COLONIAL LATIN AMERICA
SPRING 2013

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course surveys the history of colonial Spanish America from first encounters to independence. An underlying focus will be to explore the dynamics of scholarly analysis, tracing how and why historians and social scientists have revisited and provided alternative (revisionist) interpretations of key themes. These include: the arrival of humans in the Americas, alternations in the pre and post contact indigenous (Maya, Aztec, Inca) and Iberian worlds, processes of conquest and early colonization, ecological and demographic trends, the consolidation of imperial power (governmental, economic, religious and social institutions), changing dynamics of gender, race and class; the Bourbon Reforms; and precipitating variables for independence.

TEXTS

Required:

Bernal Diaz del Castillo, *The Conquest of New Spain* (Penguin 1963) (BD)

Richard Boyer, *Colonial Lives: Documents in Latin American History 1550-1850* (Oxford University Press 2000). (B)

Camilla Townsend, *Malintzin's Choices: An Indian Woman in the Conquest of Mexico* (University of New Mexico Press 2006) (CT)

CLASS REQUIREMENTS

Students must pass a map quiz to receive a grade in the course. There will be a midterm and a final examination. Study sheets will be handed out a week prior to each examination and there will be a review in class of the materials to be covered. Students should be prepared to discuss the assigned readings in class as well as show their comprehension of the material in examinations and essays. Additionally students will write one (5-7) page essay based on the Boyer readings. A sheet will be handed out suggesting possible topics or students may develop their own topic with the approval of the professor. Each examination and writing assignment will count equally in assigning a final grade. From time to time students may be presented with opportunities for extra credit through attendance at scholarly presentations. A brief outline of the lecture topics as well as terms and concepts to know will be handed and will be posted on Blackboard.

TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE

DATE	TOPIC	READING ASSIGNMENT	CLASS ASSIGNMENT
MON 1/14	INTRODUCTION		
WED 1/16	ARRIVAL HUMANS TO AMERICAS		
FRI 1/18	ARRIVAL HUMANS TO AMERICAS		ARRIVAL/MESOAMERICA
MON 1/21	MARTIN LUTHER KING HOLIDAY	NO CLASS	NO CLASS
WED 1/23	ARRIVAL HUMANS TO AMERICAS	READ CROSBY ON BB ON THE COLUMBIAN EXCHANGE	
FRI 1/25	THE MESOAMERICAN WORLD OLMECS TEOTIHUACAN MAYA SEEDS OF TOMORROW VIDEO		DISCUSS COSBY AND VIDEO
MON 1/28	THE MESOAMERICAN WORLD OLMECS		VIDEO CRACKING THE MAYA CODE

	TEOTIHUACAN MAYA AZTECS		
WED 1/30	**AZTECS**		
FRI 2/1	**AZTECS**		
MON 2/4	**AZTECS**	**CT 1-54**	**DISCUSSION**
WED 2/6	**THE ANDEAN WORLD**		
FRI 2/8	**ANDES VIDEO**		
MON 2/11	**SPANISH BACKGROUND**		
WED 2/13	**SPANISH BACKGROUND**		
FRI 2/15	**SPANISH BACKGROUND**	**CT 55-125**	**DISCUSSION**
MON 2/18	**CONQUEST**	**BD 7-118**	**DISCUSSION**
WED 2/20	**SPANISH BACKGROUND/CONQUEST**	**CONT**	**DISCUSSION**
FRI 2/22	**CONQUEST**	**CONT**	**DISCUSSION**
MON 2/25	**CONQUEST**	**BD 166-325**	**DISCUSSION**
WED 2/27	**CONQUEST REVIEW FOR TEST**	**BD 351-412**	**DISCUSSION**
FRI 3/1	**MIDTERM**		**TEST 1**
MON 3/4	**SOCIETY OF CONQUEST**		
WED 3/6	**SOCIETY OF CONQUEST**		**DISCUSSION**
FRI 3/8	**SOCIETY OF CONQUEST**	**CT 126-213**	**DISCUSSION**
MON 3/11	**SPRING BREAK**		
WED 3/13	**SPRING BREAK**		
FRI 3/15	**SPRING BREAK**		
MON 3/18	**SOCIETY CONQUEST/DEMOGRAPHY**		

WED 3/20	**DEMOGRAPHY**		
FRI 3/22	**CATCH UP TIME.**		
MON 3/25	**COLONIAL GOVERNMENT**		
WED 3/27	**COLONIAL GOVERNMENT**		
FRI 3/29	**COLONIAL GOVERNMENT**		
MON 4/1	**COLONIAL ECONOMIES ECONOMIES/PIRACY/FLEET SYSTEM**		
WED 4/3	**COLONIAL ECONOMIES ECONOMIES/PIRACY/FLEET SYSTEM**	**B1**	**DISCUSSION**
FRI 4/5	**RELIGION**	**B3, B4**	**DISCUSSION**
MON 4/8	**RELIGION**	**B5.**	**DISCUSSION**
WED 4/10	**SOCIETY OF CASTES**	**B6**	**DISCUSSION**
FRI 4/12	**SOCIETY OF CASTES**	**B9**	**DISCUSSION**
MON 4/15	**SOCIETY OF CASTES**	**B10**	**DISCUSSION**
WED 4/17	**CATCH UP**		**DISCUSSION**
FRI 4/19	**BOURBON REFORM**		
MON 4/22	**BOURBON REFORM**	**B12**	**BOYER PAPER DUE**
WED 4/24	**BOURBON REFORM**		
FRI 4/26	**INDEPENDENCE**	**B23**	**DISCUSSION**
MON 4/29	**INDEPENDENCE**		
WED 5/1	**INDEPENDENCE**		
FRI 5/3	**CATCH UP AND REVIEW**		**FINAL WILL BE ON ASSIGNED DAY AND TIME**

BASIC SURVIVAL RULES.

1. **Never hand in a paper unless you keep a rough draft. Xerox your final copy, or save in multiple places. Always save every exam and paper until you have received the correct final grade in the course. YOU are responsible for records of all work completed until you receive the final grade.**
2. **Papers must be turned in as hard copy unless you have received specific permission to send as email.**
3. **Class attendance is not mandatory---however since the large majority of material tested comes from lecture, visual presentations, and discussions, be warned that missing even one class can materially affect your grade.**
4. **Although there is no assigned penalty for MISSING a class, there is one for LEAVING it. Only those who have my permission received before the class (e.g. a doctor's appointment) may leave a class during class hours and such students should sit where leaving will not disturb the other students. Any other student who leaves the class during the assigned hours for any other non-serious reason will be identified, and a penalty of three points off the next test will be assigned; a second unexcused withdrawal results in an automatic F for the course.**
5. **Makeup sessions must be arranged with the Professor or the TA. The History Department supervises makeup examinations on Friday from 2-5 pm. These make up sessions are NOT for student convenience--that is, for those who didn't study enough the night before, and thus want to take the makeup. Acceptable reasons for not taking tests when offered include---but are not limited---to excuses such as observance of a religious holy day or illness. Students should place high priority on taking all examinations with the class. Do not make plane or other reservations until you are totally certain that you will be able to make the assigned hour and day for examinations.**
6. **Students who hand in papers late will be penalized. Each DAY after the assignment is due a grade will be deducted by a third of a letter. What happens, for example, if a paper is due on Monday and the student hands the paper on Wednesday? If the paper is graded as an A-, the actual grade the student receives will be a B+ if handed in on Tuesday, a B if handed in on Wednesday, and a B- if handed in on Thursday. Again, if there are valid excuses (such as illness or religious observance) exceptions will be made to the rule. The greatest penalty deducted for lateness will not exceed two letter grades.**

(I penalize late papers to be fair to the rest of the class as those who hand in late have had more time to work on their essay.)

7. Students who fail to take all exams and hand in all papers will receive an "F" for the course unless they have 1) a valid excuse and 2) met with me and received my permission to take an incomplete. the "F" will be changed to the actual grade average when all assignments are completed. all students must pass the map quiz to receive a grade for the course.

9. My mandate is to ensure that every student receive a fair grade in this course. If you receive a grade that you think is not just, your first recourse is to talk to the TA, and if you are not satisfied, to me. Understand that the end of this process is that the number grades you receive on assignments goes into an Excel wordsheet that calculates your average and then you receive an assigned letter grade. ONCE THAT PROCESS OCCURS, YOU GRADE CAN ONLY BE CHANGED FOR ONE REASON: THERE HAS BEEN A MISTAKE IN A GRADE ENTERED. UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES WILL I CHANGE A GRADE BECAUSE YOU WANT A BETTER GRADE AS THAT WOULD BE UNFAIR TO EVERYONE ELSE IN THE CLASS WHO WOULD ALSO THEN DESERVE A CHANGE AS WELL. IF YOU THINK A GRADE HAS BEEN ENTERED INCORRECTLY ABSOLUTELY EMAIL ME AND LET US BE SURE ALL IS CORRECT. DO NOT EMAIL ME FOR ANY OTHER TYPE OF GRADE CHANGE AS THE ANSWER WILL BE NO.

8. SCHOLASTIC DISHONESTY IS NOT PERMITTED IN THIS COURSE. FOR DETAILED INFORMATION ON THIS ISSUE I STRONGLY ADVISE A READ OF http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs OR FOR INFORMATION ON PLAGIARISM AND ACADEMIC http://www.utexas.edu/cola/depts/history/about/academic_integrity/ **STANDARDS OF CONDUCT. YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR READING AND UNDERSTANDING THIS MATERIAL. IF ANY QUESTIONS CONCERNING IT, CONSULT THE PROFESSOR OR THE TA.**

9. I will try, given access, to post assignments, outlines, and study guides to Blackboard

GRADING

I grade on the following scale:

Grade:	**A+**	**A**	**A-**	**B+**	**B**	**B-**	**C+**	**C**	**C-**	**D+**	**D**	**D-**	**F**
Points:	**12**	**11**	**10**	**9**	**8**	**7**	**6**	**5**	**4**	**3**	**2**	**1**	**0**

At the end of the quarter, each student will have three grades. I will add them up, divide by 3, and assign a letter grade (at that point with the plus/minus points) accordingly. For example, if a student received the following marks his or her points would be:

B-	**7**
A+	**12**
C	**5**

Total 24 divided by 3 =s 8 or a B

Since you know how I grade, you can figure out your grade in this class at any time. If a student is between grades, the "other" factors (other students with the same average, improvement, performance on quizzes, in class) will determine if I average all with the same point count up or down.

EXTRA CREDIT OPPORTUNITIES

DISCUSSION

At the end of each class where there is discussion, students will hand in the discussion sheet where they describe their contribution to the class discussion and give themselves a grade of plus or minus for their participation. Each plus grade will count one point. The top one third of the class with the highest number of discussion points will receive an additional 4 points to their midterm final raw score. A similar calculation will apply to the final examination.

Scholarly presentations

There will likely be a number of scholarly presentations this semester with topics concerning pre contact or colonial Spanish America. Students should inform the professor of such presentations, which will be announced to the class and extra credit points (additions to raw test scores) may be awarded for attendance.

Institutional Stuff

"The University of Texas at Austin provides upon request appropriate academic accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. For more information, contact the Office of the Dean of Students at 471-6259 or 471-6441."

"A student who is absent from a class or examination for the observance of a religious holiday may complete the work missed within a reasonable time after the absence, provided the student has notified the instructor in writing of the dates he or she will be absent. Notification must be made two weeks prior to the absence or on the first class day if the absence will occur during the first two weeks of class. In addition, the notification must be personally delivered to the instructor and signed and dated by the instructor, or sent certified mail with a return receipt request. A student who fails to complete missed work within the time allowed will be subject to the normal academic penalties."