Description:

Considered before to be one of the "backwaters" of historical research, where traditional political and military history reigned supreme, the nineteenth century is now emerging as one of the periods in Latin American history with the greatest potential for theoretical and methodological innovation. For roughly the last decade, an unusually large and creative amount of work has appeared. Inspired in the debates around world systems and dependency theory, articulation of modes of production and the transition to capitalism, much of this literature is also 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. As authors attempted to apply frameworks broadly informed by Marxist class analysis, their inability fully to explain gender, ethnic and political/ideological dimensions became more apparent. 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. each), each one assessing a sample of the literature available for one of the weekly topics. Each student will pick two topics/weeks from weeks 2-13 of the syllabus. Then each week, the students responsible for reviews will also elaborate a study guide of discussion questions in consultation with the professor. This study guide will be typed and copied and available to the other students by the Monday of the seminar week.

3) The review essays will be due two weeks after the discussion of that topic. Copies will be made available to the other students so that everyone can be familiar with the broadest amount of literature.

4) The last two weeks of discussion will be a kind of "grab bag" of issues and loose ends. Everyone is encouraged to save up questions, gripes, doubts, etc. for consideration at that point—though of
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course that will not be the only time they can be discussed! The
discussion for the last week will be based exclusively on people’s
suggestions, with no assigned reading.

5) Grading: Class participation: 50%
      Review Essays: 25% each

SCHEDULE OF CLASS MEETINGS AND READINGS:

Week 1- January 20- Introduction

Reading: Florencia E. Mallon, "Editor's Introduction," Latin
         America's Nineteenth Century History, Special Issue of
         3-13.

Supplementary: 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).
         2) William Taylor, "Between Global Process and Local
         Knowledge: An Inquiry into Early Latin American Social
         History, 1500-1900," in Reliving the Past: The Worlds of
         Social History, ed. Olivier Zunz (Chapel Hill: University
         of North Carolina Press), pp. 115-90, gives a good
         overview of the nineteenth century.
         3) David Bushnell and Neill Macaulay, The Emergence
         of Latin America in the Nineteenth Century, New York:
         Oxford University Press, 1987, is a new text that claims
         to incorporate the new research. Worth a look, I
         suspect, though I haven't given one yet...

UNIT I- SOCIOECONOMIC TRANSITIONS

Week 2- January 27- Social Conflict and the World-System

Reading: Walter Rodney, A History of the Guyanese Working People,
         1881-1905 (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press,
Supplementary:


- 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- February 3- The Rise and Decline of Slave-Based Export Economies**


**Week 4- February 10- The Transition from Slavery to "Free" Labor**

Supplementary for Weeks 3 and 4:


Week 5 - February 17 - The Limitations of Export Production


Week 6 - February 24 - Social Conflict and the Transition to Capitalism


Bauer, Arnold J., Chilean Rural Society from the Spanish


UNIT II- SOCIAL CONFLICT, ETHNICITY, AND NATION-STATE FORMATION

Week 7- March 2- The Andes, 1780-1820
**Reading:**


**Supplementary:**


O'Phelan Godoy, Scarlett, Revoluciones and Revolts in


Week 8– March 9– Mexico, 1780-1850


Brading, David, 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)

__________________, "Royalist Counterinsurgency and the


Week 9- March 23- Other Cases in Latin America


**Week 10 - March 30: Brazil, 1830-1889**


Dean, Warren, "Latifundia and Land Policy in Nineteenth-Century Brazil," *Hispanic American Historical Review*,...


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**Week 11- April 6- The Andes, 1850-1900**


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


Supplementary:


Soler, Ricaurte, Idea y cuestión nacional latinoamericanas: De la independencia a la emergencia del imperialismo, Mexico City: Siglo XII Editores, 1980.

Week 12 - April 13 - Argentina, 1830-1900

**Reading:**


**Supplementary:**


Szuchman, Mark D., Mobility and Integration in Urban Argentina: Córdoba in the Liberal Era, Austin: University of Texas Press, 1980.


Week 13- April 20- Chile, 1850-1900

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

1974.


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

Sater, William F., Chile and the War of the Pacific, Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1986.


Week 14- April 27- Some continuities and unresolved dilemmas


Xavier Albó, "From MNRistas to Kataristas to Katari," in Resistance, Rebellion and Consciousness, pp. 379-419.


Supplementary: Your suggestions...

Week 15- May 4- Wrap-Up
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Pro-Seminar on the Economic History of Latin America

The following is the list of topics and readings for the semester, which is subject to revision in response to class interests and newly available readings. Questions to be discussed in connection with each topic will be distributed as the course progresses. Supplementary readings will be suggested each week, to be used by the presenters according to their special interests.

Topic No. 1: Theories, Hypotheses, and Assumptions about Latin America's Economic Development in the Modern Era

Reading:
Ian Roxburgh, Theories of Underdevelopment (New York, 1979), entire.

Topic No. 2: Approaches to Economic Analysis

Reading:

Topic No. 3: Historical Overview: 1822-1940

Reading:
Rosemary Thorp, "Latin America and the International Economy from the First World War to the World Depression," in Ibid., 57-81
Carlos Diaz Alejandro, "Latin America in the 1930s," in Rosemary Thorp, ed., Latin America in the 1930s: The Role of the Periphery in World Crisis (London, 1984), 17-49
Topic No. 4: Argentina Before 1930: Latin American Success Story?

Reading:


Topic No. 5: Argentina Since 1930: What Went Wrong?

Reading:


Topic No. 6: Brazil Before 1964: From Coffee Exporter to Industrial Power

Reading:


Topic No. 7: Brazil Since 1964: The Technocratic-Authoritarian Phase

Reading:

Peter Evans, Dependent Development: The Alliance of Multinational, State and Local Capital in Brazil (Princeton, 1979), entire.

Topic No. 8: Late Nineteenth-Century Change in an Andean Peasant Society

Reading:


Topic No. 9: Foreign Capital and the Transformation of an Andean Peasant Society

Reading:


Topic No. 10: Cuba Since 1959: The Fruits of Socialism?

Reading:


Andrew Zimbalist, ed., *Cuba's Socialist Economy: Toward the 1990s* (Boulder, 1987), 1-41; 85-95; 129-154; 165-182

Topic No. 11: Mexico: The Curse of Oil?

Reading:

Gary Gereffi and Peter Evans, "Transnational Corporations, Dependent Development, and State Policy in the Semiperiphery: a Comparison of Brazil and Mexico," in Dietz & Street, eds., *Latin America's Economic Development*, 159-190


Topic No. 12: Chile: Foreign Investment and Domestic Politics

Reading:


Topic No. 13: Central America: The Economic Dimension

Reading:


Topic No. 14: The Present Foreign Debt Crisis in Historical Perspective

Reading:
