This course introduces students to Latin American history, society, and culture from an interdisciplinary perspective, and is therefore cross-listed in a number of Departments (History, Afro-Amer., Ag. Econ., Anthro., Econ., Geog., Journ., Poli. Sci., Rural Soc., Spanish & Portuguese). Our goal will be to gain a multi-faceted, yet coherent and substantive, understanding of the human condition in Latin America. We will do so by focusing on four broad themes in particular: the wounds and legacies of history; the elusive quest for economic development; contemporary social change and cultural innovation; the politics of revolution and counter-revolution.

Specific topics will include: Indians and colonialism; slavery and race relations; the impact of capitalism; economic growth and development, in theory and practice; U.S. foreign policy, with special reference to Central America; city, countryside, and migration; relations between women and men; society and the artist; the Mexican and Cuban Revolutions; crisis and revolution in contemporary politics.

Aside from lectures and discussion sections, course materials will include Latin American literature and films, and studies by social scientists, historians, and journalists. Spanish-speaking discussion sections will be available if enough students so desire.

One short term paper (ca. 10-12 pages), plus a mid-semester exam and final exam.

Tentatively: term paper 30%; mid-semester exam 20%; discussion 15%; final exam 35%.

The following books have been ordered. They will be supplemented by several articles available in a xerox packet.

Gabriel García Márquez, The Autumn of the Patriarch (novel).
Marvin E. Gettleman et al., eds., El Salvador: Central America in the New Cold War.
Roger D. Hansen, The Politics of Mexican Development.
Jorge Icaza, The Villagers (Huasipungo) (novel).
RiUs [Eduardo del Río], Cuba for Beginners.
Eric R. Wolf, Sons of the Shaking Earth: The People of Mexico and Guatemala...
Ibero-American Studies
&
Department of History
Spring, 1983

LATIN AMERICA: AN INTRODUCTION
(Interdisciplinary 260)

Professor Steve J. Stern
5105 Humanities Bldng.
263-1841

Course Description

This course introduces students to Latin American history, society, and
culture from an interdisciplinary perspective, and is therefore cross-listed in
a number of Departments (History, Afro-Amer., Ag. Econ., Anthro., Econ., Geog.,
Journ., Poli. Sci., Rural Soc., Spanish and Portuguese). There will be two
lectures (TR 2:25-3:40) and discussion sections each week. One or more sections
will be Spanish-speaking, if enough students so desire. Aside from the lectures
and discussion meetings, assigned course materials will include Latin American
literature and films, and studies by social scientists, historians, and journalists.

Our goal will be to gain a multi-faceted, yet coherent and substantive,
understanding of the human condition in Latin America. We will do so by addressing
four themes in particular: the wounds and legacies of history; the elusive quest
for economic development; contemporary social change and cultural innovation; the
politics of revolution and counter-revolution. Our discussion of these themes will
include specific case studies as well as general overviews.

Schedule (Tentative)

Week 1: Introduction

Jan. 25  Stern  Orientation to Course
Jan. 27  Stern  Why Study Latin America?

Reading: Eric R. Wolf and Edward C. Hansen, The Human Condition in Latin
America (New York, 1972), 3-69.

UNIT I. THE WOUNDS AND LEGACIES OF HISTORY.

Week 2: Heritage of Indian Civilization

Feb. 1  Salomon  The Pre-Columbian Achievements of Andean Peoples
Feb. 3  Stern  Native People Today

Reading: Eric Wolf, Sons of the Shaking Earth (Chicago, 1959), 1-20, 69-151
(skim 21-68).

FILM: THE PRINCIPAL ENEMY (Tentative Feb. 3, at 7 pm).
Week 3: The Legacies of Colonialism
Feb. 8  Stern  Institutions of Colonial Domination
Feb. 10 Stern  The Impact of Popular Struggle
Reading: Wolf, *Sons of the Shaking Earth*, 152-256.

Week 4: The Poverty of Progress
Feb. 15 Stern  The Transition to Capitalist Economies
Feb. 17 Stern  Progress and Race Relations
Reading: Jorge Icaza, *The Villagers (Huasipungo)* (Carbondale, 1964), all.

UNIT II. THE ELUSIVE QUEST FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

Week 5: Domestic and International Dimensions of Development
Feb. 22 Stern  Introduction to Some Loaded Concepts
Feb. 24 Stallings  Foreign Capital: Aid or Obstacle?
Reading: Wolf and Hansen, *The Human Condition*, 118-204.
ASSIGNMENT: A tentative one-page statement of term paper topic and sources is due by the discussion section of Week 5. I strongly urge you to consult with the TA's and me to define viable topics of interest before your statement is due.

Week 6: Domestic and International Dimensions (cont'd)
March 1 Stern  Foreign and Local Capital: The Nexus
March 3 Felstehausen  Plan Puebla and Rural Development: A Mexican Case Study
FILM:  IRACEMA (tentatively March 2, at 7 pm).

Week 7: The Politics of Economic Development
March 8 Stern  The Politics of Economic Models
March 10 SEMESTER EXAM, covering materials through Week 7.

UNIT III. SOCIAL CHANGE AND CULTURAL INNOVATION.

Week 8: Latin Americans as Migrants
March 15 Stern  City, Countryside, and the Sociology of Migration
March 17 Stern  Multiple Hats and "Cholo" Culture
Week 9: Woman and Man in Latin America
March 22 Stern Machismo: Historical Origins and Functions
March 24 Mallon The Women's Movement in Latin America
Reading: To be announced.
FILM: PORTRAIT OF TERESA (tentatively March 24, at 7 pm).

Week 10: The Artist and Society
April 5 Stern The Dilemma of the Intellectual
April 7 Gertel The Literature of García Márquez: An Assessment
Reading: Gabriel García Márquez, The Autumn of the Patriarch, all.

UNIT IV. THE POLITICS OF REVOLUTION AND COUNTER-REVOLUTION,

Week 11: The Historic Revolutions: Mexico and Cuba
April 12 Stern Mexico: The Multiple Strands of Revolution
April 14 Stern Cuba: From Guerrilla Bands to Socialist Mobilization
Reading: Rius [Eduardo del Río], Cuba for Beginners (New York, 1970), all.
Wolf and Hansen, The Human Condition, 294-349.

Week 12: The Crisis of Latin American Politics
April 19 Stern The Roots of Revolution
April 21 Skidmore Brazil, 1964: A Case Study in Political Polarization
FILM: THANK GOD AND THE REVOLUTION (tentatively April 21, at 7 pm).

Week 13: The United States and Latin America
April 26 Stern Goals and Tactics of U.S. Foreign Policy: Origins
April 28 Stern Aid and Intervention in the Cold War Era
Reading: Gettleman et al., eds., El Salvador, skim 3-54, read 216-294, 351-379.

Week 14: Whither Central America?
May 3 Stern The Fragility of Revolution
May 5 Havens Nicaragua: Assessment of the Agrarian Reform
Reading: Gettleman et al., eds., El Salvador, 300-327, 380-389.
NOTE: TERM PAPERS DUE NO LATER THAN DISCUSSION SECTION OF WEEK 14.

Week 15: Latin America: Past, Present, Future
May 10 Stern Lagacies and Prospects (summary and overview)
May 12 To be announced.
Course Assignments and Grading

There are three requirements for successful completion of this course: participation in discussion, examinations, and a short term paper (10–12 pages).

**Participation** means contributing your presence and thoughts to weekly discussion sections. Doing this effectively requires keeping up with readings, films, and lectures, and thinking about issues posed by the week's material.

There will be two examinations which will ask you to offer your analysis of significant issues raised by the readings, films, lectures, and discussion. The semester exam, covering materials through Week 7, is scheduled for March 10. The final exam will cover the entire semester. We will discuss the format of the exams well in advance of exam dates.

The written assignment will be a short term paper (ca. 10–12 pages, and by no means more than 15 typewritten pages) on a topic of your choosing. Papers may use the assigned books/films as "building blocks" but students are expected to do a moderate amount of extra reading to pursue their theme of special interest in greater depth. Supplementary bibliographies will be available, and the TA's and I will be most willing to help you define topics, choose readings, etc.

On a 100-point system (i.e., 100 points is a perfect 100%), the grading will be weighed as follows:

- semester exam -- 20 points
- term paper ----- 30 points
- particip./dis. -- 15 points
- final exam ------ 35 points.