Latin America, 1750-1910
History 381, CRN 24015
Winter 2014, TR 2-3:20, GSH 123

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COURSE DESCRIPTION
The American empires of Spain and Portugal became independent in the 1820s, after a decade of costly warfare (for Spanish America). The leaders of the newly independent republics embarked upon an extremely ambitious path. Inspired by Enlightenment thought and models from the North Atlantic (France, Britain, and the US), they set out to transform their former colonies into sovereign republics with such modern features as legal equality, civil rights, elected government, and capitalistic economies. Abandoning custom, they wanted to transform a political culture in which legitimacy flowed from tradition, the king, and the Church, to one in which legitimacy resided in public opinion, representative government, and a free-market economy. Though these plans appeared rational at the time, violence, repression, and poverty continued to plague these republics decades after independence. Why didn’t these glorious ideas work better? Across the century and a half that brackets independence, this course will investigate not only political, economic, and social structures, but also the less tangible cultural features that undergird a society and affect its attempts to “develop.” Through exploring the perspectives of numerous peoples (men and women, rich and poor, ethnic and racial groups) we will attempt to understand why freedom, equality, and democracy can be such complicated, dangerous ideas.

READINGS:
Packet: Purchase the course reading packet at TheCopyShop, 539 13th (Ferry & Patterson). Request the packet for Professor Zahler.

Books: The following books are available for purchase in the campus bookstore.

Reading Codes:
Readings in the syllabus will be marked as follows:
- “M&W” for Martin and Wasserman’s Hist 381: Latin America
- “DLA” for Documenting Latin America
- “CP” for Course Packet
EVALUATIONS
Map quiz (Jan 16) 2%
Reading (20%)  
  Reading paragraphs 15%  
  Peer critiques of reading paragraphs 5%
Papers (51%)  
  Preliminary assignments  
    Introductory paragraphs (Jan 30 & Feb 20) 5%  
    Peer critiques of introductory paragraphs (Feb 4 & Feb 25) 2%
  Paper 1 (Feb 6) 20%  
  Paper 2 (Feb 27) 25%
Final Exam (Tues March 18, 1:00pm, GSH 123): 26%

1) Map Quiz: Identify the names and capitols of all the countries of modern mainland Spanish and Portuguese America plus Cuba (not other islands or the Guyanas).
2) Reading: Starting week 2, in Blackboard you will write weekly paragraphs that analyze the reading assignments. You will also comment on each other’s paragraphs, offering useful suggestions for improvement. Your reading paragraph and comments with the lowest scores will be dropped from your final grade.
   a. Reading paragraphs are due each week by 1:30pm on Thursday (start Jan 16).
   b. Peer comments are due the following Monday by 12noon.
3) Papers: You will write two papers that analyze the course reading. Beforehand, you will write a draft of each papers’ introductory paragraph along with a description of the rest of the paper. You will also comment on 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; computer users should sit in the front of the class.
3. Late assignments: The reading paragraphs/comments 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 include a “0” on the assignment and an F in the course. Consequences for repeated offenses can include suspension or expulsion from the university.
SCHEDULE

A brief note on the reading assignments:
- Complete readings before the class for which they are assigned, in the order listed.
- Look at the Readings Suggestions (Blackboard>>Course Documents) before you start the weekly readings for background and context.

Reading Codes:
Readings in the syllabus will be marked as follows:
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“DLA” for Documenting Latin America
“CP” for Course Packet

Late Colonial Period
Week 1: Spanish America’s Late Colonial Period
Jan 7: Introduction
Jan 9: Colonial structures
  - M&W: Chapter 1: “A New People and Their World”

Week 2: Bourbon Rule
Jan 14: Late Colonial world
  - CP: Laws of the Bourbon Monarchy (Early Modern Spain 225-232)

Jan 16: Society and Bourbon rule
  - DLA: v1 Introduction (xxv-xxxiv); pp175-77; Chapters 20, 22, 24
* Map Quiz

W3: Colonial honor and law
Jan 21: Honor
  - CP: Lyman Johnson, The Faces of Honor (1-17, 127-51)
  - CP: The Mangy Parrot, 11-15

Jan 23: Law
  - CP: Colonial court cases: (Colonial Lives: 185-200, 269-78)
    - These are cases from Ecuador, 1768 and Louisiana, 1795
  - DLA: v1 Chapter 21
Independence
Week 4: Independence
Jan 28:
  • M&W: Chapter 3: “The New Nations of Latin America”
  • Declarations of Independence:
    o Venezuela, 1811 [Click on web link]
    o CP: Argentina, 1816
    o Mexico, 1821 [Click on web link. First part is in Spanish, must scroll down for English]

Jan 30:
  • DLA: v1 pp215-218; Chapter 28
  • CP: Simón Bolivar’s “Address to the Congress of Angostura”

  ❖ Due: Introductory paragraph for Paper 1

Early Republican Period (1820s through ~ 1880s)
Week 5: The Troubles with Independence
Feb 4:
  • M&W: Chapter 4: “Regionalism, War, and Reconstruction”
  • CP: Bolivar: “Message to the Convention of Ocaña”

Feb 6:
  • CP: Articles by Mexican Conservatives and Liberals, 1840s (Mexico Reader, 220-38)

  ❖ Due: Paper 1

Week 6: Gender, Family, Law
Feb 11:
  • CP: Sarah Chambers, “To the company of a man like my husband”
  • CP: Honor, Status, and the Law in Modern Latin America. Articles by Peter Guardino and Rossanna Barragán

Feb 13:
  • DLA: v2 pp79-82, Chapters 10, 11, and 12
Week 7: Civilization and Barbarism
Feb 18:
- M&W: Chapter 5: “Everyday Life in an Uncertain Age, 1821-1880”
- DLA: v1 Chapter 29; v2 pp37-39, Chapter 7

Feb 20:
- DLA: v2 Chapter 5
- CP: “The Slaughterhouse,” *Argentina Reader*

❖ Due: Introductory paragraph for Paper 2

Stability, progress, and Neo-colonialism (~ 1880s – ~1910)
Week 8: Neo-colonial society, politics, economics
Feb 25:

Feb 27: No Reading

❖ Paper 2 due

Week 9: Neo-colonial society, politics, economics
March 4: Neo-Colonial politics and economics
- CP: *The Mexico Reader* (pp 273-84)
- CP: *The Argentina Reader* (pp182-92)

March 6: Neo-colonial society
- DLA: Chapter 13, 15

Week 10: Race and imperialism
March 11:
- DLA: Chapter 14

March 13:
- Wrap up and Review

Final Exam: Tues March 18, 1:00pm. Location: GSH 123