COURSE DESCRIPTION
Many writers have described the European “discovery” of the Americas as the single most important event in world history. A grandiose boon for some and an incalculable tragedy for others, in time this event catalyzed change for every human society on the globe. As a consequence, our food, clothing, politics, economics, language, music, dance, disease, and genetics have all been irreversibly altered. While this collision of distant worlds is a monumental story, it is also a very human story of individual European, Native, African, and American men and women attempted to survive, understand, and succeed. What was life like for the conquerors, colonists, merchants, native and European aristocrats, slaves, nuns, governors, artisans, market women, or children of this new world? How do you govern an empire that is three months journey from your capitol city? How do you teach millions of people, without common language or ethnicity, to revere one king and one God? In such an incredibly diverse society, what were the rules for justice? What was proper, lady-like behavior for a woman if she was white, native, African, or mixed race? How did the government ensure justice and security without creating a police state? Why did some Native communities thrive while others collapsed? We will seek to answer some of these questions through reading original sources such as traveler accounts, court cases, religious tracts, journals, military records, official correspondence, and more.

READINGS
Books
The following books are available for purchase in the campus bookstore and are also on reserve in Knight Library.

- Bundle
Reading Codes
• “CL” Means Colonial Lives
• “DLA” means Documenting Latin America
• “TB” means Textbook (Pearson Custom Library, Hist 380 Latin America)
• “Restall” means Seven Myths of the Spanish Conquest

EVALUATIONS
Map quiz (Oct 4) 2%
Reading (20%)
   Reading paragraphs 15%
   Peer critiques of reading paragraphs 5%
Papers (51%)
   Preliminary assignments
   Introductory paragraphs 4%
   Peer critiques of introductory paragraphs 2%
   Paper 1 (either week 5 or 6, see poll): 20%
   Paper 2 (either week 8 or 9, see poll): 25%
Final Exam (Dec 8, 8am, 101 LLC South): 27%

1) Map Quiz: Identify the names and capitals of all the countries of modern mainland Spanish and Portuguese America plus Cuba (not other islands or the Guyanas).
2) Reading: In Blackboard, you will write weekly paragraphs that analyze the reading assignments. You will also critique each other’s paragraphs, offering useful suggestions for improvement. Your reading paragraph and critique with the lowest scores will be dropped from your final grade.
3) Papers: You will write two papers that analyze the course reading. Beforehand, you will write a draft of the each papers’ introductory paragraph along with a description of the rest of the paper. You will also critique each other’s draft, offering useful suggestions for improvement.
4) Final exam: Will be comprehensive, based on both reading and lecture materials.

Grading: Numbered scores correspond to letter grades as follows: Numbers in the 90s are As, the 80s are Bs, the 70s are Cs, the 60s are Ds, and below 60 is an F. Plusses and minuses work as follows: 80-82 = B-; 83-86 = B; 87-89 = B+. Any decimal below .5 gets rounded down, any decimal of .5 or above gets rounded up. So 86.4 becomes 86, which is a B; 86.5 becomes 87, which is a B+.
COURSE POLICIES
1. Attendance: You are expected to attend each class, to have finished the reading assignment before class, and to participate in discussion.
2. Respect: Mutual respect and courtesy are necessary for the course to be a success. No eating, talking, listening to music, or reading the newspaper in class.
   a. Cell phones: Turn off your cell phones before class starts; Professor Zahler has the right to answer any in-class calls or texts that you receive.
   b. Computers: You may use a computer during class time for taking notes but not for extraneous activities.
3. Late assignments: The reading paragraphs/critiques have a firm deadline and will not be accepted late. You can submit papers late and you will lose points on late assignments at a rate of 10pts/day. You can get an extension if you have a legitimate reason (e.g. health problems, a death in the family, imprisonment, alien abduction, etc.). Legitimate reasons require supporting evidence. Snowboarding on Mt. Bachelor is not a legitimate reason.
4. You may not sell class notes to other students. You may not use Blackboard for commercial purposes or to advertise items for sale. Use of services that sell course notes is prohibited because they contradict the educational purpose of this course.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:
Any work you submit must be your own and must be produced exclusively for this class – plagiarism and cheating will not be tolerated. All ideas from other sources must be properly cited. For further information on this subject, as well as guidelines for proper citation, see the Student Conduct Code and Plagiarism Guide for Students. Consequences for plagiarism or cheating can a “0” on the assignment and an F in the course. Consequences for repeated offenses can include suspension or expulsion from the university.
**SCHEDULE**  Note: Complete readings before the class for which they are assigned.

**Week 1: Worlds Apart**
September 25: Introduction

September 27: Pre-Contact Americas and Africa
  - *TB* Ch 1

**Week 2: Pre-Contact Iberia, Americas, and Africa**
October 2: The Americas and Africa in the 1400s
  - *TB* Ch 2 (pp31-55)
  - Restall: Introduction, Ch 1-2

October 4: Iberia in the 1400s
  - *TB* Ch 2 (pp55-63)
  - Restall: Ch 3-4

* Map Quiz

**Week 3 Contact and Conquest**
October 9
  - *TB* Ch 3
  - *DLA* Introduction (xix-xxxiv), Ch 1-2

October 11
  - Restall: Ch 5 to End

**Week 4 Imperial Economy and State**
October 16
  - *TB* Ch 4
  - *CL* Ch 2

October 18
  - *CL* Ch 4
  - *DLA* pp53-56, Ch 6, pp131-33, Ch 15

**Week 5: Imperial Economy and Society**
October 23: Native Americans
  - *TB* Ch 5
  - *DLA* Ch 4, 19

October 25: African Americans
  - *DLA* Ch 3, 5, 7, 11, 12
**Week 6: Honor and Law**
October 30
- Lyman Johnson, *Faces of Honor* excerpts (in PDF format).
  - Download PDF in Blackboard >> Course Documents >> Reading
- *DLA* pp97-99, 131-33; Ch 17

November 1
- *TB* Ch 6
- *CL* Ch 6

**Week 7: Honor and Society: Race, Gender, Wealth**
November 6: Gender
- *DLA* Ch 13, 16
- *CL* Ch 9, 10, 12 [Note: these chapters are long, give yourself enough time]

November 8: Gender & Race
- *DLA* Ch 9, Ch 14

**Week 8: Empire and Religion (Crown and Cross)**
November 13:
- *DLA* Ch 8
- *CL* Ch 7

November 15:
- *CL* Ch 3, 13
- *DLA* Ch 10, 18

**Week 9:**
November 20: Reading TBA

November 22: Thanksgiving, no class

**Week 10: The Maturing, Evolving Imperial Order**
November 27: Imperial struggles and reforms
- *TB* Ch 7 (Pages 194-98, 202-14)
- *DLA* pp175-77, Ch 20
- *CL* Ch 18

November 29: Wrap up and Review

Final Exam: 1:00pm Tuesday December 4. Location TBA