

**THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO  
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY  
HISTORY 2501. LATIN AMERICA**

T.2:30-4:30, Th. 2:30-3:30  
HSB 11  
Off. Hours T.9:00-10:00 and 11:30-12:30

Prof. L.M. Hernández-Sáenz  
STvH 2124    lmhs@uwo.ca

This course will provide a historical overview of Latin America with special emphasis on Mexico, Argentina, Colombia, Brazil, Chile and Cuba from the conquest to the present time. Its aim is to introduce students to the major social, economic and political issues that have shaped the development of Latin America and to make them aware of the different approaches and problems of historical research and interpretation.

**Outcomes:**

Students will be able to

- identify key figures and explain main events and issues in Latin American history.
- explain and analyze the historical factors that have shaped Latin American history and society.
- analyze short primary sources and assess their significance and shortcomings according to context, authorship, goals and biases.
- explain the historical factors that differentiate and unite modern Latin American countries.

**TEXTS:**

Cheryl E. Martin and Mark Wasserman, *Latin America and Its People*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. (New York: Pearson Longman, 2008).

Joy Dixon & Jeffrey W. Alexander, *Nelson Guide to Writing in History*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. (Toronto: Nelson Education Ltd, 2006).

*Readings in History 2501* (2011).

Readings available online.

**ASSIGNMENTS AND EXAMINATIONS:**

There will be one short essay and two quizzes in the fall semester and a short essay, a historiographical review and a final examination in the winter semester.

|  |      |
|--|------|
| Quiz Sept. 20                                  | 5    |
| Essay 1, due Nov. 1 (4 pages)                  | 5    |
| Mid-term Nov. 15                               | 15   |
| Essay 2, due Jan. 17 (6 pages)                 | 10   |
| Historiographical Essay, due March 8 (8 pages) | 15   |
| Final Examination                              | 30   |
| Attendance and participation                   | 20   |
|  | ---- |
|  | 100  |

**ESSAYS:**

Students will be required to write two short essays of 1000 words (four double-spaced

typewritten pages) and 1500 words in length (six double-spaced typewritten pages) respectively. The third assignment consists of an eight-page historiographical paper. The final version of each paper must be submitted to Turnitin. An identical hard copy must be submitted in class on the assigned date.

**Please, note that NO LATE ESSAYS WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

**\*ALL REQUIREMENTS MUST BE COMPLETED TO PASS THE COURSE.**

**\*\*A GRADE OF AT LEAST 50% IN THE FINAL EXAM IS REQUIRED TO PASS THIS COURSE**

## TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Sept. 8-13

### 1. INTRODUCTION: THE MEETING OF TWO WORLDS.

Martin and Wasserman, Chapters 1 and 2.

Reading 1 Harvey, "Public Health in Aztec Society" (Reader)

Reading 2 Pedro Cieza de León, "Chronicles of the Incas"  
[www.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/1540cieza.html](http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/1540cieza.html)

Sept. 15- 22

### 2. THE EUROPEAN CONQUEST

Martin and Wasserman, Chapters 3

Reading 3 Bernal Díaz, "The Flight from Mexico," 284-307. (Reader)

Reading 4 "The Difficulties of Settling Buenos Aires" 96-97. *The Conquest of the River Plate*, in Brown, *Latin America*, 96-97. (Reader)

Reading 5 "The Indians of Tejupan Want to Raise Silk on Their Own" in Boyer and Spurling, eds., *Colonial Lives, Documents on Latin American History, 1550-1850*, Oxford University Press, 2000, 32-38 (Reader).

**SEPT. 20 MAP QUIZ**

Sept. 27 - Oct. 18

### 3. NEW WORLD SOCIETIES

Martin and Wasserman, Chapters 4 and 5.

Reading 6 "Affairs of the Courtroom: Fernando de Medina Confesses to Killing His Wife," in Boyer and Spurling, eds., *Colonial Lives*, 54-76 (WebCT).

Reading 7 "Wife of My Soul and Heart, and All My Solace': Annulment Suit Between Diego Andrés de Arenas and Ysabel Allay Suyo" (Reader).

Reading 8 Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz, "On being a Woman and an Intellectual," from *A Woman of Genius: The Intellectual Autobiography of Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz*, trans. Margaret Sayers Peden Salisbury, Conn.: Lime Rock Press, 1987, 102-4, in Brown, *Latin America*, 146. (Reader)

Oct. 20 - Nov. 10

### 4. THE LATE COLONIAL PERIOD

Martin and Wasserman, Chapter 7

Reading 9 "Felipe Edimboro Sues for Manumission, Don Francisco Xavier Sánchez Contests" in Boyer and Spurling, eds., *Colonial Lives*, 249-267. (WebCT)

Reading 10 Humboldt, "Travels of Alexander von Humboldt Among the Carib Indians of Venezuela (1800), (Reader).

**ESSAY #1 DUE NOV. 1**

**Nov. 15 MID-TERM EXAM**

Nov.15 - Dec. 6.

6. THE NEW LATIN AMERICAN NATIONS

Martin and Wasserman, Chapter 8

*Plan de Iguala (February 24, 1821)* at <http://www.tamu.educbn.dewitt/igualah.htm>

Reading 12 Wolf and Hansen, "Caudillo Politics: A Structural Analysis" (Reader)

Jan.10- Feb.9

THE FIRST FIFTY YEARS: WAR AND RECONSTRUCTION

Martin and Wasserman, Chapters 9 and 10

Reading 13 Robert J. Knowlton, "Expropriation of Church Property in XIX Century Mexico and Colombia. A Comparison," *The Americas*, Vol. 25 Num.4 (1969) pp. 387-401 [**Journal online**]

Reading 14 Nabuco, "Negro Slavery in Brazil: The Chief Obstacle to Development" (Reader)

Other Readings T.B.A.

**ESSAY #2 DUE JAN. 17**

Feb. 14 - Mar.8

MODERNIZATION: 1880 - 1940's

Martin and Wasserman, Chapters 11 and 12.

Reading 15 "Frida Kahlo," Martin and Wasserman, 421-22.

**Feb. 20 - Feb. 24 Reading Week**

March 13 - April 5

REVOLUTION AND REACTION

Martin and Wasserman, Chapters 13 to 15.

Reading 16 McCall, "From Monroe to Reagan: An Overview of U.S.-Latin American Relations" (Reader)

Reading 17 Marchak, *God's Assassins. State Terrorism in Argentina in the 1970's*, Chapter 8 (Reader).

**HISTORIOGRAPHICAL ESSAY DUE MARCH 8**

April 10

Conclusion.

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea, or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offense (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar).

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

*Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at 661-2111 x 82147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation.*

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FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCE

PLAGIARISM

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The following rules pertain to the acknowledgements necessary in academic papers.

A. In using another writer's words, you must both place the words in quotation marks and acknowledge that the words are those of another writer.

You are plagiarizing if you use a sequence of words, a sentence or a paragraph taken from other writers without acknowledging them to be theirs. Acknowledgement is indicated either by (1) mentioning the author and work from which the words are borrowed in the text of your paper; or by (2) placing a footnote number at the end of the quotation in your text, and including a correspondingly numbered footnote at the bottom of the page (or in a separate reference section at the end of your essay). This footnote should indicate author, title of the work, place and date of Publication and page number. Method (2) given above is usually

preferable for academic essays because it provides the reader with more information about your sources and leaves your text uncluttered with parenthetical and tangential references. In either case words taken from another author must be enclosed in quotation marks or set off from your text by single spacing and indentation in such a way that they cannot be mistaken for your own words. Note that you cannot avoid indicating quotation simply by changing a word or phrase in a sentence or paragraph which is not your own.

B. In adopting other writer's ideas, you must acknowledge that they are theirs.

You are plagiarizing if you adopt, summarize, or paraphrase other writers' trains of argument, ideas or sequences of ideas without acknowledging their authorship according to the method of acknowledgement given in 'A' above. Since the words are your own, they need not be enclosed in quotation marks. Be certain, however, that the words you use are entirely your own; where you must use words or phrases from your source; these should be enclosed in quotation marks, as in 'A' above.

Clearly, it is possible for you to formulate arguments or ideas independently of another writer who has expounded the same ideas, and whom you have not read. Where you got your ideas is the important consideration here. Do not be afraid to present an argument or idea without acknowledgement to another writer, if you have arrived at it entirely independently. Acknowledge it if you have derived it from a source outside your own thinking on the subject.

In short, use of acknowledgements and, when necessary, quotation marks is necessary to distinguish clearly between what is yours and what is not. Since the rules have been explained to you, if you fail to make this distinction, your instructor very likely will do so for you, and they will be forced to regard your omission as intentional literary theft. Plagiarism is a serious offence which may result in a student's receiving an 'F' in a course or, in extreme cases, in their suspension from the University.

## MEDICAL ACCOMMODATION

The University recognizes that a student's ability to meet his/her academic responsibilities may, on occasion, be impaired by medical illness. Please go to [https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/medical\\_accommodations\\_link\\_for\\_OOR.pdf](https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/medical_accommodations_link_for_OOR.pdf) to read about the University's policy on medical accommodation. Please go to <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/medicalform.pdf> to download the necessary form. In the event of illness, you should contact Academic Counselling as soon as possible. The Academic Counsellors will determine, in consultation with the student, whether or not accommodation is warranted. They will subsequently contact the instructors in the relevant courses about the accommodation. Once a decision has been made about accommodation, the student should contact his/her instructors to determine a new due date for term tests, assignments, and exams.

If you have any further questions or concerns please contact, Rebecca Dashford, Undergraduate Program Advisor, Department of History, 519-661-2111 x84962 or [rdashfo@uwo.ca](mailto:rdashfo@uwo.ca)