in length. The quizzes will last an entire class period (approx. 50 minutes). Each item is worth 5 points, for a total of 100 points for each midterm.

2) Research Papers -

The papers should be not less than 1500 words in length. Please consult the bi-weekly lists for topics. Acceptable sources for research papers are limited to those printed materials (books, journals, etc.) to be found in Merrill Library, or to be obtained through Interlibrary Loan - see handouts. Internet/Website information is acceptable only with prior approval. If you need help in locating relevant source materials, please do not hesitate to contact me.

The papers should be double-spaced, 10pt font, with one-inch margins all around. Footnotes are required and should be given only at the bottom of the page, or at the end of the paper. Footnotes should be the same font size as the text, or smaller, and should be single-spaced. A title page and bibliography of sources consulted are also required, but will not count toward the total page requirement.

All papers must have an introduction with a clearly stated thesis statement or argument. The introduction should indicate what the paper is about, what arguments will be made, and how those arguments will be supported in the body of the paper. The main body of the paper should develop and support, with detail and examples, those points laid out in the introduction. The conclusion should summarize the findings and/or arguments of the paper, but should refrain from introducing any new facts or arguments.

Correct application of the rules of grammar and punctuation, and accurate spelling, are required. All questions of grammar and punctuation will be resolved with reference to the Chicago Manual of Style. The use of personal pronouns such as I, me, my, and you are always to be avoided. Triple/quadruple spacing between paragraphs is always to be avoided. Direct quotes from secondary sources are always to be avoided. All foreign terms (Spanish, Portuguese, etc.), except names of people, places, and the words "hacienda" and "rancho", are always to be underlined. Other specifications concerning style will be noted in writing to the class as required.

The papers may be handed in early at any time during the quarter, but papers handed in after deadlines (see Lecture and Assignment Schedule) will be docked 10% per day from the total points after grading. Papers are to be submitted by 5:00pm or when the History Department offices close - whichever comes first - on each deadline date, in the appropriately labeled box outside room 323-I in Old Main. Papers submitted by email will not be accepted. No rewrites will be accepted. Each paper is worth 100 points, and will count as one-third of the total paper grade.

3. Presentation -

Each student is to present on a topic of their choosing for approximately 10 minutes, in class, using powerpoint, drawing upon a list of possible topics.

4. Quiz -

There will be one quiz, given as a pre- and post-topic quantitative assessment of a given week's material.

Research Paper Gradesheet

Author: _____

Topic: _____

ORGANIZATION:

____ Introduction (5pts):

____ Transitions (5pts):

____ Conclusion (5pts):

STRUCTURE (-0.5-1pt ea.):

____ Grammar/Syntax (Up to 10pts):

____ Spelling (Up to 10pts):

____ Punctuation (Up to 10pts):

SUBSTANCE/Main Points:

____ Development (25pts):

____ Detail (20pts):

names

dates

places

examples

concepts

MISCELLANEOUS:

____ Instructions (10pts):

____ Word count (-1 ea., no limit)

COMMENTS -

Paper Grade: _____

Overall Grade: _____