

Rhodes College
Department of History

Course Title: History of Colonial Latin America
Term: Fall, 2005
Instructor: Mike LaRosa, PhD
Phone: 843-3656,office; 305-495-5526 (home)
Office Hours: T, W 7 am to noon
Office: Clough Hall, 311

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. 1810-1824/6). 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, evolved and changed during the time frame outlined in this course.

Books:

There are four 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* (5th ed.).

Carpentier, Alejo. *The Harp and the Shadow*.

García Márquez, Gabriel. *Of Love and Other Demons*.

León-Portilla, Miguel. *The Broken Spears*

On email, re-writes and visits:

Any student registered for this course should feel free to email me: my address is "LaRosa@rhodes.edu" However, situations that are delicate, or require a detailed response from the instructor should be handled through a personal visit during my office hours. All students in this course should come see me during my office hours during the course of the semester. This is not a "requirement" but I want to meet all of you and discuss this course, your educational objectives or anything else that's on your mind.

Expectations:

Students will write a standard in-class mid-term exam (which will be given late in the semester), a final exam and one analytical paper. Each Friday, two students from class will submit questions and administer a quiz to the class based on the readings. Each student, each week, will submit a 2 page (500 word) paper that offers critical reflection on the reading (I will expect to see eleven papers from each student during the semester.)

These papers (and quiz participation) will constitute 25 percent of the course. No papers can be submitted electronically, or by a third party. The final paper is due on the last day of class, and the final exam will be held at the regularly scheduled exam time. All written work for this course can be submitted in either English or Spanish.

Attendance policy and make up policy.

Students who miss an unreasonable number of classes (c. 15 percent of total) can not expect to receive a satisfactory grade in this course. Students who miss 1/3 of the course (between 10-12 classes) will fail. All work must be submitted on time. Late papers will not be accepted, under any circumstances. Exam dates are not negotiable. Only students participating in college sponsored events or activities will be offered an alternative exam time.

Detailed reading, exam, paper and lecture schedule:

Week One: 24 August, Wednesday

Introduction to the course
Reading: BAJ: pp. 1-40.

Week Two: 29 Aug. (Mon)

History of Iberia before Columbus.
Reading: Fuentes (hand-out) pp. 15-32.

Week Three: 5 Sept.

Maya and Aztec Civilizations
Reading: Fuentes, pp. 93-117
Start León-Portilla
No class on Monday, Labor Day

Week Four: 12 Sept.

Pre-Columbian Peru
Reading: *Peru Reader* (hand-out): 13-27; 49-69
Finish León-Portilla

Week Five: 19 Sept.

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

Week Six: 26 Sept.

The Columbian Exchange:

Reading: BAJ: chapter 4, Finish Carpentier.

Week Seven: 3 Oct.

Churchmen...and women

Reading: Begin BAJ, chapter 3

Week Eight: 10 Oct.

Colonial Brazil

Reading: Levine and Crocitti, part One (*The Brazil Reader*)

Week Nine: 17 Oct.

Slavery in Colonial Brazil

Reading: Conrad (part 5,6,9)

No class on Monday--Fall break.

Week Ten: 24 Oct.

Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz

Reading: from Octavio Paz

3/4 Term Exam on Friday 28 Oct.

Film: "Yo la peor de todas" Thursday

Week Eleven: 31 Oct.

Of Love and other Demons: Colonial monastery life

Reading: García Márquez--entire text

Week Twelve: 7 Nov.

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

BAJ: chapter 6

Week 13: 14 Nov.

Bourbon Reforms:

BAJ: Chapters 7-8

Week 14: 21 Nov.

Colonial Rebellions: Comuneros in New Granada and Tupac Amaru in Peru
Reading from *Peru Reader* (hand-out); pp. 147-161
No class on Wed. or Friday -- Thanksgiving break.

Week 15: 28 Nov.

Independence of Latin America-early phase
BAJ chapters 9-10
Film, "Burn!" on Tuesday

Week 16: 5 Dec.

Independence--late phase...accomplishments and contradictions, BAJ, chapter 10

nb: The paper will be due on the last day of class (7 Dec.).