History 2150
Independent Latin America, 1780-Present
Winter 2018

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Office Hours: 4:00-4:30pm, Tuesdays and Thursdays
Class: 11:30-12:45, Tuesdays and Thursdays

Course Description

This course traces the history of Latin America from attempts to build modern nations out of colonies to the neoliberal present. Beginning with the Haitian Revolution (1791-1804), we will explore popular and elite imaginations of citizenship, democracy and the nation and how newly independent countries struggled to create modern nations and economies out of colonial societies. In the second unit, we will begin with the Spanish-American War and the United States’ efforts to influence the region and then trace the efforts of Latin American nations to chart their own path and address the persistent legacies of colonialism. Finally, in the third unit we will examine the neoliberal present and the new social, political and economic struggles facing Latin America in a globalized world. In all these units we will explore how a combination of internal and external forces such as social inequalities, racial hierarchies, dependency on exports and US imperial intentions shaped Latin American nation-building.

Course Objectives

This is a reading and writing intensive course designed to introduce you to the principal tasks of the historian. In it you will be asked to synthesize materials and present original arguments about the past in Latin America. In doing so, you will learn how to pose critical historical questions about the nature of past society. Then you will learn how to bring together and evaluate fragmentary evidence in order to make a coherent and persuasive argument.

Course Requirements

The requirements for this course include attending lectures, discussion classes, films and doing all of the reading. Your grade will be based on two short essays, participation in discussion, weekly submission of notes, a map quiz, and a final exam. After each of the first two units, you will write a short paper of 6-8 pages in length exploring a central theme from the unit.

Grading Breakdown
Two papers, 6-8 pages (1500-2000 words) in length: 30% (15% each)
Drafts of Papers: 6% (3% each)
Participation in Class Discussions: 17%
Weekly Reading Notes: 12%
Map Quiz: 5%
Comprehensive Final Exam: 30%
Papers: You will write two papers during the semester. One based on Unit I and the other on Unit II. These papers will be based solely on course materials, plus one additional journal article. You will receive a list of reputable journals to help you focus your research efforts. You will develop your paper around the analysis of one of the primary documents discussed in class. More detailed instructions and rubrics will be provided with the paper assignment.

Paper Drafts: A draft of the paper is due the week before the final copy is submitted for peer review and evaluation. If you do not participate in this exercise, you will not receive the 3% for it. You must have a complete essay (no outlines or partial drafts count) in order to participate in the exercise.

Participation: An important component of this class is your weekly participation in class discussions. Discussions will be held every Friday and attendance is mandatory. Your participation grade (17%) will be graded upon your contributions to class discussion. Attendance does not count towards your participation grade, but absences will deduct from your participation grade. You are permitted one “free pass” to miss class. Your first absence is your free pass. Subsequent absences result in a 2% deduction off your participation grade, unless other arrangements are agreed upon to make-up missed course work.

Weekly reading notes: You are required to submit weekly notes on the readings. These are graded on a pass/fail basis. Each week is worth 1%. An outline of how to submit your notes will be provided to you. Weekly reading notes are due on Monday by 5pm. Late submissions will not be graded. You will have one “free pass” during the semester to miss a weekly reading notes post and not lose points. Your first late or missed submission is your “free pass.”

Papers: I will provide you with a more detailed rubric for your papers when the assignments are distributed and we will have several workshops leading up to your papers to help you prepare your thesis statement and cite sources.

Paper Drafts: We will 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. For the late policy on papers, see course policies. Please note that essay drafts are graded on a pass/fail basis and you must submit a complete draft of your paper to me and participate in the in-class peer-review exercise in order to receive a pass. Outlines of papers or papers under 3 pages in length do not count as drafts.

Paper Submission: “In addition to handing in a hard-copy of all written assignments (as per course instructions), students are required to submit a copy of the paper electronically through UMLearn (as a word document). The file name for the document should be as follows: SURNAME Given name Assign # HIST 2150”

*Please note this course 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 March 16th.

*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:

\begin{align*}
\text{A+} & : 85-100\% \\
\text{A} & : 80-84\% \\
\text{B+} & : 75-79\% \\
\text{B} & : 70-74\% \\
\text{C+} & : 65-69\% \\
\text{C} & : 60-64\% \\
\text{D} & : 50-59\% \\
\text{F} & : 0-49\%
\end{align*}

**Course Policies**

* I have a zero tolerance policy towards plagiarism and other forms of cheating. Section 8 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_integrity.html) reads:

\begin{quote}
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.
\end{quote}

*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 devices must be turned off or silenced and stored away for the duration of class.

Please Note: Requests for exemptions to this policy, for any reason, are dealt with on a case-by-case basis. Please talk to me if you would like an exemption.


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).

Please also note: When you email a professor it is always a good idea to set the right tone. Writing “Hey” or “Yo” does not send the same message as writing, “Dear Professor Gibbings” or even “Hi Prof. Gibbings”. The body of your email can, of course, be witty or funny, but it should always maintain a professional tone.

Office hours: I strongly encourage you to come by my office at least once during the semester. You do not necessarily need a reason to visit my office hours. If my regular office hours do not work for you, we can schedule another time to meet.

Rewrites: Everyone makes mistakes now and again, and everyone should be given the opportunity to correct those mistakes. In this spirit, I allow students to have one rewrite over the course of the semester. Rewrites can be completed without penalty. Any late penalties on the original submission, however, apply to the rewrite. In order to qualify for a rewrite, however, I would like the opportunity to meet with me in person to discuss your essay. In order for the rewrite to count, you must address the issues that I raised with your essay and the essay must be substantially improved. All rewrites are due by the last day of classes, without exception.

It is important for you to attend class. Beyond the obvious learning that occurs in the classroom, assignments as well as some other course materials are provided in class and will not be made available in electronic format or posted in UMLearn. Students are responsible for making up any missed classes.

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, Cody Fullerton, 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)

**Student Counselling Centre**
Contact SCC if you are concerned about any aspect of your mental health, including anxiety, stress, or depression, or for help with relationships or other life concerns. SCC offers crisis services as well as counseling. [http://umanitoba.ca/student/counselling/index.html](http://umanitoba.ca/student/counselling/index.html)

**Student Support Case Management**
Contact the Student Support Case Management team if you are concerned about yourself or another student and don’t know where to turn. SSCM helps connect students with on and off campus resources, provides safety planning, and offers other supports, including consultation, educational workshops, and referral to the STATIS threat assessment team. [http://umanitoba.ca/student/case-manager/index.html](http://umanitoba.ca/student/case-manager/index.html)

**University Health Service**
Contact UHS for any medical concerns, including mental health problems. UHS offers a full range of medical services to students, including psychiatric consultation. [http://umanitoba.ca/student/health/] (http://umanitoba.ca/student/health/)

**Student Advocacy**
Contact Student Advocacy if you want to know more about your rights and responsibilities as a student, have questions about policies and procedures, and/or want support in dealing with academic or discipline concerns. [http://umanitoba.ca/student/advocacy](http://umanitoba.ca/student/advocacy)

**UM History Student Association (UMHiSA)**
UMHiSA is a history undergraduate student run organization that seeks to establish a sense of community for students studying all facets of history, and provide support for them in their academic career. Students interested in fun times, spirited debate, new opportunities, a
community of like-minded students, or all of the above, check out UMHiSA on our facebook group https://www.facebook.com/groups/422932261087799/ or emailing umhisau@gmail.com.

Readings
Required Readings:

Other readings available on UMLearn

**Unit I: From Spanish Colony to Modern Nation?: The Formation of Postcolonial Legacies, 1780-1930**

Week 1: January 4th: Introduction to Modern Latin America
No class, professor away at professional conference

Week 2: January 9th and 11th: Imagining Alternative Orders
Readings: Chasteen, pp. 49-84.
For Thursday:
José Antonio de Areche “All Must Die!” *The Peru Reader*, pp. 169-173.

Week 3: January 16th and 18th: Independence and the Formation of Postcolonial Legacies
Readings: Chasteen, 87-116.
Tuesday:
Thursday:

Map Quiz: In class, January 18th

Week 4: January 23rd and 25th: War, Popular Nationalism, and the Question of Race
Readings: Chasteen, 117-79
Tuesday:
Thursday:

Week 5: January 30

Tuesday:
Document:
Thursday:

**Unit II: Addressing Postcolonial Legacies: The Birth and Unraveling of the Activist State, 1898-1990**

Week 6: February 6th and 8th: The Mexican Revolution and Its Reverberations
Readings: Chasteen: 217-249.
Tuesday:
Thursday:

*Unit I Essay, draft due in class on February 8th

Week 7: February 13th and 15th: Populism: Urban and Rural
Reading: Chasteen, pp. 248-283.
Tuesday:
Thursday:
Documentary: Bitter Fruit

*Unit I Essay Due in Class February 15th

Mid-Term break, February 19th-23rd

Week 8: February 27th and March 1st: Central America and Cuba: Reform or Revolution
Readings: Chasteen, pp.285-316.
Tuesday:
Thursday:
Documentary: Saul Landau, Fidel (1968)

Week 9: March 6th and 8th: Crisis, Repression, and Return to the Free Market
Thursday:
Government Junta of the Armed Forces and Carabineros of Chile “In the Eyes of God and History,” The Chile Reader, pp. 450-453

Unit III: Postcolonial Nations in The New World Order, 1973-present

Readings: Chasteen 319-340.
Thursday: Jaffee, Brewing Justice, pgs. xi-92.

*Draft of Unit II Essay Due in Class March 15th
*March 16th Last day for voluntary withdrawal

Week 11: March 20th and 22nd: A Latin American Diaspora? Migration, Labor, and Capital
Readings:
Thursday: Daniel Jaffee, Brewing Justice, pgs.93-198.
Film: Sin Nombre
*Unit II Essay Due March 22nd*

Week 12: March 27th and 29th: Neoliberal Citizenship, Human Rights, and New Social Movements
   Readings:
   Thursday: Daniel Jaffee, *Brewing Justice*, pgs.199-266
   Documentary: Clips from Saul Landau, *The Sixth Sun*

Week 13: April 2nd and 5th: The Pink Tide, Cuba, and Beyond
   Thursday: Review and recap