History of Latin America: An Introduction
HIST 1305:001 CRN 31055
MWF, 10:00 am – 11:00 am
LART 322

Instructor: RaeAnn Swanson-Evans
Office Hours: LART 320, MW 11:00 am – 2:00 pm or by appointment
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915-747-5508 ext. 320

Course Description & Objectives:

This class is an introduction to the history of Latin America. Thirty-three countries make up Latin America and each contain diverse demographic populations and environments. This course covers precolonial, colonial, and modern time periods and provides a basic overview of the issues and events that have shaped history and society including conquest, colonialism, slavery, independence, revolution, politics, economics, and migration among others. A number of case studies in the course take a deeper look at events or topics of importance such as the Haitian Revolution or the Mexican Revolution. Additionally, each in class activity will focus on one topic or event. In-class activities will feature the analysis of primary or secondary sources in order to understand the historical context of the event/topic. At the end of the course, students will have explored the vast changes that occurred in Latin America and come away with historical skills such as critical thinking, interpreting primary sources, and essay writing.

Required Readings:


Various Articles and primary sources as assigned

Course Requirements:

General Classroom Rules: Attendance is required. Missing class will result in missing assignments and in-class activities. Readings and assignments need to be completed by the beginning of class as noted in the Readings and Assignments section. Late assignments will be docked ten points for each late day. Participation is expected of all students and is an important aspect of this class. Makeup exams will only be available to those who have valid documentation for missing a regular exam. Please speak with the instructor prior to planned events where you may miss an exam or in-class activity. Student conduct in this class should be fitting to a university classroom.

In Class Activities and Quizzes: In class activities will take place in class on the day they are listed in the Readings and Assignments section. An absence will result in all points lost unless prior arrangements have been made. Quizzes will be administered through Blackboard and
students are required to submit their quizzes by midnight of the date it is listed in the Readings and Assignments section. No make ups will be given for quizzes.

Academic Honesty: Plagiarism will not be tolerated in this classroom. Using any work that is not your own without proper citation qualifies as plagiarism. If you are found to be cheating or plagiarizing, you will be subject to disciplinary action. According to sections 1.3.1 of the UT Regents’ Rules and Regulations, “It is the official policy of the University that all suspected cases or acts of alleged scholastic dishonesty must be referred to the Dean of Students for investigation and appropriate disposition. It is contrary to University policy for a faculty member to assign a disciplinary grade such as an “F” or a zero to an assignment, test, examination, or other course work as a sanction for admitted or suspected scholastic dishonesty…” In short, anyone caught cheating will be reported to the Dean of Students.

Students with Disabilities: Accommodations are available for students with special needs. Please see me personally before or after classes during the first week to discuss any accommodations that you may need. Students need to contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) in the East Union Building, Room 106 within the first two weeks of classes. The CASS can also be reached by phone: (915) 747-5148 voice or via email: cass@utep.edu or via its website: http://sa.utep.edu/cass/

Grading:  

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tr>
<td>Latin America Geography Quiz</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>A</td>
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<td>Midterm</td>
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<td>B</td>
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<td>In Class Activities (6)</td>
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<td>Weekly Quizzes (5)</td>
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<td>D</td>
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<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>F</td>
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Extra Credit Opportunities: Students can complete up to two extra credit assignments on different topics. The professor will provide a list of movies based on historical events in Latin American history. Students can earn up to 25 points per extra credit assignment by watching a movie from the provided list and writing a two-page essay that summarizes the movie and describes how accurate or inaccurate the depiction of the historical event/period was by using specific examples from textbook readings and lectures. The format of the assignment must be double spaced, times new roman 12-point font with one-inch margins or points will be deducted. The final day to turn in extra credit will be Wednesday, December 4th (the last day of class) at the beginning of class.

Movies:
- Apocalypto- 2006- A Maya hunter is taken captive near the time of contact
- The Other Conquest- 2000- The aftermath of conquest of the Aztecs
- The Liberator- 2013- Life of Simón Bolívar
- The Frontier-1991- Chilean schoolteacher exiled by a military dictatorship to the geographically remote and rugged Chilean south
- The Official Story- 1985- An upper-middle class family in Argentina illegally adopts a child during the dirty war
El Norte- 1983- The film follows the journey of a brother and sister who flee the civil war in Guatemala to the United States
Romero- 1989- The life of Archbishop Óscar Romero who led peaceful protests during violent military rule in El Salvador in the late 1970s
Innocent Voices/Voces inocentes- 2004- The story of a young boy growing up in El Salvador during the Civil War in the late 1980s
The Golden Dream/La jaula de oro- 2013- Teenage migrants traveling to the United States

Readings and Assignments:

Week One, August 26th-30th: Introduction and Life and Culture in the Americas
Monday: Reading: Ch. 1, p. 1-16.
   Introduction to the course
   https://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/mod/1540cieza.asp
   Indigenous peoples
Friday: Latin American Civilizations Documentary, Quiz 1 due Sunday at midnight

Week Two, September 2nd- 6th: The Consequences of Contact
Monday: No Class, Labor Day
Wednesday: Reading: Ch. 2, p. 17-54
   Conquest and Colombian Exchange
   In-Class Activity 1: Thesis Writing- The Colombian Exchange

Week Three, September 9th-13th: Colonial Society
Monday: Reading: Ch. 3, p. 55-74
   Religion and Economics
Wednesday: Reading: Ch. 3, p. 75-94
   Slavery, Social Order, and Race
Friday: PBS, Black In Latin America: Episode 3, Brazil: A Racial Paradise?

Week Four, September 16th- 20th: Independence Movements
Monday: Latin America Geography Quiz
Wednesday: Reading: Ch. 4, p. 95-111
   Independence, Nationalism and Liberalism
   Case study: Haitian Revolution
   Quiz 2 due Sunday at midnight

Week Five, September 23rd- 27th: Postcolonial Society
Monday: In-Class Activity 2: Reading Primary Sources
   Independence and Postcolonial Plans
Wednesday: Reading: Ch. 5, p. 127-155
Postcolonial Society
Friday: Reading: Ch. 5, p. 156-160, Explore the website “The Norie Marine Atlas & The Guano Trade” Read the pages about the Guano Trade [https://americanhistory.si.edu/norie-atlas](https://americanhistory.si.edu/norie-atlas)
Case Study: The Guano Trade

Week Six, September 30th- October 4th: Changes and Continuities
Monday: Reading: Ch. 6, p. 161-173
Liberalism v. Conservatism
Wednesday: Reading: Ch. 6 p. 174-188
Women in Latin America
Friday: Documentary- Brazil: An Inconvenient History
Slavery and Freedom in Brazil
**Quiz 3 due Sunday at midnight**

Week Seven- October 7th- 11th
Monday: Reading: Ch. 6, p. 189-192
International Wars
Wednesday: In-Class Activity 3: Thesis Writing Two
Friday: Mid-term exam Review

Week Eight, October 14th- 18th: Neocolonialism
Monday: Mid-term exam
Wednesday: Reading: Ch. 7, p. 193-212
Export Economies and Politics
Friday: Reading: Ch. 7, p. 213-232
Interventions and Immigration

Week Nine, October 21st- 25th: Neocolonialism Continued
Case Study: Banana Boom
Wednesday: In-Class Activity 4: Reading Primary Sources
Friday: Film- Crisis in Central America: Part I- The Yankee Years

Week Ten, October 28th- November 1st: Nationalism
Monday: Reading: Ch. 8, p. 233- 248
Rise of Nationalist Governments
Wednesday: Reading: Ch. 8, p. 249-262
Effects of the Great Depression and WWII
Case Study: The Mexican Revolution
**Quiz 4 due Sunday at midnight**
Week Eleven, November 4th- 8th. The Cold War
Monday: Reading: Ch. 8, p. 263-264 and Ch. 9, p. 267-264
         Populism
Wednesday: Reading: Ch. 9, p. 265-292
          Cold War
Friday: Reading: Ch. 9, p. 293-296
In-Class Activity 5: Liberation Theology

Week Twelve, November 11th- 15th: Cold War Continued
Monday: Reading: Ch. 10, p. 297-308
Wednesday: Reading: Ch. 10, p. 309-328
Friday: Reading: W. George Lovell, “The Archive that Never Was: State Terror and Historical
         Available through JStore
         Case Study: Guatemala’s Civil War
         Quiz 5 due Sunday at midnight

Week Thirteen, November 18th- 22nd
Monday: Film, El oro o la vida: ReColonización y Resistencia en Centro América/Life for Gold:
         ReColonization and Resistance in Central America
Wednesday: No Class, Fall Holiday
Friday: No Class, Fall Holiday

Week Fourteen, November 25th-29th: Latin America Today
Monday: Reading: Ch. 11
         Neoliberalism and Beyond
Wednesday: Reading: Charlotte Mitchell “Latin America in 2019: Stories to Watch”
           https://bit.ly/2ISPDTs
           Latin America in 2019
Friday: Reading: Explore the website “The Wall” https://www.usatoday.com/border-wall/ and
        read the page “Forward or Back: Migrants and the Wall that Won’t Stop Them”
        In-Class Activity 6: Modern Migration

Week Fifteen, December 2nd- 6th: Latin America Today Continued
Monday: Film, Which Way Home
Wednesday: Review for Final Exam
Friday: Dead Day, No Class

Final Exam: Monday, December 9th 10:00am