This course surveys Latin American history from pre-Columbian times to the present. It explores economic and social dimensions of the major Amerindian civilizations; the colonial incorporation of the region into the Atlantic economy; the imperial efforts to adjust the colonial space to a changing international order; the emergence of independent and peripheral nation-states and their diverse and also convergent paths of economic, political, social, and cultural development; and the challenges of earlier internationalization trends and current globalization.

Requirements

1. Readings:

Required readings are listed in the course schedule below. A list of books available for purchase follows. All required readings are on Blackboard and marked in this syllabus with an asterisk (*). Blackboard materials are chapters, articles or excerpts of books available at McCabe.

2. Writing:

Two papers, 5-6 pages in length, mainly but not exclusively based either on a movie/video material, a book, or a primary source. I strongly advice you to discuss with me in advance your topic and the materials you are planning to use. One of the papers should deal with the Colonial period and the other with the Modern period. For those who are not familiar with modes of historical writing, writing conventions, and source documentation I recommend to read Richard Marius and Melvin Page, A Short Guide to Writing about History. (We will not discuss this book in class; if you have questions about it, do not hesitate to talk to me.) Students must complete all writing assignments to pass the course.

3. Exams:

One mid term and one final. Both will tend to evaluate your capacity in contextualizing key issues and problems in the making of the Latin American experience.

3. Film/movie screenings:

Video materials are on reserve and will be discussed in class in conjunction with specific readings. It is advisable to screen video materials before class.

4. Class participation:
Each week reading must be completed prior to class. You should come to every class, be prepared with questions and thoughts about the readings and participate fully in the discussions. I strongly recommend writing a commentary, paragraph, several questions or a brief outline stating your initial reaction to the reading in order to facilitate your participation in class discussions. Active participation is vital to receiving a good final grade. Unexcused absences will result in a lower grade.

Books
Matthew Restall, *Seven Myths of the Spanish Conquest*
Peter Winn, *Americas. The Changing Face of Latin America and the Caribbean*
Alma Guillermoprieto, *Samba*

Course Schedule.

**Week 1**
January 18
Introduction to course.

January 20
On Sources
Marius, Documenting Your Sources (*)
Rosestone, The Historical Film (*)
Berkin, The History Handbook (*)
Marius, Book Reviews (*)

Additional and optional reading
Sayles / Foner, Past Imperfect. History According to the Movies (*)

**Week 2**
January 25
Overview: From Pre Columbian Times to the Present I
Skidmore, The Colonial Foundations (*)
Winn, Legacies of Empire (*Americas* ch. 2)

January 27
Overview: From Pre Columbian Times to the Present II
Skidmore, The Transformation of Modern Latin America (*)
Winn, A View from the South (*Americas*, ch. 1)

Additional materials:
Maps (*)
Latin American Geography (*)
Keen Geographical Background (*)

**Week 3**
February 1
Pre Columbian Times
Lockhart and Schwartz (*)
Hassig, Mesoamerica and the Aztecs (*)

February 3
Stern, Pre Columbian Landscapes, 2 parts (*)

Video materials:
*The Incas*
Week 4
February 8
The Conquest
Cook, Born to Die (*)
Restall, Seven Myths of the Spanish Conquest (chapters 1 and 2)

February 10
Restall, Seven Myths of the Spanish Conquest (chapters 3 to 7, Epilogue)

Video materials:
Aguirre, the Wrath of God
Reading: Holloway, Whose Conquest is This, Anyway? (*)

Week 5
February 15
Colonial System I
Schwartz, The Landed Elite. 2 parts (*)
Bauer, The Colonial Economy. 2 parts (*)
Klein, Blacks. 2 parts (*)

February 17
Colonial System II
Society and institutions
Brown, Colonial Institutions, 4 parts (*)
Sweet (*)

Video materials:
The Mission
Readings: Saegger, The Mission and Historical Missions (*)
Blake, The Mission, an Epic of the Soul (*)
McNaspy, Tragic Heroism (*)
The Last Supper, The Other Francisco
Reading: Mraz, Recasting Cuban Slavery (*)
I, The Worst of All
Reading: Ramirez, The Literary Life of Sor Juana (*)

Week 6
February 22
Crisis of the Colonial Order
Brown, The Failure to Avert the Colonial Crisis, 2 Parts (*)
Brown, Civil War and Independence. 2 parts (*)

Video material:
The Buried Mirror. Part IV, The Price of Freedom

February 24
Mid-term Exam

February 25: First paper due

Week 7
March 1
Nation Building and Modernization
Winn, The Perils of Progress (Americas, 3)

March 3
Scobie, Social Structure and Cultural Themes (*)

**Week 8**
Spring Vacation

**Week 9**
Populism
March 15
Connif, Populism in Latin America, Introduction (*)
Connif, Populism in Latin America, Epilogue (*)

March 17
Winn, A Second Independence? (*Americas*, 4)
James, Peronism and the Working class, 2 parts (*)
Navarro, Wonder Woman was Argentine and her name was Evita (*)

Movie materials:
*Evita*
*Evita: The Woman Behind the Myth*

**Week 10**
Military Governments and Transitions towards Democracy
March 22
Winn, Capital Sins (*Americas*, pp. 159-192)
Skidmore, Rule of the Military (*)

March 24
Skidmore, Chile: Socialism, Repression and Democracy (*)
Winn, Capital Sins (*Americas*, pp. 192-199)

Video material:
*Americas*, part 2: *Capital Sins: Authoritarianism and Democratization*

**Week 11**
Migrations and urbanization
March 29
Winn, Continent on the Move (*Americas*, 6)
Lobo, A House of my Own (*)
Doughty, Behind the Back of the City (*)
Lima Chola Pictures (*)

March 31
Video material:
*Americas*, part 3: *Continent of the Move*

**Week 12**
Race and Ethnicity
April 5
Winn, A Question of Color (*Americas*, 8)
Winn, Children of the Sun (*Americas*, 7)
Warren, Transforming Memories (*)

Video material:
*Americas*, part 4, *Mirrors of the Heart*

April 7
Religion
Winn, The Power and the Glory (*Americas, 10*)
Prokopy and Smith, Introduction to Latin American Religion in Motion (*)
Theije, CEBs and Catholic Charismatics in Brazil (*)

Video Materials:
*Americas*, part 6, *Miracles are not Enough*

**Week 13.**
April 12
Gender
Winn, In Women’s Hands (*Americas, 9*)

Video materials:
*Lucia*
Reading: Weinstein, Inventing Women’s History on Film (*)
*Americas*, part 5, *In Women’s Hands*

April 14
Revolution
Winn, Making Revolution (*Americas, 13*)
Skidmore, Mexico
Skidmore, Cuba, Late Colony, First Socialist State, 2 parts (*)
Skidmore, Nicaragua, From Dynasty to Revolution (*)
The Shining Path, 2 parts (*)

**Week 14**
April 19
Popular Culture
Guillermoprieto, *Samba*
Parker, The Carnivalization of the World (*)

Video materials:
*Black Orpheus*

April 21
US-Latin American relations
Smith, Talons of the Eagle (*)
Cartoons US-LA (*)

**Week 15**
April 26
Globalization
Collier, On Globalization: Two Issues of Critical Concern (*)
Perrone and Dunn, Chiclete com Banana (*)
García Canclini, Consumers and Citizens (*)

April 28
Recapitulation

**April 29: Final Paper Due**

May
**Final Exam**