

HIS 151 - Modern Latin American History, 1821-2014

Spring 2015

Prof. Sierra (pablo.sierra@rochester.edu)

Location: Morey 525

Class: Tuesday & Thursday, 9:40-10:55 am

Office: Rush Rhees 458

This introductory survey course will cover the difficult process of nation-building that twenty-odd societies south of the Rio Grande experienced during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The course will analyze the nineteenth-century construction of national borders, economies and cultural

Week 1 - Colonial Legacies

- Meade, *A History of Modern Latin America*, 22-79
- *Problems in Modern Latin American History*, 3-24
- Frances Calderon de la Barca, primary source

Jan. 13 – No Class

Jan. 15 – Spanish America and Portuguese Brazil at 1821

Jan. 17 – Haiti: Free, Black, and Threatening

Week 2 - Incomplete Independence, or Spanish America Falls Apart

- Chowning, "Nineteenth-Century Mexican Agriculture," 179-215
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- Jeffrey Pilcher, *Que vivan los tamales!*

Feb. 17 – Porfirio Díaz and the peace of dictatorship
 Feb. 19 – "Adelitas": The women who rode the trains
 Feb. 21 – Pancho Villa and Emiliano Zapata

Individual Meetings
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Week 7 – The Music, Sport and Dance of Latin America

- Hermano Vianna, *The Mystery of Samba*
- *Problems*, 183-193

Feb. 24 – Popular Culture, Sport and Food
 Feb. 26 – The Transformation of Carnaval
 Feb. 28 – Elite Culture and Festivities

Week 8 – To Mix or Not to Mix?

- *R&N*, Gerardo Rénique, "Race, Region and Nation," 211-236
- *R&N*, Alexandra Minna Stern, "From Mestizophilia," 187-210
- *R&N*, Sueann Caulfield, "Interracial Courtship," 163-186
- *R&N*, Barbara Weinstein, "Racializing Regional Difference," 237-262

Mar. 3 – The Ideals of Mestizaje
 Mar. 5 – Midterm Exam
 Mar. 7 – Latin American Cinema

Midterm Exam

Week 9 - Spring Break (No Class, March 8-16)

- Ernesto Guevara, *Back on the Road: A Journey to Central America*

Week 10 - Unhealthy Bananas: The Case of Honduras and Guatemala

- Meade, 175-191
- *Problems*, 161-181
- Ernesto Guevara, *Back on the Road: A Journey to Central America*

Mar. 17 – The Panama Canal and Monroe Doctrine
 Mar. 19 – What happens when Boston wants bananas?
 Mar. 21 – Neruda and the poetry of "El Pulpo"

Week 11 – Trujillo, Haiti and Populism

- Meade, 193-233
- *Problems*, 193-202, 207-229

Mar. 24 – An Island Split
 Mar. 26 – Caribbean Genocide
 Mar. 28 – World War II and Populism

Week 12 – Revolution, Student Movements, and Dictatorship

- Meade, 235-275
- *Problems*, 231-280
- Eric Zolov, "Showcasing the Land of Tomorrow," 159-188 *

Mar. 31 – The Cuban Revolution
Apr. 2 – *Massacre at Tlatelolco*
Apr. 4 – Fears of the Left: Chile, Brazil, Argentina

Week 13 - A New Latin America: Coke, Coca-Cola and Migrants

- Meade, 278-303

Apr. 7 – Booming Cities, Informality, and LTAM Migration
Apr. 9 – The Drug Trade
Apr. 11 – New Latin American Realities

Essay Due

Poster Presentations

Week 14 – Zapatismo, or those Ski-Masked Native Americans

- *Problems*, 281-292

Apr. 14 – NAFTA and Hyperinflation
Apr. 16 – Central American Rebel Groups from Marcos to Ortega
Apr. 18 – Fight for Indigenous Resources and Laws: Rigoberta Menchú

Week 15 - Hugo Chávez, Lula and the Social Costs of Spectacle

- Meade, 305-334
- *Problems*, 202-205, 292-320
- Eli Jelly