

THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
Department of History

Semester II Year 80-81

<u>COURSE NO.</u>	<u>COURSE TITLE</u>	<u>INSTRUCTOR</u>
260	Latin America: An Introduction	Stern

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course introduces students to Latin American history, society, and culture from an interdisciplinary perspective, and is therefore cross-listed with a number of Departments. Aside from lectures and discussion sections, course materials will include individual life histories, Latin American films and literature, and studies by historians, social scientists, and journalists. The course, taken as a whole, will provide a broad and multi-faceted exposure to three themes in particular: historical legacies which shape Latin American life; revolution and counter-revolution in the 20th century; contemporary social change and cultural expression. The course will ask students to grapple with the human issues raised by all these topics. At the same time, it will encourage students to study in greater depth themes or perspectives which they find especially thought-provoking.

Specific topics we will discuss include, among others, the following: Indians and colonialism; slavery and race relations; the impact of capitalism; the Mexican and Cuban Revolutions; U.S. foreign policy, with special reference to Central America; city, countryside, and migration; relations between women and men; politics and pitfalls of economic development; society and the artist, forms of cultural expression and identification.

LECTURES

- twice weekly, mainly by the instructor but occasionally by guest lecturers from other Departments.
- there will also be a discussion meeting weekly; a Spanish-speaking section will be arranged if enough students desire it.

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS and EXAMINATIONS

TENTATIVE!! One mid-semester exam, and a final exam.
One short paper (3-5 pages), and a medium paper (8-10 pages).

GRADING SYSTEM

Again, tentatively: short paper---10% semester exam--20%
 medium paper--25% final exam-----30%
 discussion section--15%

REQUIRED READINGS

See course description above on types of materials; a tentative syllabus listing readings should be available shortly. Books include Sidney Mintz, Worker in the Cane; Carolina María de Jesus, Child of the Dark (a diary); A. J. Langguth, Hidden Terrors; Lee Lockwood, Castro's Cuba; Mariano Azuela, The Underdogs; Stanley Stein, Vassouras (slavery); Eric Wolf, Sons of the Shaking Earth.

Ibero-American Studies
&
Department of History
Spring, 1981

LATIN AMERICA: AN INTRODUCTION
(Interdisciplinary 260)

Professor Steve J. Stern
5105 Humanities
263-1841

Office Hours: M 8-8:45, W 3:45-4:45, R 4-4:³~~40~~

Teaching Assistants:
Carlos Gabler
J. Jefferson McKinnon

Course Description:

This course introduces students to Latin American history, society, and culture from an interdisciplinary perspective, and is therefore cross-listed in a number of Departments (History, Ag. Econ., Anthro., Econ., Geog., Journ., Poli. Sci., Rural Soc., Spanish & Portuguese). There will be two lectures weekly (TR 2:25-3:40) and weekly discussion sections, including one conducted in Spanish. Assigned materials will combine films and readings. The readings will include individual life histories, literature, and studies by historians, social scientists, and journalists.

The course, taken as a whole, will provide a broad and multi-faceted exposure to three themes in particular: historical legacies which shape Latin American life; the experience of revolution and counter-revolution in the 20th century; contemporary social change and cultural expression. All of these themes will be discussed from a variety of disciplinary perspectives, and will include specific case studies as well as general overviews. Specific topics are listed below.

Schedule (tentative):

Week 1.	Introduction.	
Jan. 20	Stern	Orientation to Course
Jan. 22	Stern	Why Study Latin America?

Reading: Begin next week's readings.

Schedule (cont'd):

UNIT I. THE HISTORICAL LEGACY.

Week 2. Heritage of Indian Civilization.

Jan. 27 Stern The Pre-Columbian Achievement
Jan. 29 Stern Native Peoples Today

Reading: Wolf, Sons of the Shaking Earth, 1-20, 69-151 (skim 21-68).

FILM: BLOOD OF THE CONDOR (tentatively Jan. 27, at 7 p.m. in 180 Science Hall).

Week 3. Heritage of Conquest.

Feb. 3 Stern Institutions of Colonial Domination
Feb. 5 Stern The Role of Popular Struggle

Reading: Wolf, Sons of the Shaking Earth, 152-256.

Optional: Burns, Latin America, 2-85 (and preface).

Week 4. Slavery and Race Relations.

Feb. 10 Skidmore Heritage of Slavery: Social Race and the Ideal
of "Whitening" in Brazil
Feb. 12 Bonilla The Role of Forced Labor in the 19th Century
Export Economies

Reading: Knight, Slave Society in Cuba, 3-120. Optional: 121-194.

Week 5. The Poverty of Progress.

Feb. 17 Stern The Impact of Capitalism on Subsistence Producers
Feb. 19 Stern Modernization without Development? City and
Countryside in the First Industrial Era

Readings: Burns, Latin America, 88-214.

UNIT II. REVOLUTION AND COUNTER-REVOLUTION.

Week 6. Tale of Two Revolutions: Mexico & Cuba.

Feb. 24 Stern Explosion of the Mexican Countryside
Feb. 26 Lasarte The Mexican Novel and the Mexican Revolution

Reading: Azuela, The Underdogs.

Week 7. Tale of Two Revolutions (cont'd).

Mar. 3 Stern Two Mexicos, Two Revolutions?
Mar. 5 Stern Origins of Revolution in Cuba

Reading: Begin next week's readings.

FILM: MEXICO: THE FROZEN REVOLUTION (date, hour, and place to be announced)

SEMESTER EXAM, covering materials through March 3, is tentatively scheduled
for March 10 (Tuesday of Week 8) in 180 Science, at 7 p.m.

Schedule (cont'd):

Week 8. Tale of Two Revolutions (cont'd).
Mar. 10 Stern The Revolutionary Process in Cuba: Successes & Failures
Mar. 12 Stern
 & others? The Refugees and Contemporary Cuban Society

Reading: Lockwood, Castro's Cuba, Cuba's Fidel.

Week 9. The U.S. and Latin America.
Mar. 24 Stern Goals and Tactics of U.S. Foreign Policy: Origins
Mar. 26 Stern Aid and Intervention in the Cold War Era

Reading: Begin next week's readings.

FILM: STATE OF SIEGE (tentatively March 26, at 7 p.m. in 180 Science Hall)

ASSIGNMENT: paper topics due in discussion section

Week 10. The U.S. and Latin America (cont'd).
Mar. 31 Stallings Finance Capital and the Debt Trap
Apr. 2 ? The U.S. and Revolution in Central America

Reading: Langguth, Hidden Terrors.

UNIT III. SOCIAL CHANGE AND CULTURAL EXPRESSION.

Week 11. Latin Americans as Migrants.
Apr. 7 Stern City, Countryside, and the Sociology of Migration
Apr. 9 Tienda Mexican Immigration to the U.S.: the Untold Story

Reading: de Jesus, Child of the Dark.

Week 12. Woman and Man in Latin America.
Apr. 14 Stern Woman and Man, the Historical Legacy
Apr. 16 Stern The Role of Women in Contemporary Movements for
 Social Change

Reading: Pescatello, ed., Female and Male in Latin America, 3-27, 257-290.
 (essays by Jaquette, Purcell, Fox).

FILM: ONE WAY OR ANOTHER (tentatively April 16, at 7 p.m. in 180 Science Hall)

Week 13. The Politics of Economic Development.
Apr. 21 Mericle Political Economy of Latin America: A Class Analysis
 of Development Models
Apr. 23 Felstehausen Plan Puebla and Rural Development: An Illustration
 from Mexico

Reading: Begin next week's reading. Optional: Burns, Latin America, 215-268.

ASSIGNMENT: TERM PAPERS DUE in discussion section of Week 13

Schedule (cont'd):

Week 14.	The Culture of Alienation and Identification	
Apr. 28	Gertel	Society and the Artist: Literature
Apr. 30	Stern	Symbols and Fantasy, Protest, Community: Popular Religion

Reading: Mintz, Worker in the Cane.

Week 15.	Latin America: Past, Present, Future	
May 5	Stern	Legacies and Prospects (summary & overview)
May 7	FILM	CAMPAMENTO

List of Reading Materials:

Mariano Azuela, The Underdogs.
E. Bradford Burns, Latin America: A Concise Interpretive History.
Franklin W. Knight, Slave Society in Cuba during the Nineteenth Century.
A. J. Langguth, Hidden Terrors.
Lee Lockwood, Castro's Cuba, Cuba's Fidel.
Sidney Mintz, Worker in the Cane: A Puerto Rican Life History.
Ann Pescatello, ed., Female and Male in Latin America.
Eric Wolf, Sons of the Shaking Earth: The People of Mexico and Guatemala...

Course Assignments and Grading:

There are three requirements for successful completion of this course:
participation in discussion, examinations, and a short term paper (10-12 pages).

Participation means contributing your presence and thoughts to weekly discussion sections. Doing this effectively requires keeping up with readings, films, and lectures, and thinking about issues posed by the week's material.

There will be two examinations which will ask you to offer your analysis of significant issues raised by the readings, films, lectures, and discussion. The semester exam, covering materials through March 3, is tentatively scheduled for March 10 (in the evening). The final exam will cover the entire semester. We will discuss the format of the exams well in advance of exam dates.

The written assignment will be a short term paper (about 10-12 double-spaced typewritten pages) on a topic of your choosing. Papers may use the assigned books/films as "building blocks" but students are expected to do a moderate amount of extra reading to pursue their theme of special interest in greater depth. Supplementary bibliographies will be available, and the TA's and I will be most willing to help you define topics, choose readings, etc.

On a 100-point system (i.e., 100 points is a perfect 100%), the grading will be weighed as follows:

semester exam -- 20 points
term paper ----- 30 points

particip./dis. -- 15 points
final exam ----- 35 points.