

Rhodes College
Department of History

Course Title: History of Colonial Latin America
Term: Fall, 1998
Instructor: Mike LaRosa
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Course Description:

This course is designed as an introduction to Colonial Latin America. The time-period covered in the course will run roughly from the mid-1400s to the period of Latin American Independence (c. 1810-1824). Students in this class will learn about the European conquest of Latin America as well as the pre-Columbian civilizations that shaped and defined the various "Latin Americas" that emerged and evolved during the time frame outlined in this course.

Books:

There are three books available for purchase at the college bookstore. The Burkholder and Johnson book will serve as the course text.

Burkholder, Mark A. and Johnson, Lyman L. *Colonial Latin America* (3rd ed., 1998).
Garcia Marquez, Gabriel. *Of Love and Other Demons*.
Mills, Kenneth and Taylor, William B., eds. *Colonial Spanish America: A Documentary History*, 1998.

Format:

Students are expected to attend all classes. The instructor will lecture on MW and F class will be dedicated to student-led discussion, debate and quizzes.

Expectations:

Students will write a standard in-class mid-term and final exam. Additionally, every student will write a critical review of the Garcia Marquez book, and keep a journal that will be collected at the discretion of the instructor. Each Friday, a group of 4 students will submit questions for a quiz to be administered in class, orally. All written work in this course can be submitted in either English or Spanish.

Additionally, all students will watch three films during the course of the semester that deal with colonial Latin America and submit a four page "reaction paper." Students are free to choose the films they wish to view but might consider three from the following list:

- a. "The Mission"
- b. "Burn!" by Gilo Pontecorvo
- c. "1492" by Ridley Scott
- d. "Yo la peor de todas" (about the life of Sor Juana Ines de la Cruz)
- e. "How Tasty is my Little Frenchman"--Brazil.
- f. "Quilombo" (Brazilian Film dealing with slavery) Grading:
- g. "Aguirre: The Wrath of God" (by Herzog).

The final grade in this course will be determined as follows:

Mid-term, final, review essay:	60%
Journal	20%
Film paper:	20%

Detailed reading, exam, paper and lecture schedule:

Week One:

Introduction to the course
Reading: BAJ: pp. 1-41.

Week Two: 31 Aug.

History of Iberia before Columbus.
Reading: MAT, 27-45.

Week Three: 7 Sept.

No class Monday--Labor Day
Maya and Aztec Civilizations
MAT: chapter 4

Week Four: 14 Sept.

Pre-Columbian Peru
MAT: chapter 2

Week Five: 21 Sept.

The Conquest of America
Reading: Vargas Llosa, "A Question of Conquest."
BAJ: chapter 2

Week Six: 28 Sept.

The Columbian Exchange:

Reading: BAJ: chapter 4

Mid-term Exam: Friday, 2 Oct.

Week Seven: 5 Oct.

Churchmen...and women

Reading: MAT, chapters 12, 18, 27, 29, 30-34

Week Eight: 12 Oct.

Colonial Brazil

Week Nine: 19 Oct.

Daily Life in Colonial Latin America

BAJ, chapter 6

Week Ten: 26 Oct.

Sor Juana Ines de la Cruz

Reading: from Octavio Paz

Week Eleven: 2 Nov.

Of Love and other Demons: Colonial monastery life

Reading: Garcia Marquez--entire text

Week Twelve: 9 Nov.

Economy and politics in a maturing colonial society--the early 18th c.

BAJ: chapter 7

week 13: 16 Nov.

Bourbon Reforms:

MAT: chapters 38-44

Review Essay due, Monday, 16 Nov.

Week 14: 23 Nov.

Colonial Rebellions: Comuneros in New Granada and Tupac Amaru in Peru
MAT: chapter 47; reading from "Peru Reader."

Week 15: 30 Nov.

Independence of Latin America-early phase
BAJ chapter 8

Week 16: 7 Dec.

Independence--late phase...accomplishments and contradictions

nb: Film paper will be due on the last day of class (9 Dec.); the final exam for this class is during the regularly scheduled exam period.