

Mercer County Community College Liberal Arts Division

COURSE OUTLINE

<u>HIS218</u>	<u>History of Latin America</u>				<u>3</u>
Course Number	Course Title				Credits
<u>3/week</u>	<u>0/week</u>	<u>0/week</u>	<u>0/week</u>	<u>15 weeks</u>	
Class or Lecture	Laboratory Work Hours	Laboratory, Shop, Studio or Clinic	Work Experience	Semester Length	
<u>Not Applicable</u>				<u>Not Applicable</u>	
Performance on an Examination/Demonstration				Telecourse	

Required Materials:

Reference Humanities Division booklist.

Catalog Description:

History of Latin America from the pre-Colombian origins to current times. Topics covered are Indian civilizations, discovery and conquest, colonial rule, independence movements, 19th century development, and the present era. Presupposes some knowledge of the major philosophical currents and events of Western civilization.

Latest Review: Fall 2004

Prerequisites: HIS 101 or HIS 102

Corequisites: None

Course Coordinator:

General Course Objectives

1. The objectives of this course assume that the student has some knowledge of the major currents of Western thought and the main events of European history, especially as they contributed to the rise of the Spanish Empire and the independence movements in Latin America.
2. Students will understand the broad outline of Latin American history in its three main periods (Pre-Colombian, Colonial and Independent) and the cultural, demographic, political and economic differences among them.
3. Students will understand and be able to explain the principal events and movement of Latin American history in terms of their causes, development, and outcomes, to locate them in time and place, and to identify the main protagonists in these events and movements.
4. Students will know the map of Latin America in its three key versions: Pre-Colombian, Colonial, and Contemporary.
5. Students will demonstrate their knowledge of the above through two essay tests and a final examination (also essay), map quizzes, a term paper, and a class presentation.

General Course Outline:

The course is divided into six units:

- I. Pre-Colombian Period
- II. Discovery and Conquest
- III. Colonial Latin America
- IV. Revolts and Independence
- V. 19th Century Latin America
- VI. Latin America in the 20th Century

There will be a test (all essay questions) after Units II and IV. Units V and VI will be tested through the Final Examination which is cumulative. There will be map quizzes on the "three faces" of Latin America: Pre-Colombian (circa 1492), Colonial (circa 1800), and Independent Latin America (today). An 8-10 page term paper is due on the 30th of the month preceding the end of the course, i.e., November 30 or April 30.

Schedule:

<u>Weeks</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Chapters in Text</u>	<u>Pages</u>
1-2	Pre-Colombian Period	The Broken Spears and Penguin Chapter. 1	All pp. 3-36
3-4	Discovery and Conquest		
5-8	Colonial Latin America	Penguin Chapters 2-5.	pp. 37-192
9-10	Revolts and Independence	Chapter 6	pp. 195 - 232
11-12	19 th Century	Chapters 7-8	pp. 233-310
13-15	20 th Century	Chapters 9-15	pp. 313-566

TEXT: Miquel Leon-Portilla. The Broken Spears, the Aztec Account of the Conquest of Mexico(Boston: Beacon Press, 1992)

Edwin Williamson. The Penguin History of Latin America (London: Penguin Books, 1992)

Evaluation:

1. Class attendance and participation: Attendance is required. Students are expected to keep up-to-date in the background reading and to participate in class discussion. (10% of grade)
2. Three map quizzes. (10% of grade)
3. The essay tests after Units 2 and 4. (45% of grade)
4. A 8-10 page term paper. (20% of grade)
5. A Final Examination. (15% of grade)

Topic Outline

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>SUBTOPICS</u>	<u>MAJOR TESTS</u>
I.	Pre-Colombian Period (until 1492) A. Mayas B. Incas C. Toltecs-Aztecs	
II.	Discovery and Conquest (1492 early 16 th century) A. Meeting of the Old and New Worlds; the Iberian Background B. Cortes in Mexico C. Pizarro in Peru D. Chile E. Colombia F. Rio de la Plata Region G. Brazil	Test #1
III.	Colonial Rule and Society (16 th -18 th centuries) A. Iberian and Indian Cultures B. Colonial Government C. The Church D. The Economy 1. Trade 2. Gold and Silver 3. Land Distribution and Use E. Colonial Culture and Arts F. The New Social Groups 1. Peninsulares 2. Criollos 3. Mestizos (and Mulattoes) 4. Indians	
IV.	Revolts and Independence Movements (1810-1825) A. Preliminary Revolts B. South America: Bolivar in the North C. South America: San Martin in the South D. Hidalgo et al. In Mexico	Test #2

V.	19 th Century Latin America (post-independence) A. The New Leaders B. Brazil C. Paraguay D. Argentina E. Venezuela and Colombia F. The Three Indian Republics of the Andes: Bolivia, Ecuador, Peru G. Chile H. The U.S. - Mexican War I. Mexico: Benito Juarez to Porfirio Diaz J. Relations With the United States	
VI	Latin America in the 20 th Century A. Overview B. Post World War II: Country Analyses C. The Contemporary Scene and Relations With the U.S.: the 4 D's 1. Demographics 2. Development 3. Democracy 4. Drugs	FINAL EXAMINATION