History 607

Mr. McCormick

United States & Latin America

1820-1980

OFFICE HOURS: 11-12 Tues. & Thurs.; 2:30-3:30 Wed.; by appointment.
5213 Humanities. (263-2395)

GRADED WORK:
30%: Mid-term exam: March 13
30%: Research project: May 8 (to be discussed)
40%: Final exam

READINGS:

Texts:
Frederico Gil, Latin Amer.-U.S. Relations
Peter Smith, LATIN AMERICAN OVERVIEW (offset: available from instructor at cost)
Eric Wolf & Hanse, The Human Condition in L.A. (optional)

Special:
Wm. Goetzmann, When the Eagle Screams
Walter LaFebeur, The New Empire
Neill Macauley, The Sandino Affair
Cole Blasier, The Hovering Giant
James Petras & Morley, U.S. & Chile

FILMS:

I shall announce a number of campus films dealing with Latin American subjects. Attendance is optional (unless I note otherwise), but students made substitute a film review for one of the Final Exam questions if they desire.

LECTURES:

Topics should be regarded as tentative. This is especially true in the latter part of the course when current events may lead me to shift my choice of case studies. This does not in any way affect the reading assignments which are to be regarded as fixed.

ASSIGNMENTS:

Jan. 24: Introduction to the course.
Smith, LATIN AMERICAN OVERVIEW (in entirety)
Gil, L.A.-U.S. rels., ch. 1

Jan. 29-31: Racism, ethnocentrism & Amer. hegemony: a Mexican view.
Monroe Doctrine as Imperial Manifesto in Latin America.
Goetzmann, When the Eagle Screamed, ch. 1
Gil, ch. 3

Feb. 5-7: Racism, ethnocentrism & Amer. hegemony: a Mexican view.
Goetzmann, ch. 2
Gil, ch. 2

Feb. 12-14: War of the Northern Invasion.
Goetzmann, ch. 4

Feb. 19-21: Continentalism to Commercialism: Mexico & Caribbean
Goetzmann, ch. 5
   LaFeber, New Empire, chs. 1-4
   GIL, ch. 5

March 4-6: Cuba & Strategic Paramouncy: 1898-1903
   LA FEBER, chs. 5-8
   GIL, ch. 4

March 11: Mexico and Economic Hegemony, 1890-1924
   Blasier, The Hovering Giant, chs. 1-2

March 13: MID-TERM EXAM

March 18-20: SPRING VACATION

March 25-27: Gunboat/Dollar Diplomacy in microcosm: Haiti
   Macauley, Sandino Affair (in entirety)

April 1-3: Monopoly Capital & U.S. Expansionism: 1930-1980
   GIL, ch. 6
   BLASIER, ch. 3

April 8-10: Intersection: Latin Amer. econ. dev.: 1930-1980
   Blasier, chs. 4-5

April 15-17: Case study: Brazil
   BLASIER, ch. 6
   GIL, ch. 7

April 22-24: Case study: Panama
   Petras & Morley, U.S. & Chile (in entirety)

April 29-May 1: Case study: Cuba
   BLASIER, ch. 7

May 6-8: Case study: Peru
   BLASIER, ch. 8.
COURSE NO. 607
COURSE TITLE Amer. Impact Abroad: Latin Amer. since 1820
INSTRUCTOR McCormick

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Cursory coverage of 19th century with emphasis on Mexico as an illustration of the general.
More detailed coverage of 20th century, especially Cuba and Mexico and Haiti.
Most in-depth treatment on period since 1930: various case studies such as Panama, Cuba, Chile, Brazil, and Nicaragua.
Taught from a radical perspective but with pluralist and other points of view represented in the readings -- indeed, even in the main text.
[See syllabus for more details.]

LECTURES
Terrific. Pretty high analytical level, but humanized by my own dry sense of the absurd. Non-anecdotal.

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS and EXAMINATIONS

EXAMS: Two: mid-term and final. Essay variety requiring students to integrate diverse materials and reorganize in ways deviant from the lectures. TAKE-HOME or ADVANCE POOL types.
RESEARCH PROJECT: Team or individual. Primary or secondary sources. Written; slide show, guest lecture. I'm flexible.

GRADING SYSTEM
Not mechanistic. No curve.
Roughly: 30%: mid-term exam
30%: research project
40%: final exam.

REQUIRED READINGS
Moderate. A 50 page outline history of Latin America; a ao-so, but perhaps necessary, history of U.S.-L.A. rels.; and 5 excellent monographs. All in paper; all also on reserve.
See SYLLABUS for details.