Description:

Considered before to be one of the "backwaters" of historical research, where traditional political and military history reigned supreme, the nineteenth century has been emerging as one of the periods in Latin American history with the greatest potential for theoretical and methodological innovation. For roughly the last decade and a half, an unusually large and creative amount of work has appeared. It has been inspired in the debates around world systems and dependency theory, articulation of modes of production and the transition to capitalism, and more recently on ethnicity, gender, and nation-state formation, and the "new" economic history. Much of this literature has also been informed by the desire to illuminate the faces of the common folk, reclaiming their experiences as they confronted the integration of their societies and economies into the modern world capitalist system.

Yet as the contributions of this new literature have taken shape, so have its weaknesses. Authors who attempted to apply frameworks broadly informed by Marxist class analysis were unable fully to explain gender, ethnic, and political/ideological/cultural dimensions. Those who questioned the uncritical celebration of popular resistance tended to move into the complete dismissal of popular agency in history. With these problems has also come a crisis in theory; some historians now hesitate to reach broader conclusions.

Where is the field going? Through discussion of common and supplementary readings and written critical reviews, we will attempt to delineate some initial answers.

Requirements

1) Active participation in class. The seminar’s success depends on it!

2) Two short review essays (7-10 pp.) assessing a sample of the literature available for two of the weekly topics from weeks 2-15 of the syllabus, including—but not limited to—the supplementary readings listed. The students responsible for the review in each week will also collaborate in the preparation of a study guide of discussion questions in consultation with me. This study guide will be typed and copied and available to the other students by the Monday of the week of the seminar.

3) The review essays will be due no later than two weeks after the discussion of the topic on which they are based; but students will be asked to choose one topic from weeks 2-8, and another from weeks 9-15. Two copies should be handed in, so that one remains available to the other students. This will help everyone become familiar with the broadest amount of literature.

5) Grading: Class participation: 50%
Review Essays: 25% each
SCHEDULE OF CLASS MEETINGS AND READINGS:

Week 1- Sept. 3- Introduction

Background Reading: Florencia E. Mallon, "Editor's Introduction," *Latin America's Nineteenth Century History*, Special Issue of *Latin American Perspectives*, XIII: 1 (Winter 1986), pp. 3-13. As a general resource, the *Cambridge History of Latin America*, ed. Leslie Bethell, Vols. III-V, covers different aspects of the nineteenth century and provides some additional bibliography. If used advisedly (some authors wrote new, synthetic essays while others served up "rewarmed" old materials), it can be quite useful.

**ALSO:***

1) In the *Hispanic American Historical Review*, 65:4 (November 1985), historiographical essays by Eric Van Young, John J. Johnson, and David Bushnell list and variously analyze the existing historical literature for Mexico/Central America, Latin America, and South America (respectively).


**PLEASE NOTE:** Read in the above advisedly. It is not meant as an exhaustive list, but only as a set of readings that can begin to familiarize you with the issues in the field. If you are already familiar with these or other similar readings, all the better.

**AVAILABILITY OF READINGS:** The books assigned are available ONLY at Rainbow Bookstore Cooperative, 426 W. Gilman. The articles are part of a Xerox Packet available at the Humanities Copy Center.

UNIT I- SOCIOECONOMIC TRANSITIONS

Week 2- Sept. 9- Social Conflict and the World-System


________, First-time: The historical vision of an Afro-American People (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1983).


Schwartz, Stuart B., "Indian Labor and New World Plantations: European Demands and Indian Responses in Northeastern Brazil," American Historical Review, 83:3 (June 1978), pp. 43-79.


Week 3- Sept. 16- The Rise and Decline of Slave-Based Export Economies


**PLEASE NOTE: THE TIME AND DAY THIS WEEK NEEDS TO BE RESCHEDULED BECAUSE OF ROSH HASHANAH**
Week 4- Sept. 23- The Transition from Slavery to "Free" Labor


Supplementary for Weeks 3 and 4:


Hispanic American Historical Review, 68: 3 (August 1988); Issue on Emancipation: articles by Rebecca Scott, Seymour Drescher, Hebe Maria Mattos de Castro, and George Reid Andrews.


Knight, Franklin W., Slave Society in Cuba during the Nineteenth Century, Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 1970.


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**Week 5- Sept. 30- Social Conflict and the Transition to Capitalism**


**Week 6- Oct. 7- Banditry, Social Conflict, and Transitions**

**Reading:**


**Supplementary:** Joseph’s excellent bibliography in the original article.

**UNIT II- SOCIAL CONFLICT, ETHNICITY, AND NATION-STATE FORMATION: THE ANDES AND MEXICO**

**Week 7- Oct. 14- The Andes, 1780-1850**


Burga, Manuel, Nacimiento de una utopía: Muerte y resurrección de los incas (Lima: Instituto de Apoyo Agrario, 1988).


___________, Buscando un inca (Havana: Casa de las Américas, 1986).


Week 8: Oct. 21 - Mexico, 1780-1850

Reading:


Supplementary:


______, Los orígenes del nacionalismo mexicano, Mexico City: Ediciones Era, 1973 (NOTE: There is now an English edition as well).


Hamnett, Brian R., *Revolución y contrarrevolución en México y el Perú: Liberalismo, realeza y separatismo (1800-1824)*, Mexico City: Fondo de Cultura Económica, 1978. (NOTE: There is an edition in English, but I am familiar with the Spanish one)


Week 9- Oct. 28- The Andes, 1850-1900


Heraclio Bonilla, "The Indian Peasantry and 'Peru' during the War with Chile," in Resistance, Rebellion and Consciousness, pp. 219-31.


_______, *Estado boliviano y ayllu andino* (Lima: Instituto de Estudios Peruanos, 1982).


Week 10- Nov. 4- Mexico, 1850-1900

**Reading:**


**Supplementary:**


__________, *Problemas campesinos y revueltas agrarias, 1821-1910* (Mexico City: SepSetentas, 1971).


**Week 11- Nov. 11- Brazil, 1821-1916**

**Reading:** Da Costa, Emilia Viotti, *The Brazilian Empire: Myths and Histories* (Orig. 1985; Paperback, Chicago: The Dorsey Press, 1987).


**Supplementary:** Barman, Roderick J., *Brazil, the forging of a nation, 1798-1852* (Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press, 1988).


**Week 12- Nov. 18- Argentina, 1830-1900**


Week 13- Nov. 25- NO CLASS MEETING; THANKSGIVING BREAK

Week 14- Dec. 2- Chile, 1850-1900

Reading: Maurice Zeitlin, The Civil Wars in Chile (or the bourgeois revolutions that never were) (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1984)


Salazar Vergara, Gabriel, *Labradores, peones y proletarios: formación y crisis de la sociedad popular chilena del siglo XIX*. Santiago:


Week 15- Dec. 9- Questions of Culture, Literature, and Metaphor

Supplementary:


