

(S-I; prereq. so. st.)

THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN  
Department of History

Semester II Year 81-82

<u>COURSE NO.</u>	<u>COURSE TITLE</u>	<u>INSTRUCTOR</u>
242	Latin America Since 1825	Collier

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The aim of the course is to present a survey of some of the main lines of Latin America's history since the 1820's, with a certain emphasis being placed on things which have happened since 1930. Like the United States and Canada, Latin America started off as an offshoot of European civilization, but its story since attaining political independence has been very different from that of North America. Why? Modern Latin America consists of twenty nation-states, and it is impossible to cover all of them even in outline. Five countries, therefore, have been selected for treatment during the course, though there will also be general discussions of general themes affecting the whole region. Each of the five nations chosen is interesting and important for particular reasons: Argentina in its day was the country which experienced the most dramatic economic progress and whose society most closely came to resemble that of Western Europe. Brazil, as the giant among Latin nations, simply cannot be left out. Mexico, largest of the Spanish-speaking countries, is of interest because of its twentieth century revolutionary experience. Chile, though small by comparison, once had a unique tradition of democratic politics, now shattered to pieces. Cuba, even smaller than Chile, has gone through the significant period of Castro's revolution. In examining these five nations, the emphasis will be on social and economic change and the relationship of this to political life.

LECTURES

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS and EXAMINATIONS

GRADING SYSTEM

A-F

REQUIRED READINGS

James R. Scobie, Argentina: A City and a Nation.  
Brian Loveman, Chile: The Legacy of Hispanic Capitalism  
Charles C. Cumberland, Mexico: The Struggle for Modernity  
E. Bradford Burns, A History of Brazil  
Gary W. Wynia The Politics of Latin American Development  
E. Bradford Burns, Latin America: A Concise Interpretative History