

Course: HIST-159-1 History of Modern Latin America
Instructor: Adrienne Kates
Term: Summer Session II – 2016
Room: ICC 119
Meeting Time: MTWRF 8:30 – 10:00
Office Hours: MW: 12:30 – 2:30 and by appointment
Office: ICC 6th floor
E-mail: ak735@georgetown.edu

Syllabus

This course offers a university level introduction to the History of Latin America from independence to the present. The core part of the survey offers a comparative approach to the way nation-states emerged as the new paradigm for political, social, and economic organization. We will discuss, sequentially, the consolidation of national states, the persistence of primary resources trade, the economic and political modernization in the 20th century, and the period of reforms and revolutions. We will conclude the course by discussing contemporary successes and challenges in Latin America. Because Latin America is huge and diverse, not every country is given equal attention. Students are welcomed to suggest additional topics to address.

The primary expectations of students in this class is that you will complete assignments in full and on time, that you will participate actively in each discussion, and that you will come with a curious mind, eager to learn. The assignments are designed with the time limits of a summer session in mind; there is no textbook for the course, although one will be made available in the library for general reference. In lieu of a textbook, students are expected to read short articles daily, and to read one longer piece (often a short book) per week. Students will be expected to analyze the readings, both in class and on paper, and must come ready to discuss each day. Although on some days, multiple articles are assigned, students will be personally responsible for only one of the articles assigned, and will be expected to engage the others. Class periods will generally be devoted to a short lecture and brief discussion of the readings, with longer discussions on the days after longer readings are assigned. The keys to success in this class are: engaging in lectures critically and asking questions whenever confusions arise, reading all materials assigned on time for discussion, coming to discussion sessions with questions prepared, and finally writing critical essays that offer a creative approach and present your own original analysis.

At the end of this course, a student will:

- Be knowledgeable about the major historical trends in the history of Modern Latin America.
- Be comfortable analyzing both primary and secondary sources.
- Have experience and critical feedback in writing argumentative essays.
- Be able to think about current problems in Latin America from a historical perspective.

Grading will be based on four components:

- Two five-page essays: 40%

- Paper 1: 15%
- Paper 2: 25%
- One final exam: 35%
8 IDs, 1 essay.
- Participation: 20%
Active participation means bringing thoughtful questions for group discussion.
Attendance is not participation.
- Map Quiz: 5%

Grade Breakdown

- 93-100: A
- 90-92: A-
- 87-89: B+
- 83-86: B
- 80-82: B-
- 77-79: C+
- 73-76: C
- 70-72: C-
- 67-69: D+
- 63-66: D
- 60-62: D-

Strong essays demonstrate a depth of knowledge, a critical approach to a relevant issue, and an independent understanding adequately articulated. Although both papers are supposed to be weighted equally, I will take improvement into account when determining final grades. The final exam will test your familiarity with key concepts from across the course, and your ability to construct a historical argument within a limited time frame.

Late paper policy: due to the rapid pace of summer session, late papers will be accepted only in situations of unforeseeable emergencies. Internships and job interviews do not qualify as such.

Attendance Policy: Daily attendance is mandatory. If you miss more than four classes, you will automatically fail the course.

I expect students within School of Continuing Studies to maintain the highest standards of academic and personal integrity in pursuit of their education at Georgetown.

Students with disabilities should contact the Academic Resource Center (Leavey Center, Suite 335; 202-687-8354; arc@georgetown.edu; <http://ldss.georgetown.edu/index.cfm>) before the start of classes to allow their office time to review the documentation and make recommendations for appropriate accommodations. If accommodations are recommended, you will be given a letter from ARC to share with your professors. You are personally responsible for completing this process officially and in a timely manner. Neither accommodations nor exceptions to policies can be permitted to students who have not completed this process in advance.

Books required to purchase:

Azuela, Mariano. *The Underdogs*. New York: Penguin Press, 2008.

Danner, Mark. *The Massacre at El Mozote*. Mark Danner: 1993.

- All readings are on 4-hour reserve in the library.

Additional readings are available on Blackboard or World Scholar.

SCHEDULE

First week: Independence and its aftermath

Session 1: Introductions

Session 2: Independence in Spanish America

- In Class Reading: Morelos

Session 3: Film: Camila

Session 4: Caudillismo (mini-lecture); Discussion of Facundo

- Read Civilization and Barbarism (both)
- **Paper 1 assigned**

Session 5: Independence in Brazil, The War of the Triple Alliance

- **MAP QUIZ**

Second Week: Export-led growth and national consolidation

Session 6: The Rise of Liberalism

Session 7: Late 19th and Early 20th Century Commodity Booms

- Read: Gootenburg (blackboard)

Session 8: Film: Carmen Miranda, Bananas is my Business

Session 9: Discussion of Liberalism

- Read Dean (blackboard)
- Liberalism debate
- **Paper 2 topics must be approved in individual meetings by this date**

Session 10: Popular Responses to Modernization: Rebellion and Millenarianism

Third Week:

Session 11: US Intervention in Mexico and the Circum-Caribbean

- In Class Reading: Jose Martí “Our America”
http://writing.upenn.edu/library/Marti_Jose_Our-America.html

Session 12: The Mexican Revolution

- In Class Reading: Plan de Ayala
- **Paper 1 Due**

Session 13: Film: The Storm that Swept Mexico

- Trivia Quiz

Session 14: Cristero Revolt and Cárdenas

- Discussion of Mexican Revolution
- Read: Azuela

- Session 15: Economic Crisis, ISI, and Populism: Gaitán, Perón, Vargas, Cárdenas
- Read: “The Cosmic Race” (blackboard)

Fourth Week

Session 16: Mid-Century Uprisings: Guatemala, Bolivia, Cuba

- In Class Reading: Che Guerrilla Warfare

Session 17: Bureaucratic Authoritarianism: The Cases of Brazil, Chile, Argentina

- **Paper 2 Bibliography Due**

Session 18: Film: El Secreto de Sus Ojos

Session 19: Civil War in El Salvador (mini-lecture); Discussion of Mark Danner

- Read Danner

Session 20: Central America in the 80s (Continued): Guatemala, Nicaragua, Honduras

- Read: World Scholar, “Tarnished Laureate: A Special Report; Nobel Winner Finds Her Story Challenged” On World Scholar
- Debate: Rigoberta Menchú

Fifth Week

Session 21: Uprising in the Andes: FARC, Shining Path

- Read: Guillermprieto, “Colombia” (blackboard)

Session 22: Neo-Liberalism, Debt Crisis, Urban Expansion

- Paper 2 Reports

Session 23: Paper Reports and Review Session

Session 24: **Final Exam**

Session 25: **Paper 2 Due**