

Historical Studies 367
Instructor: Dr. Shawn England
Office: Social Science 643
Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11:30-12:20; or by appointment
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The University of Calgary
Winter 2009

Latin America Since Independence (Tuesdays and Thursdays, 12:30-1:45; KNB 132)

This course is a comprehensive introduction to the history of Latin America during the national period. It will trace two volatile centuries of change within a region that encompasses twenty different nations. While each country's experience is unique, a number of themes common to them all will emerge. These include (but are not limited to): the problems of militarism and dictatorship; uneven economic development and the evolution of societies of extreme inequality; widespread civil conflicts and political instability; the rise of nationalist and revolutionary movements. The ongoing hemispheric struggle for greater social justice will be considered, as will Latin America's often troubled relationship with the United States.

Course Text Books and Required Readings

John Charles Chasteen. *Born in Fire and Blood: A Concise History of Latin America*. Second Edition. New York: W. W. Norton & Co., 2006.

Lyman L. Johnson, ed. *Death, Dismemberment, and Memory: Body Politics in Latin America*. Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 2004.

Additional readings will be made available on the course Blackboard site.

Course Grading

Midterm Exam	30%
Term Paper (including proposal and working bibliography)	40%
Final Exam	30%
Total	100%

Course Assignments

Please note: Assignments turned in late without a special arrangement with the instructor ***made well in advance*** of the due date will be reduced by ***one letter grade*** for each day they are late. All assignments not submitted in class must be submitted via the Red Box located in the hallway outside the history department office (SS 656). All three assignments must be completed to pass this

course. (Be sure to save a backup copy of your assignments; lost or missing assignments cannot be assigned a grade.)

Midterm Exam: February 12

This exam will require students to synthesize lectures, readings, and class discussions in order to provide suitable answers to questions regarding important historic events, individuals, and trends covered during the first part of the course.

Study guide will be posted a week or so before the exam.

Term Paper Proposal and Working Bibliography: Due February 26

Students must submit a one-page plan outlining their proposed term paper topic and thesis statement. Potential topics can address any aspect of modern Latin American history, provided you have adequate sources. Term papers turned in without first submitting this proposal will not be accepted. If you have a problem coming up with a topic, consult with the instructor well in advance of the due date. A bibliography of no fewer than eight (8) supporting sources must accompany the proposal. At least six (6) of these must be actual books or articles from the library (this includes electronic versions of scholarly articles). Any proposed web-based sources must include web addresses and are subject to the instructor's approval. (No grade is assigned, but no paper will be graded unless approved.)

Term Paper: Due April 2

Each student will select a topic concerning some aspect of modern Latin American history and (with the instructor's approval) craft a term paper dealing with the approved topic. The instructor will periodically address the process of writing a good history paper throughout the course, so students are encouraged to attend class regularly. A handout giving a full and itemized disclosure of the instructor's grading criteria will be distributed in advance of the paper's due date. The finished paper will be between eight and ten pages in length (2,500 words), not including bibliography, notes, and cover page.

Final Exam (to be scheduled by registrar's office)

The final exam will require students to synthesize lectures, readings, and class discussions in order to provide suitable answers to questions regarding important historic events, individuals, and trends covered since the midterm.

Study guide will be posted a week or so before the exam.

All written work must conform to THE HISTORY STUDENT'S HANDBOOK: a Short Guide to Writing History Essays, which is available at the bookstore or electronically via the history department website at this address:

<http://hist.ucalgary.ca/sites/hist.ucalgary.ca/files/EssayHandbook.pdf>

Lecture Theme and Reading Schedule

Please note that the instructor **will not** provide notes to students who miss lectures. It is **your responsibility** to attend lectures regularly and get notes of missed lectures from a classmate.

PowerPoint slides will be used in class to outline main points and clarify the proper spelling of names, terms, etc., and these will be made available on the Blackboard site as well.

Consult the instructor during office hours (or via email) if you feel uncertain about anything covered in this class, or if you need help with any assignment.

Please shut cell phones off while you are in class. If you must take a call, leave the room immediately to do so. Those who arrive late to class or leave early are similarly encouraged to do so as quietly as possible.

Week One: January 13 and 15

Introduction, Geographic Orientation, and Colonial Overview

Chasteen, Chapter One

Johnson, Chapter One

Week Two: January 20 and 22

The French and Haitian Revolutions

Chasteen, Chapter Two

Johnson, Chapter Two

Week Three: January 27 and 29

South American Wars of Independence

Chasteen, Chapter Three

Week Four: February 3 and 5

Mexico and Central America: From Colonies to Republics

Chasteen, Chapter Four

Johnson, Chapter Three

Week Five: February 10 and 12

Midterm exam February 12

Age of the Caudillos

Johnson, Chapter Four

Week Six: February 17 and 19

Reading Week

Week Seven: February 24 and 26

Term Paper Proposal and Bibliography due February 26

Liberalism, Order, and Progress

Chasteen, Chapter Five

Week Eight: March 3 and 5

Rise of the Northern Colossus

Chasteen, Chapter Six

Johnson, Chapter Five

Week Nine: March 10 and 12

Nationalism and Mexico's Revolution

Chasteen, Chapter Seven

Johnson, Chapter Six

Week Ten: March 17 and 19

The Good Neighbour and the Caribbean Tyrants

Johnson, Chapters Seven and Eight

Week Eleven: March 24 and 26

The Early Cold War and the Cuban Revolution

Chasteen, Chapter Eight

Thomas C. Wright, "Fidelismo and the Radicalization of Latin American Politics."

Week Twelve: March 31 and April 2

Term Paper due April 2

The Condor Years

Johnson, Chapter Nine

J. Patrice McSherry, "What Was Operation Condor?"

Week Thirteen: April 7 and 9

Central America and the Reagan Doctrine

Chasteen, Chapter Nine

Johnson, Chapter Ten

Week Fourteen: April 14 and 16

Neoliberalism and "The End of History"

Chasteen, Chapter Ten

Final Exam to be scheduled by the Registrar