History 2140 (Fall 2015)
Colonial Latin America: From Preconquest to Independence

UNIT 1
Professor Jorge Nallim
405 Fletcher Argue Building
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Office Hours: TBA
Class: Tuesdays and Thursdays 11:30am

UNITS 2 to 4
Professor Julie Gibbings
409 Fletcher Argue Building
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Office Hours: TBA
Class: Tuesdays and Thursdays 11:30am

Course Description:

In this course, we will explore the encounters of peoples from Africa and Iberia with the New World, until the movements for independence in most of mainland Latin America in the early nineteenth century, to the collapse of Spanish colonial rule in the Pacific and Caribbean later that century. In the process, we will examine topics including Inka and Aztec worlds, Indian-European confrontations, the Catholic church, patriarchy and honour codes, racial dynamics and slavery, the development of capitalism, anticolonial struggles and imperial rivalry.

Course Objectives:

This course has two primary and inter-related objectives. First, it will introduce you to the principal practices of the historian: interpretation of primary documents, research, and analysis of historical debates. Second, it will introduce you to a series of debates in Latin American history. You will write two short essays over the course of the semester, each progressively building your historical skills.

Course Assignments and Evaluation:

Two papers of 6-8 pages (1500-2000 words): 25% each (Due dates: Oct.22 & Nov. 26 – drafts are due 1 week before each due date)
Participation in Class Discussions: 20%
Comprehensive Final Exam: 30%

Papers: Students will be provided with a more detailed rubric for your papers when the assignments are distributed and we will have at least one paper-writing workshop in class. We will also engage in in-class peer-review of essay drafts. After the peer-review, you will have a week to polish and revise your essay. This is a crucial exercise in the development of writing skills. Failure to complete a draft for the peer-review will result in a 10% deduction on your paper grade. Exceptions will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis. For the late policy on papers, see course policies.

Discussions: A crucial component of the course is weekly discussions that will happen in UM Learn during the week (Monday-Friday). You can post anytime, but you are required to post at least twice during the week. You will also be a “discussion leader” at least once during the semester in which you, along with other discussion leaders, are required to initiate and guide the online discussion. We will also continue these discussions in class on Thursday. Full information
about online discussions will be provided in UNIT TWO and the online discussions will begin at that
time.

*Please note this fulfills the “Written English Requirement” in the University of Manitoba and essays must be expository and analytical in nature. You will receive feedback on both content and style. Also note the following:

“Since this is a course that meets the University Senate's W requirement, students must complete all essay assignments with a passing grade to pass the course.”

*You will be provided with an evaluation of your course work to date on the Final Voluntary Withdrawal deadline of November 18th.

*Please approach me with any grade appeals or concerns as soon as possible. It is university policy that “Students who wish to appeal a grade given for term work must do so within 10 working days after the grade for the term work has been made available to them.”

Grading Scale:

- A+ 88-100%
- A  80-87%
- B+ 75-79%
- B  70-74%
- C+ 65-69%
- C  60-64%
- D  50-59%
- F  0-49%

Course Policies:
* I have a zero tolerance policy towards plagiarism and other forms of cheating. The section on “Academic Integrity” of the General Academic Regulations in the online Academic Calendar and Catalog and the Faculty of Arts regulation (online at: http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/arts/student_resources/student_responsibilities.html ) reads:

  The common penalty in Arts for plagiarism on a written assignment is a grade of F on the paper and a final grade of F (DISC) (for Disciplinary Action) for the course. For the most serious acts of plagiarism, such as purchase of an essay and repeat violations, this penalty can also include suspension for a period of up to five (5) years from registration in courses taught in a particular department/program in Arts or from all courses taught in this Faculty.

  The Faculty also reserves the right to submit student work that is suspected of being plagiarized to Internet sites designed to detect plagiarism or to other experts for authentication.

  The common penalty in Arts for academic dishonesty on a test or examination is F for the paper, F (DISC) for the course, and a one-year suspension from courses acceptable for credit in the Faculty. For more serious acts of academic dishonesty on a test or examination, such as repeat violations, this penalty can also include suspension for a period of up to five years from registration in courses taught in a particular department or program in Arts or from all courses taught in or accepted for credit by this Faculty.
*If you would like your course work from the end of the semester please collect it early in the following semester. “Uncollected term work will become the property of the Faculty of Arts and will be subject to confidential destruction.”

*Email: Please reserve email for quick, one-word-answer type questions only. A face-to-face conversation is more productive for substantive questions about course content, deadlines, concerns, etc. In these cases, we can talk before or after class, during my regular office hours or by appointment.

*Technology offers us many exciting resources for learning. However, unless we use laptops in specific exercises, research suggests that we benefit more from using them outside than inside the classroom. A recent study from psychologists at York University concludes that students who use laptops in classrooms do “11% worse on comprehension tests” than those who did not, while those who could see a neighbor’s laptop screen fared 17% worse on tests than students who could not.* This disadvantage equals one to two whole letter grades. Yikes! The researchers concluded that we often overestimate our capacity to effectively multitask and laptops unintentionally distract those around us. Therefore, to promote a productive learning environment, laptops will not be allowed in lecture or discussion. Finally, all cell phones, ipods, and other devises must be turned off or silenced and stored away for the duration of class.


*Late Papers: Please contact me at least 48 hours in advance of the deadline in order to receive an extension. I will not grant extensions after that time (except under the most exceptional circumstances). Late papers will receive a penalty of 2.5% each day they are overdue. For example, if the paper is due on Tuesday and you submit it on Friday, even if you wrote a paper that received 80% (an “A” paper), you would receive a grade of 72.5% (a “B” paper).

*Copying course materials: Lectures in this course are copyright of the professor. Please do not record or distribute lecture materials to individuals not registered in this class without my consent. Sharing notes with another student in this class is not only allowed, but also encouraged.

*All course materials must be submitted by the last day of classes.

**Student Resources**

You have access to several important resources to help you navigate your classes and university life more generally. There are writing tutors available to help you with your essays through the Academic Learning Centre (ALC): [http://umanitoba.ca/student/academiclearning/](http://umanitoba.ca/student/academiclearning/) The ALC page also has resources to help you with study skills, organization, as well as assistance for students using English as an Additional Language (EAL). Other issues, including accessibility services, workshops, and tips about academic integrity are addressed at the Student Advocacy.
Services webpage ([http://umanitoba.ca/student/resource/student_advocacy/](http://umanitoba.ca/student/resource/student_advocacy/)). The History department will also make a writing tutor available exclusively to History students in the department on two days of the week. More information about scheduling etc TBA.

All of the above services can also be accessed under the heading of Student Resources on the Student Affairs website: [http://umanitoba.ca/student/studentlife/index.html](http://umanitoba.ca/student/studentlife/index.html)

History students can also take advantage of the huge range of academic materials (including primary and secondary sources, as well as pages to help with writing and referencing) made available by the History subject librarian, Kyle Feenstra, tailored just for you! They are available on the Libraries page at this link: [http://libguides.lib.umanitoba.ca/content.php?pid=219304](http://libguides.lib.umanitoba.ca/content.php?pid=219304)

**Required Readings**


All other readings for Units 2 to 4 will be available on UMLearn. Readings for Unit 1 will be made available in class

*Readings are subject to change.

**CLASS SCHEDULE** – Some readings and dates will be finalized in class. Students are responsible for being present to get updates to the schedule.

**Unit I: Encounter and Conquest, 1492-1550**

Instructor: Professor Jorge Nallim ([Jorge.nallim@umanitoba.ca](mailto:Jorge.nallim@umanitoba.ca))

**Week 1**: Th., Sept. 10<sup>th</sup>: *Introduction/ Aztec and Incan Empires*

READINGS: Burkholder and Johnson [B&J], 1-23

**Week 2**: T, Sept. 15<sup>th</sup> and Th, Sept. 17<sup>th</sup>: *The Iberian World/ Iberian Expansion and Conquest: from the Caribbean to Mexico*


**Week 3**: T., Sept. 22, and Th., Sept. 24: *Conquest II: From Mexico to South America*

READINGS: B&J, 52-78

**Week 4:** T., Sept. 29, and Th. Oct. 1: *The Conquest’s Consequences: the American holocaust and the Columbian exchange*

**READINGS:** B&J, 78-90, 119-126


**Unit II: From Conquest to Colony, 1550-1700**

**Week 5:** October 6th and 8th: New Social and Economic Order

**Week 6:** October 13th and 15th: Spiritual Conquest
Film: *The Mission*

*Draft of essay due for peer review in class on October 15th*

**Week 7:** October 20th and 22nd: New Identities

*Essay due October 22nd*

**Week 8:** October 27th and 29th: Slavery
Unit III: Reforms, Resistance, and Revolution, 1700-1898

Week 9: November 3rd: Bourbon Reforms and Revolution in the Colonial Core

*No class Thursday November 5th, professor away at professional conference

Week 10: To Be Determined

Week 11: November 17th and 19th: Bourbon Reforms and Revolution in the Colonial Periphery

*Last day for Voluntary Withdrawal, November 18th
*Draft Essay due in class for peer review November 19th.

Week 12: November 24th and 26th: Independence I: Mainland Spanish America

* Essay Due November 26th

Week 13: December 1st and 3rd: Independence II: Cuba and Brazil
Carlos Manuel de Céspedes, “Freedom and Slavery” The Cuba Reader, 115-117
José Martí “Our América” The Cuba Reader, 122-127.

Week 14: December 8th: A New Empire and the Postcolonial Predicament in Latin America
Final Exam period December 11th – 23rd.