

HIST 4392-040, 041 – MODERN LATIN AMERICA

Course Description

This course evaluates the social, cultural, economic, and political history of Latin America from the independence period to the present. Special attention will be devoted to the interaction of Indians, Europeans, and African-Americans and the consequences of this interaction on modern society. Both the instructor and students will analyze the period's significant events and movements and reach conclusions on Latin America's defining themes.

Course Objectives: Students will:

- Develop a more complex view of Modern Latin America and its many meanings.
- Know and be able to identify certain people, places, and events significant to Modern Latin America.
- Analyze past trends and movements and form educated opinions on historical issues and events related to Modern Latin America.
- Evaluate the similarities and disparities of Modern Latin America's various regions.
- Demonstrate their understanding of course material through paper assignments and exams.

Required Books

- Bouvard, Marquerite G. *Revolutionizing Motherhood: the Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo* (1994)
- Martin, Cheryl and Mark Wasserman. *Latin America and Its People* (2005)
- Scott, Rebecca J. *Slave Emancipation in Cuba: the Transition to Free Labor, 1860-1899* (2000)
- (4) 8.5 x 11 Exam Bluebooks

Students with Disabilities

"If you have a disability, including a learning disability, for which you request an accommodation, please contact Ida MacDonald in the Disability Support Services offices so that the appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance with federal law, a student requesting accommodation must provide documentation of his/her disability to the Disability Support Services counselor. For more information, call or visit the Student Services Center located in the University Center, Room 111. The telephone number is 566-7079 (TDD 565-5579)."

Social Security Statement

It is the policy of The University of Texas at Tyler to protect the confidential nature of social security numbers. The University has changed its computer programming so that all students have an identification number.

Academic Honesty

No forms of cheating will be tolerated. You are expected to know the definition of plagiarism. No form of collaboration is allowed in the preparation of the assigned papers. Students should not share underlined or annotated books, notes or rough and final drafts. Papers not totally prepared or written by the student should not be submitted. The penalty for violating these rules is an “F” in the course. For additional information see “A Student Guide to Conduct and Discipline at the University of Texas at Tyler” (<http://www.uttyler.edu/mainsite/conduct.html>).

Attendance – Class Room Policies

All students should attend every class session. Instruction will consist of lectures and class discussions. Frequently, students will be asked to discuss course topics and readings. Participation is required and comprises **10%** of your Final Course Grade. Frequent tardiness, absences, or discipline problems (including cellular phone interruptions) may adversely affect a student’s final grade. Any student who is disruptive in class will be asked to leave and may receive further disciplinary action from the university administration. I encourage you to record the names and telephone numbers of two other students in the class, in case you are absent and need information. Students who anticipate being absent from class due to religious observance are requested to inform the instructor by the second-class meeting

Grades

Assignment Breakdown

- 10% Classroom Participation
- 15% First Exam, (ID/Key Term Section) –
- 15% Second Exam, (ID/Key Term Section) –
- 15% Third Exam (Final),
- 10% Book Review #1
- 10% Book Review #2
- 10% Article Review
- 15% Research Paper (3000 words minimum).

Overall Percentages

A = 90-100% B = 80-89% C = 70-79% D = 60-69% F = below 60%

Exams

Three exams, each comprising **15%** of the final grade, will be given in this course. Exams will consist of 2 identification/short answer and 1 essay question derived from assigned readings and lectures. No make-up exams will be given, regardless of excuse. Those students who can provide legitimate documentation (as determined by instructor and university officials) explaining the reasons for their absence may take a **comprehensive** Final Exam, incorporating material covered on the missed exam(s) and comprising 30% or 45% of the student’s final grade, depending on the situation. Students should contact the instructor as soon as possible if an exam is missed. **Each student is required to bring (4) 8.5 x 11 Exam Bluebooks to the instructor BEFORE Exam I. These bluebooks will be redistributed during exam days.**

Book Reviews

Throughout the course of the semester, students will write and submit **2** Book Reviews, each comprising **10%** of their final course grade. Book Reviews should give the reader a brief, clear idea of the nature, content, and purpose of the book and indicate its major contributions to the literature on the subject (new ideas, revision of old ideas, new evidence). Reviewers should both describe the work's key features **and** offer a sophisticated analysis of its strengths and weaknesses. Reviews should also include a discussion of how well the author has succeeded in his or her purpose, covered the subject as a whole, used available resources, organized material, and expressed the narrative. Critical evaluation may be either favorable or unfavorable but do not allow sympathy or difference of opinion to keep the review from being a fair and straightforward assessment. For additional information see [Book Review Guidelines - Writing Tutorial Services - Indiana University, Bloomington](http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/wts/bookreview.html) (<http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/wts/bookreview.html>).

Book Review Assignment

Date Due

- *Slave Emancipation in Cuba...*

- *Revolutionizing Motherhood...*

All Book Reviews should be typewritten or computer-printed in a 12 pt. font, double-spaced and have standard margins (one inch on all sides). Each must be between **700** and **800** words in length. All will be graded on the student's understanding and presentation of content, clarity, spelling, grammar, and organization (See attached "Grading Guide for Written Assignments").

Article Review

Students also will write **1** Article Review that comprises **10%** of their final course grade. For this assignment, you should consult one of the following journals (in paper or electronic format) and select an article dealing with Modern Latin American history: *American Historical Review*, *Hispanic American Historical Review*, *Journal of American History*, *Journal of Modern History*, *The Americas*, *Ethnohistory*, *Journal of Latin American Studies*, *Journal of Social History*, *Latin American Perspectives*, *Latin American Research Review*. After reading the chosen article, students should evaluate it the same way that they would review a book, using the guidelines listed above. Article Reviews should be typewritten or computer-printed in a 12 pt. font, double-spaced and have standard margins (one inch on all sides). Each must be between **700** and **800** words in length. **A copy of the article reviewed must be attached to the paper submitted for grading and must be approved by the instructor prior to submission.** All will be graded on the student's understanding and presentation of content, clarity, spelling, grammar, and organization (See attached "Grading Guide for Written Assignments"). Article Reviews are due on **November 28**.

Research Papers

Students will write and submit **1** Research Paper that comprises **15%** of their Final Course grade. You must make an appointment with the instructor as soon as possible (**before October 1**) to determine a topic and discuss the sources you will use to complete the assignment (failure to arrange/attend such a meeting will negatively affect both your Research Paper and Class Participation grades). Research Papers are due on **December 7**.

All papers should be typewritten or computer-printed in a 12 pt. font, double-spaced and have standard margins

(one inch on all sides). Each Research Paper must be between **3000** and **3300** words in length. All will be graded on the student's understanding and presentation of content, clarity, spelling, grammar, and organization (See attached "Grading Guide for Written Assignments").

Keep in mind that any quotation or ideas from the readings that you include in your papers must be cited (See previous section on Academic Honesty). Students should consult the link titled [Reading, Writing, and Researching for History: A Guide for College Students](http://academic.bowdoin.edu/WritingGuides/) (<http://academic.bowdoin.edu/WritingGuides/>) located on the instructor's course web page for information concerning the proper format for this paper.

Late assignments will be penalized one letter grade per class period. (Stapled, paper copies only. Electronic versions of assignments will not be accepted for any reason.)

Lecture Topics

* Subject to Change

* Labor Day Holiday – No Class

Thanksgiving Holiday – No Classes

Last day to withdraw from a course with an automatic "W".

* All readings from Martin and Wasserman, *Latin America and Its Peoples*

- Introduction

- Overview of Pre-Independence Latin America (Chapters 7 and 8)

- Post-Independence Realizations (263-272)

- Caudillismo (286-291)

- Late 19th Century Society and Culture (Chapter 10)
- Positivism and Neocolonialism (292-295, 330-335)
- Populism, Dictators, and Revolutions (Chapter 8, 335-355, 365-384, Chapter 14)
- Latin America and the World Wars (359-364)
- Latin America and the U.S.
- Neo-liberalism and Economic Upheaval
- Late 20th Century Society and Culture (Chapters 13 and 15)
- Latin America Today
- U.S. Images of Modern Latin America
- Review

Grading Guide for Written Assignments

The following numbers will be used in the grading of written assignments to signify errors and provide explanations for deducted points.

1. Spelling errors
- 2. Unidentifiable or confusing thesis.**
3. Poor sentence structure (Confusing or unclear; run-on or incomplete sentence).
4. Unidentifiable or poor transition from point to point.

5. Lack of or poor use of evidence to support your arguments.
6. Missing or inadequate citations of others' words or ideas.
7. Incorrect information.
8. Incorrect use of grammar, punctuation, or capitalization.
9. Poor word choice.
- 10. Failure to address topic or answer question sufficiently.**
11. Unsupported generalizations.
12. Poor organization.
13. Excessively long direct quotations.
14. Incorrect verb tense.
15. No subject-verb agreement
- 16. Fails to meet required paper length/word requirement.**
17. Missing word.
18. Inconsistent use of terms.
19. Irrelevant information.
20. Repetitive Information.
- 21. Other**