History 4 A
Colonial Latin America

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R 12:40-1:40

This course is a survey of the early period of Latin American history, from the Pre-Columbian Civilizations to the 1820's. Its central focus is the encounter of peoples of indigenous and Iberian cultures and the process of conquest and mutual transformation that ensued over the next three centuries.

Colonial Latin America will consider economic and social aspects of the major native civilizations, the impact of the Iberian conquest, the emergence of a colonial society, the imperial efforts to reform and adjust the colonies to a changing international order, and the process that culminates in the wars of independence. We will pay special attention to issues of resistance, accommodation and rebellion, problems of change and continuity, and the legacies of colonialism.

This course will combine short introductory lectures with in-depth discussions of readings and films.

Requirements

1. Reading:
   Required readings are listed in the course schedule below. A list of books available for purchase follows. All readings are on library reserve and some of them are on EReserve under History 4A, password: colonial. In this syllabus these materials are marked with an (*). Among the EReserve materials I included a selection of historical maps. Please notice that Brown’s Latin America. A Social History of the Colonial Period should be read as a background material unless something different is indicated in the schedule. Supplementary readings are available for those students who develop a particular interest in any of the topics covered in this course. Film/movie screenings are also required and will be discussed in conjunction with particular readings. Most of these video materials are also on reserve.

2. Writing:
   A journal is the main writing assignment. Each entry of your journal should consist of two double-space page essays stating what you think are the most relevant issues or contributions of readings, films and class discussions. By the end of the semester your journal will have 8 entries. Additional information on how to organize each entry of your journal will be provided the first day of class. I will check and grade each one of them, suggesting changes if necessary. By the end of the semester you will turn in your final, revised, and complete version of the journal. I will read it again as, I hope, an articulated reflection of your “discovery” of Latin American colonial history.

   Additional writing: Students are required to submit for every class with an assigned reading a commentary stating your initial reaction to the reading. These short pieces could be one or two paragraphs, several questions, or a brief outline of issues. They are due at the beginning of each class.

   Students must complete all weekly writing assignments (journal entries and outlines) to pass the course.

3. 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. Active participation is vital to receiving a good final grade. Unexcused absences will result in a lower grade.
Texts

Books:


EReserve:
Go to Tripod library catalog, Reserves for Hist 4A, Search ERes system, Electronic reserves, Armus, Colonial Latin America, password: colonial

Other Materials on Reserve:

Course Schedule

Week 1,

T September 3
Introduction to the Course

R September 5
Overview of the Colonial Experience

WINN (*), *Americas. Legacies of Empire*
SOCOLOW, *Introduction to the Rural Past* (in HOBERMAN-SOCOLOW-COUNTRYSIDE)
SOCOLOW, *Introduction* (in HOBERMAN-SOCOLOW-CITY)

Week 2,

T September 10
Amerindian Civilizations on the Eve of European Conquest. An Overview

BROWN, Chap. 1 (especially pp. 16-35), Chap. 2 (especially pp.49-57)

**R September 12**
Films: *Columbus on Trial / The Incas / The Conquest of Mexico and Peru*
STERN (*), *Paradigms of Conquest: History, Historiography, and Politics*

**Week 3,**
**T September 17**
The Incas

PATTERSON, *The Inca Empire: the Formation and Disintegration of a Pre-capitalist State* (entire)

**R September 19**
The Incas

PATTERSON, *The Inca Empire: the Formation and Disintegration of a Pre-capitalist State* (entire)
STERN (*), *Peru’s Indian Peoples. Introduction; Pre-Columbian Landscapes.*

**Week 4,**
**T September 24**
The Aztecs

HASSIG, *Mexico and the Spanish Conquest* (entire)
BROWN, Chap. 3 (pp.73-104)

Journal #1 (week 3) Due.

**R September 26**
The Aztecs

HASSIG, *Mexico and the Spanish Conquest* (entire)
BROWN, Chap. 3 (pp.73-104)

**Week 5,**
**T October 1**
The Mayans

CLENDINNEN, *Ambivalent Conquests* (entire)

Journal #2 (week 4) Due.

**R October 3**
The Mayans

CLENDINNEN, *Ambivalent Conquests* (entire)

**Week 6,**
**T October 8**
Film, *Aguirre the Wrath of God*  
HOLLOWAY (*), *Whose Conquest is This, Anyway?*

**Journal #3 (week 5) Due**

**R October 10**  
The Rural Colonial World

BAUER, *The Colonial Economy* (in HOBERMAN-SOCOLOW-COUNTRYSIDE)  
SCHWARTZ, *The Landed Elite* (in HOBERMAN-SOCOLOW-COUNTRYSIDE)  
RAMIREZ, *Large Landowners* (in HOBERMAN-SOCOLOW-CITY)

**Week 7,**  
**Break**

**Week 8,**

**T October 22**  
Slavery

Film, *The Last Supper*  
MRAZ (*), *Recasting Cuban Slavery*

**R October 24**  
Slavery

KLEIN, “Blacks” (in HOBERMAN-SOCOLOW-COUNTRYSIDE)  
ALBERRO, *Juan de Morga and Gertrudis de Escobar: Rebellious Slaves* (in SWEET and NASH)  
BROWN, Chap. 7 (pp. 217-238)  
ANDERSON (*), *Quilombo of Palmares*

**Journal #4 (week 6) Due.**

**Week 9,**

**T October 29**  
The Church

SCHWALLER, “The Clergy” (in HOBERMAN-SOCOLOW-COUNTRYSIDE)  
GANSTER, “Churchmen” (in HOBERMAN-SOCOLOW-CITY)  
GANSTER, “Cristóbal Béquer: Wayward Prebend” (in SWEET and NASH)  
Film, *The Mission*

**Journal #5 (week 8) Due.**

**R October 31**  
The Church

Film, *The Mission*  
BLAKE (*), *The Mission, an Epic of the Soul*  
MCNASPY (*), *Tragic Heroism*  
SAEGER (*), *Mission and Historical Missions*  
SWEET (*), *Reflections on the Ibero-American Frontier Mission*
Week 10,

T October 29
Women

LAVRIN, Female Religious (in HOBERMAN-SOCOLOW-CITY)
Santa Rosa de Lima According to a Pious Accountant (*)
Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz’s Letter to Sor Filotea (*)
Film, I, the Worst of All

R October 31
Women
Film, I, the Worst of All
RAMIREZ (*), I, the Worst of All

Week 11,

T November 5
Social Groups

VAN YOUNG, Material Life (in HOBERMAN-SOCOLOW-COUNTRYSIDE)
GUDMUNSON, Middle Groups (in HOBERMAN-SOCOLOW-COUNTRYSIDE)
BURKHOLDER, Bureaucrats (in HOBERMAN-SOCOLOW-CITY)
ARCHER, Military (in HOBERMAN-SOCOLOW-CITY)

LUGAR, Merchants (in HOBERMAN-SOCOLOW-CITY)
SUPER, Miguel Hernández: Master of Mule Trains* (in SWEET and NASH)

Journal # 6 (weeks 9 and/or 10) Due.

R November 7
Social Groups

JOHNSON, Artisans (in HOBERMAN-SOCOLOW-CITY)
BROWN, Urban Workers (chap. 9, pp. 282-290)
KARASH, Suppliers, Sellers, Servants, and Slaves (in HOBERMAN-SOCOLOW-CITY)
HASLIP-VIERA, The Underclass (in HOBERMAN-SOCOLOW-CITY)
JOHNSON, Francisco Baquero. Shoemaker and Organizer (in SWEET and NASH)
CHIPMAN, Isabel Moctezuma: Pioneer of Mestizaje (in SWEET and NASH)
ALBERRO, Beatriz de Padilla. Mistress and Mother (in SWEET and NASH)

Week 12,

T November 12
Social Groups

MARTIN, The Indigenous Peoples (in HOBERMAN-SOCOLOW-COUNTRYSIDE)
BROWN, The Working People (chap. 9, pp. 272-282)

R November 14
The Issue of Drinking in Colonial Mexico
TAYLOR (*), Drinking, parts 1 and 2
COUTURIER, Micaela Angela Carrillo: Widow and Pulque Dealer (in SWEET and NASH)
Week 13,

T November 19
Rebellions and Revolts

STAVIG, Conflict, Violence and Resistance (in HOBERMAN-SOCOLOW-COUNTRYSIDE)
BROWN, Rebellion in the Andes (Chap. 11, pp. 325-343)

Journal # 7 (weeks 11 and/or 12) Due.

R November 21
Revolutions and Movements of Independence

BROWN, The Haitian Social Revolution (Chap. 13, pp.369-385)

Week 14,

T November 26
Revolutions and Movements of Independence

BROWN, Civil War and Independence (Chap. 15, pp. 419-450)

R November 28
Thanksgiving

Week 15,

T December 3
Film, The Buried Mirror

R December 5
Revision

HOBERMAN, Conclusion (in HOBERMAN-SOCOLOW-CITY)
HOBERMAN, Interpretations of the Colonial Countryside (in HOBERMAN-SOCOLOW-COUNTRYSIDE)

Journal # 8 (Weeks 13 and/or 14) Due.

Week 16,

T December 10
Revision

HARRIS(*), The Coming of the White People
STERN(*), Paradigms of Conquest: History, Historiography, and Politics

R December 12
Final Version of Journal Due