University of Wisconsin-Madison
Department of History
Semester I, 1982-83

History 573-3

Woman and Man in Latin America

Florence E. Mallon

**Course Description**

This seminar will examine the changing nature of gender relationships in Latin America across time periods and cultures. We will treat recent issues in the literature on women in a specific context of social, cultural, and historical transformation. Some of the issues to be discussed are: the nature and content of patriarchal relations; the historical functions of patriarchy; the effect of industrialization, migration, and agrarian transition on women, and whether or not these experiences are comparable across cultural and social boundaries; and the role of women in twentieth-century revolutions. Special attention will be paid to the interaction of gender, class, and race issues in defining the situation and oppression of women.

**Office Hours**

Tuesday, 9:30-10:30
Thursday, 2-3
4116 Humanities, 263-1822

**Course Assignments**

1) To keep up with the readings on a weekly basis, and to participate **actively** in discussion. The importance of this requirement cannot be overemphasized, since the entire focus and success of the course depends on your participation.

2) Two 5-8-page papers, based on the reading already assigned. Your task is to select a topic or issue from the week's reading and discussion that most interests you, and write a thought paper on it. The paper will be due the Friday after the reading is discussed in class. One paper must be done in the first half of the semester, and another in the second half.

3) Grading: Papers, 40% (20% each); Class participation, 60%.

**SCHEDULE OF TOPICS AND READINGS**

(*Means available at the Bookstore and on Reserve at Helen C. White; #Means part of a xerox packet available at Poly U Communications, and on reserve in the History Library)

**Week 1- Aug. 31: Introduction**

**UNIT I- Women and Colonialism**

**Week 2- Sept. 7: Women and Conquest**


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Week 3- Sept. 14: Traditional Women in a Context of Culture Contact and Colonization
Reading: *Yolanda and Robert F. Murphy, Women of the Forest (New York, 1974).

Week 4- Sept. 14: Race, Class, and Gender in the Spanish Colonial System
Reading: *Verena Martinez-Alier, Marriage, Class, and Colour in Nineteenth-Century Cuba (New York, 1974).

UNIT II- Women and Development
Week 5- Sept. 28: Growing Up Female at the Turn of the Century

Week 6- Oct. 5: Women and Agrarian Transformation (I)

Week 7- Oct. 12: Women and Agrarian Transformation (II)
Reading: #Carmen Diana Deere, "Women's Subsistence Production in the Capitalist Periphery," The Review of Radical Political Economics 8:1 (1976), 9-17.

Week 8- Oct. 19: Women and Agrarian Transformation (III)

Week 9- Oct. 26: Women and Agrarian Transformation (IV)

Week 10- Nov. 2: Women, Migration, and Urbanization


**Week 11- Nov. 9: Women, Workplace, and Industrialization**


**UNIT III- Women and Revolution**

**Week 12- Nov. 16: Women and Revolution in Cuba (I)**


**Week 13- Nov. 23: Women and Revolution in Cuba (II)**


**Week 14- Nov. 30: Women and Revolution in Central America**


**Week 15- Dec. 7: Women's Experience in Revolution, Overview and Summing Up**

No new reading; just (?) pull together the relevant materials from the course.