

**History 361**  
**History of Modern Latin America:**  
**Nation and Its Discontents**  
**Dr. Chad Black**  
**Spring 2007**

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Office Hours: Mondays 12:15-1:15; 2:30-3:30, and by appointment.

This course will examine the history of the Latin America from the Independence period up to modern times including case studies of four countries: Mexico, Cuba, Ecuador, and Colombia. We will focus on the process of Independence, the challenges of constructing new nations, and the intersection of race, class, imperialism, and gender in the social, political, and economic evolution of the region. We will also evaluate four responses to the social and economic challenges of the 20<sup>th</sup>-Century: 1. Opening the Age of Modern Revolution: Mexico 1910-1930; 2. What is a Communist? 3. *Movimiento indigena*: Ethnic Politics in Ecuador; and, 4. BLOW: Violence, Cocaine, Guerrillas in Colombia.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING**

1. **Reading.** Each week's assigned readings should be completed for the first class of the week.
2. **Participation.** 15%. Learning is an interactive process, and as such a requirement for our class. Each meeting, we will begin class with 5-10 minutes of writing, in response to the readings for discussion. These daily responses, in combination with your participation in the discussions, will form the basis of the participation portion of your grade.
3. **Exams.** 40%. There will be two in-class exams, each of which will count for 20% of your final grade.
4. **Written Assignments. Paper #1, 20%.** In the first paper, the student will choose a topic related to the Porfiriato or the Mexican Revolution and write a short (4-5 pages) analysis of two journal articles related to that topic. (The topic and the articles must be cleared by the Instructor). **Paper #2, 25%.** In the second paper, the student will write a research paper (6-8 pages) based on a set of primary documents from the Colombian Case Study and additional secondary sources
5. **Attendance.** Class attendance is mandatory. Each student is allowed three (3) absences for whatever reason. Each ensuing absence will result in one letter grade reduction of the student's final grade.

**TEXTS**

John Charles Chasteen. 2006. *Born in Blood and Fire*. Norton.

Michael Gonzales. 2002. *The Mexican Revolution, 1910-1940*. UNM Press.

Greg Grandin. 2004. *The Last Colonial Massacre*. Univ. of Chicago Press.

Charles Walker. 1999. *Smoldering Ashes*. Duke Press.

All other readings will be available online.

## **OTHER COURSE POLICIES**

**Please Note:** If any special accommodations are needed to complete the course requirements, please come see me at the beginning of the semester.

**Plagiarism:** Plagiarism occurs when someone knowingly or unknowingly presents another person's words or ideas as his or her own. Any work turned in for this class must meet University standards for academic honesty. Any students unsure about how to apply these rules are urged to consult with me *prior* to turning in any written work.

**Deadlines:** Assignments that are due in class must be turned in at the start of class. If you anticipate problems, please contact me before the assignment is due, not after!

**Office Hours:** Students are strongly encouraged to speak with me outside of class. I am available during office hours on a first-come, first-served basis. If you cannot come during office hours, please contact me via email or phone to schedule an appointment.

### **WEEK #1**

#### **Introduction**

Jan. 10

Course Introduction

Jan. 12

Structures of Late Colonial Rule

READING:

1. John Leddy Phelan, "Authority and Flexibility in the Spanish Imperial Bureaucracy," *Administrative Science Quarterly* 5.1 (1960): 47-65.

### **WEEK #2**

#### **Towards Independence**

Jan. 15

MLK Day—NO CLASS

Jan. 17

Crises of Late Colonial Rule

Jan. 19

1809

READING:

1. Charles Walker, *Smoldering Ashes*, 1-54.
2. Rebecca Earle, "Indian Rebellion and Bourbon Reform in New Granada: Riots in Pasto, 1780-1800." *HAHR* 73.1 (1993), 99-124.

### **WEEK #3**

#### **Independence**

Jan. 22

From Viva el Rey to Viva la Patria

Jan. 24

Republican Virtues

Jan. 26

NO CLASS

READING:

1. Charles Walker, *Smoldering Ashes*, 55-120.
2. John Charles Chasteen, *Born in Fire and Blood*, 91-118.

**WEEK #4**                      **Contested Nation I**

- Jan. 29              What is a citizen?  
Jan. 31              From indígena to campesino  
Feb. 2                Discussion

READING:

1. Charles Walker, *Smoldering Ashes*, 121-230.
2. John Charles Chasteen, *Born in Blood and Fire*, 119-148.

**WEEK #5**                      **Contested Nation II**

- Feb. 5                From *vesina* to silence  
Feb. 7                Family structures of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century  
Feb. 9                Discussion

READING:

1. Elizabeth Dore, "One Step Forward, Two Steps Back: Gender and the State in the Long-Nineteenth Century," in Dore and Molyneux, eds., *Hidden Histories of Gender and the State in Latin America*, 3-32.
2. Elizabeth Dore, "Property, Households, and Public Regulation of Domestic Life: Diriomo, Nicaragua, 1840-1900," *Ibid.*, 147-171.
3. Sarah Chambers, "Private Crimes, Public Order: Honor, Gender, and the Law in Early Republican Peru," in Caufield, et.al., eds., *Honor, Status, and Law in Modern Latin America*, 27-49.

**WEEK #6**                      **Contested Nation II**

- Feb. 12              Neo-colonialism  
Feb. 14              Positivism  
Feb. 16              In-Class Exam

1. John Charles Chasteen, *Born in Blood and Fire*, 149-216.

**CASE STUDY 1: OPENING THE AGE OF MODERN REVOLUTION**

**WEEK #7**                      **Mexican Revolution**

- Feb. 19              Diaz  
Feb. 21              The Revolution Begins!  
Feb. 23              South

READING:

1. Michael Gonzales, *The Mexican Revolution*, 1-132.

**WEEK #8**                      **Mexican Revolution**

- Feb. 26              North  
Feb. 28              US Intervention  
Mar. 2                A Different Mexico?

READING:

1. Michael Gonzales, *The Mexican Revolution*, 133-270.

2. Pershing Documents.

**WEEK #9**                      **Trials of Modernity**

- Mar. 5              La Raza C3smica  
Mar. 7              Anti-imperialisms  
Mar. 9              Commodity Politics. Article Review Due.

READING:

1. Jos3 Carlos Mari3tegui, *Seven Interpretive Essays on Peruvian Reality*, 3-76.
2. Philippe Bourgeois, "One Hundred Years of United Fruit Company Letters," in, Striffler and Moberg, eds., *Banana Wars: Power, Production and History in the Americas*, 103-144.
3. John Charles Chasteen, *Born in Blood and Fire*, 217-278.

**WEEK #10**

SPRING BREAK!

**CASE STUDY 2: WHAT IS A COMMUNIST?**

**WEEK #11**                      **What is a Communist?**

- Mar. 19              1959  
Mar. 21              Land, Labor  
Mar. 23              The Alliance for Progress?

READING:

1. Greg Grandin, *The Last Colonial Massacre*, 1-104.
2. Che Guevara, "Message to the Tricontinental."
3. John F. Kennedy, "On the Alliance for Progress, 1961."

**WEEK #12**                      **What is a Communist?**

- Mar. 26              National Security Doctrines  
Mar. 28              Cold Wars Hot?  
Mar. 30              In-class Exam II

READING:

1. Greg Grandin, *The Last Colonial Massacre*, 105-198.
2. Documents, "The CIA in Latin America."

**WEEK #13**                      ***Movimiento ind3gena!***

- Apr. 2              From Peasant to Indian  
Apr. 4              Film: "Trinkets and Beads"  
Apr. 6              SPRING RECESS—NO CLASS

READING:

1. Marc Becker, "Indigenous Communists and Urban Intellectuals in Cayambe, Ecuador (1926-1944)," *IRSH* (2004), 41-64.
2. Barbara Schroder, "Indians in the Halls of Academe: Rural Andean Peoples Confront Social Science," *Peasant Studies* 18.2 (1991).

3. Tanya Korovkin, "Indigenous Peasant Struggles and the Capitalist Modernization of Agriculture: Chimborazo, 1964-1991" *LAP* 24.3 (1997), 24-43.

**WEEK #14**                    ***Movimiento indígena!***

Apr. 9                    Towards a National Movement

Apr. 11                    1990

Apr. 13                    Development, Ethnicity

1. Les Field, "Ecuador's Pan-Indian Uprising," *NCLA's Report on the Americas* 25.3 (1991).
2. Suzana Sawyer, "The 1992 Indian Mobilization in Lowland Ecuador," *LAP* 24.3 (1997), 65-82.
3. Kenneth Lehman, "A 'Medicine of Death'?: US Policy and Political Disarray in Bolivia, 1985-2006," in Loveman, ed., *Addicted to Failure: US Security Policy in Latin America and the Andean Region*, 130-168.

**WEEK #15**                    **BLOW!**

Apr. 16                    Roots of the Violence

Apr. 18                    Rise of the Cartels

Apr. 20                    War and the Cocaine Economy

READING:

1. Forrest Hylton, *Evil Hour in Colombia*, 31-78.
2. Ricardo Vargas, "State, Esprit Mafioso, and Armed Conflict in Colombia," in Burt and Mauceri, eds., *Politics in the Andes*, 107-126.
3. Coletta Youngers, "Collateral Damage: The US "War on Drugs" and its Impact on Democracy in the Andes." *Ibid.*, 126-145.

**WEEK #16**                    **BLOW!**

Apr. 23                    Film: Maria Full of Grace

Apr. 25                    Film: Maria Full of Grace

Apr. 27                    Wrap-up.

Final papers are due during our final exam period, May 2<sup>nd</sup> from 2:45-4:45pm. Or, you can email it to me early!