

Course Name: History of Latin America

- ✓ **Hours of Instruction per Week: 4**
- ✓ **Total weeks: 15**
- ✓ **Total Hours of Instruction: 60**
- ✓ **Courses transferable to ECTS**
- ✓ **Courses transferable to U.S. System**
- ✓ **Recommendation: Advanced written and spoken English**

Course Description:

This course studies the formation and evolution of societies in Latin America with a focus in Argentina. Using a comparative approach, the course begins with the aftermath of independence and goes on to tell the story of the complex ethnic and cultural components that impacted in the formation of Latin American societies. It will discuss the emergence of the Masses in the 20th Century, and their key role as political actors in the Mexican, the “Peronist,” and the Cuban revolutions, among others. The general problem of economic inequality will be considered throughout the course with a special focus on Latin America’s social structure as it relates to race and class.

Attendance policy:

In accordance with University policies, students are required to have 75% percent attendance in order to take the final exam and have an opportunity to pass the class. Any absences incurred during trips or excursions not organized by the University fall within the 25% limit of absences. An electronic system keeps track of attendance. Students have to slide an electric card every class to comply with attendance policy.

Important note for oral presentations and response papers: It is strongly recommended that students read an article from our electronic library (such as JSTOR or / Wilson Web). Wikipedia is not an acceptable source for research. UB holds to the view that plagiarism constitutes intellectual theft and is a serious breach of acceptable conduct. Any student caught plagiarizing will immediately be given a “no credit” for all courses taken in the semester.

Evaluation Methods:

- Participation: 10%
- Response Papers (2): 20%
- Midterm: 25%
- Group Presentation: 15%
- Final: 30%

For a better understanding of the comparable table for grading: check your orientation kit handbook.

Academic Calendar

Week 1- Latin America in 19th Century

1.1.

- Introduction to the Course. The Legacies to Colonial Times.

1.2.

- After Independence (KH: 179-192)

Week 2- Decolonization and the Search for National Identities: 1821-1870

2.1.

- The Fruits of Independence- General Overview (KH: 193-196)
- Mexico (KH: 196-204)

2.2.

- Argentina (KH: 205-211)
- CR: Domingo Sarmiento, *The City and the Countryside: Civilization versus Barbarism*

Week 3- The Triumph of Neocolonialism and the Liberal State (1870-1900)

3.1.

- New Colonialism (KH: 243-246)
- Mexican Politics and Economy (KH: 252-255)
- Argentine Politics and Economy (KH: 252-255)

3.2.

- Race, Nation, and Freedom in Cuba (KH: 231-235)
- CR: Jose Marti, *Our America*

Week 4- The Mexican Revolution and The Populist Challenge

4.1.

- The Great Revolution (KH: 313-325)
- CD: Emiliano Zapata, *The Plan de Ayala and Agrarian Reform*

Week 5- The Mexican Revolution and the Populist challenge

5.1.

- Reconstructing the State (KH: 325-330)
- CD: Jose Clemente Orozco, *Liberating the Spirit of the Artist*
- Mexico: Lazaro Cardenas and the Populist interlude (KH: 330-333)
- Mexico: Big Bourgeoisie in Power (KH: 333-338)

5.2.

- Argentina: populism, the military and the struggle for democracy (KH:356-361)
- Argentina: Yrigoyen and the “infamousdecade” (KH: 356-368)

Week 6

6.1.

- The First Peronismo (1945-1955) (KH: 368-373)
- CR: Juan Perón, Declaration of Workers' Rights (1947)
- Eva Perón speaks:
http://web.archive.org/web/20040611224653/edsallhistorypage.org/html/eva_social_aid.html
http://web.archive.org/web/20040607205225/www.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/1951_evaperon.html

6.2.

- In the Shadow of Perón (1955-1973) (KH: 373-375)

Week 7- Cuba: the revolutionary socialist alternative to populism

7.1.

- Cuba: Independence, dependent development and popular struggle (KH: 376-388)
- CR: Sen. Orville Platt, *The Platt Amendment* (1901)

7.2

- Cuba: The Revolution (KH: 389-399)
- CR: Program Manifesto of the 26th of July Movement

Week 8-Deconstructing the State: Chile

8.1.

- The Socialist Alternative (1970-1973) (KH: 421-432)
- The Chilean Road to Socialism (KH: 432-437)
- Military Dictatorship and Neoliberalism in Chile (KH: 508-511)
- CR: Salvador Allende slastspeech- September 11, 1973

Week 9- Military Dictatorship and Neoliberalism in Argentina (1976-1990)

- Argentina (KH: 511-514)
- CR: Rodolfo Walsh, Open letter to the *Military Junta*
- CR: Nunca Mas/Never Again (read Prologue and Conclusion)
http://www.desaparecidos.org/nuncamas/web/english/library/neveragain/neveragain_001.htm

Week 10- Revolution and Prolonged Popular War in Central America

10.1.

- *MID TERM EXAM*

10.2.

- El Salvador (KH: 457-467)
- Central America in 19th Century (KH: 216-218; 265-268)
- Guatemala (KH: 438-447)
- CR: Archbishop Oscar Romero, *The Last Sermon* (1980)

Week 11- Revolution and Prolonged Popular War in Central America

11.1.

- Nicaragua (KH: 447-457; 520-522)
- CR: The Nicaraguan Revolution

11.2.

- Mexico, NAFTA and Zapatistas (KH: 514-520)
- CR: EZLN: *Sixth Declaration of the Selva Lacandona* (2005)

Week 12- Transcending Neoliberalism- Dictatorship of Markets and Resistance

12.1.

- Brazil (KH: 523-529) Group Presentation
- Chile (KH: 536-540) Group Presentation

12.2.

- Argentina (KH: 529-532) Group Presentation
- Mexico (KH: 540-543) Group Presentation

Week 13- Beyond Neoliberalism. Dictatorship of Markets and Resistance

13.1.

- Bolivia (KH: 543-547) Group Presentation
- Ecuador (KH: 547-552) Group Presentation

13.2.

- Cuba (KH: 552-558) Group Presentation
- *SECOND PAPER DUE*

Week 14- The Two Americas: USA- Latin America

14.1.

- Towards a New World Order? (KH: 587-592)

14.2.

- Final Revision

Week 15

15.1.

- *FINAL EXAM*

15.2.

- Final Remarks
- Final Grade and signature of Hoja de Situacion (attendance is mandatory)

Abbreviations

- KH Keen and Haynes, A History of LatinAmerica
- CR Course Reader

Note: This syllabus may be subject to change. Students will be notified in due time.

Bibliography

Benjamin, Jules. The U. S. and the Origins of the Cuban Revolution, Chapters 2-9

Bethell, Leslie. Ideas and Ideologies in Latin America, Chapters 2

Burns, Bradford. Latin America: Conflict and Creation, Chapters 2, 4, 5, 6, 7

Burns, Bradford. The Poverty of Progress, Chapters 1, 2, 5, 6, 7

Chasteen, John Charles and Joseph S. Tulchin (eds.) Problems in Modern Latin American History: A Reader, Chapters 3, 4, 9

Hillman, Richard. Understanding Latin America, Chapter 3

LaFeber, Walter. Inevitable Revolutions, Chapters 1, 3, 4, 5

Langley, Lester D. America and the Americas: The United States in the Western Hemisphere, Chapters 2-9

Levine, Robert. The Vargas Regime, Chapters 1-5

Rabe, Stephen. Eisenhower and Latin America, Chapters 1, 2, 3, 7, 9

Skidmore, Thomas and Peter Smith. A Contemporary History of Latin America (UB Library 042989/ 90)

Tulchin, Joseph. Argentina and the United States: A Conflicted Relationship, Chapters 2, 4, 5, 6, 7