History 152: Early Civilizations

Course Syllabus - Fall 2011

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Office Hours: T/Th 6:30am-7:30am and W 4:00am-6:00pm

Online Office Hours: M 6:30-7:30pm
Meebo Office Hours: M 6:30-7:30pm

Skype Office Hours: M 6:30-7:30pm
Instructor Skype Contact: ecchistory

Course Web Site: http://suarezol.org/joomla

Course Description

This course will survey the political, economic, social and cultural development of Latin America from the pre-European contact to the achievement of independence in the early 19th century. Topics covered in this course include the Native American world before European conquest, the socioeconomic, political and cultural consequences of contact between Native Americans, Europeans and Africans, the formation of the colonial order, and the move toward independence from Spanish and Portuguese colonial rule.

Student Learning Outcomes

After successful completion of History 152:

1. Students will identify and explain major social, economic, political and cultural patterns in a written or oral assignment.

2. Students will accurately identify a primary or secondary source relating to history and apply the appropriate historical methods to explain what the source reveals about its historical context.

3. Students will develop and persuasively argue an historical thesis in a written or oral assignment that effectively uses primary and/or secondary sources.

Course Objectives

1. Explain how historians reconstruct Latin American history and apply the concepts of center and periphery to the study of this history.

2. Analyze the impact that Latin America’s geographical features and climate have had on the formation of Native American cultures.

3. Compare and contrast the socioeconomic and political characteristics of some of the primary Native American cultures from Mesoamerica, South America, and the Caribbean.
4. Identify and analyze the economic, political, and intellectual transformations Europe experienced that facilitated ventures into the Atlantic Ocean.

5. Examine Iberia’s medieval experience and evaluate the various ways this experience prepared Spain and Portugal for expansion into the Americas and the creation of maritime empires.

6. Compare and contrast the ideology of expansion and the instruments of colonization formulated by the Spanish and Portuguese.

7. Assess the impact Spanish and Portuguese conquest and colonization of the Americas had on Native American cultures.

8. Identify the key socioeconomic and political characteristics of colonial Spanish America and Portuguese America and analyze how center and periphery shaped these characteristics.

9. Analyze and assess the impact the Roman Catholic Church had on the formation of colonial Latin America.

10. Identify and explain the economic, intellectual, and political factors that moved Latin America towards the quest for independence.

11. Identify and evaluate the socioeconomic and political challenges faced by post-independence Latin America.

**Computer/Internet Access**

Students must access the Internet to download lecture notes. If you do not have Internet access, be sure to use one of the many computer labs accessible at El Camino College. For example, computers can be accessed at the Library Media Technology Center (LMTC) located at the East Lower Level of Schauerman Library. Call (310) 660-6715 for hours of operation. What software and hardware will you need for this course? You must have at a minimum:

- Internet access
- A PC with Windows and a Pentium processor or a Macintosh with at least System 9.0
- A recent version of a web browser such as Microsoft Explorer or Firefox
- An Internet Service Provider
- An Email Address
- Microsoft Word version 2003 or earlier
- PDF File Reader
Assessment Measures

Student achievement in History 152 will be assessed in four ways:

1. **Essay Examinations (60% of the grade):** Writing an effective college level in-class essay examination requires that students have knowledge of the subject matter and that students have the ability to organize the knowledge into a coherent set of arguments. An effective essay has a clear introduction, a solid body of evidence and argumentation and a firm conclusion based on what was written. Unlike take-home essay examinations, an in-class essay examination must also contend with time. To ensure that you are exposed to wide range of assessment measures, students enrolled in History 152 will complete two essay examinations in which major social, economic, political and cultural patterns will be reconstructed through the analysis and evaluation of historical sources. Dates TBA.

2. **Objective Examinations (15% of the grade):** Students will complete in-class and online examinations in which historical periods, themes and ideas will be analyzed and evaluated to determine the accuracy of their presentation. These examinations will test a student's course knowledge base and a student's ability to read critically and determine a correct answer. Dates TBA.

3. **Seminars (15% of the grade):** Creating a community of learners through academic and social involvement in the classroom encourages students to be active participants in the learning process and promotes their persistence in the pursuit of their educational goals, whether it be completing a certificate program, attaining an Associate of Arts/Science degree, or transferring to a four-year institution. To emphasize this aspect of your academic training, students will collaboratively address a variety of historical questions by analyzing primary and secondary sources in a seminar setting. Dates TBA.

4. **Resource Page (10% of the grade):** Students will be introduced to research methodology by constructing a resource page that will cite scholarly monographs, articles and websites for a selected topic within the scope of this course. Students will gain knowledge of library resources and research methods by completing this assignment. Dates TBA.

**Grade Scale**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>GPA</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90-100%</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80-89%</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70-79%</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60-69%</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59% and below</td>
<td>F</td>
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</tbody>
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**Required Materials**

The following books and materials are required for this course. They are available at the El Camino College Bookstore.

*Colonial Latin America*, Mark A. Burkholder, Oxford University Press, 2007
Should I be enrolled in this Course?

History 152 is a college level history course. Consequently, it requires that students possess sound reading and writing skills. Students who are carrying an excessive load of classes this semester, who are working an excessive number of hours, or who have not completed the recommended preparation eligibility of English 1A, are asked to carefully consider if they should be enrolled in this course.

Attendance

Attendance is mandatory in this class! Be sure to look at El Camino College's online course offerings if you do not enjoy being in a classroom setting. Students are responsible for signing the attendance roster. If a student is unable to attend class, it is his/her responsibility to notify the instructor through an e-mail message. Take a moment to familiarize yourself with the following statement on attendance taken from the El Camino College Catalog: Regular attendance is expected of every student. A student may be dropped from the class when the number of hours absent exceeds the number of units assigned to the course. Please drop this course immediately if you cannot commit to three hours of class time a week and the required time necessary to prepare for this course outside of the classroom. If a student stops attending class, then it is their responsibility to drop the course. Failure to do so will result in an F issued for the course grade.

Rules of Conduct

The instructor will not tolerate disruptive behavior in class. Disruptive behavior includes, but is not limited to the following: coming to class unprepared, arriving late to class, striking up a conversation with your neighbor during class, taking naps during class, failing to take notes during class, leaving class early, not coming to class and forgetting to turn off cell phones and pagers before coming into class. Dishonesty, plagiarism and cheating will result in immediate dismissal from this course. Please drop this course immediately if you cannot follow the rules of conduct cited above.

How to Succeed in this Course

What makes a successful college student? Successful college students accept personal responsibility, are self-motivated and have mastered time-management. This course will call upon students to adopt and apply these principles by requiring them to:

1. Study consistently throughout the semester
2. Stay on top of reading assignments.
3. Take detailed notes.
4. Review their notes regularly.
5. Have assignments ready in advance
6. Work on writing skills.
7. Attend class regularly.
8. Visit the instructor during office hours.

American with Disabilities Act

Please inform the instructor if you need course adaptations or accommodation in the classroom because of a disability, if you have emergency medical information to share with your instructor, or if you need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated.
Proposed Themes and Readings

The instructor reserves the right to alter or deviate from the proposed themes and reading schedule. Students will be notified in advance should changes be made. The most current schedule will always be available on the instructor’s web page.

BEFORE THE ENCOUNTER (c. 711-1520)

Course Introduction

Required reading:

- Course Syllabus

The Nature of Historical Knowledge

Required reading:

- Instructor’s notes: The Nature of Historical Knowledge
- Primary source: The Catalan Atlas

Centers and Peripheries

Required reading:

- Instructor’s notes: Centers and Peripheries
- Primary source: The Request of Antonio de Maldonado

The Americas before the Encounter

Required reading:

- Instructor’s notes: The Americas before the Encounter
- Burkholder, Colonial Latin America, Chapter 1: Iberia and America before the Conquest (begin)
- Primary source analysis: The Codex Mendoza

From the Divine to the Human

Required reading:

- Instructor’s notes: From the Divine to the Human
• Burkholder, *Colonial Latin America*, Chapter 1: Iberia and America before the Conquest (continued)


**THE FORMATION OF A COLONIAL WORLD (c. 1520-1700 CE)**

The Early Formation of the Spanish and Portuguese Empires in the Americas

*Required reading:*

• Instructor’s notes: *The Early Formation of the Spanish and Portuguese Empires in the Americas*

• Burkholder, *Colonial Latin America*, Chapter 2: The Age of Conquest


• Film and history: *Aguirre, The Wrath of God*

The Sociobiological Consequences of Native American, European and African Contact

*Required reading:*

• Instructor’s notes: *The Sociobiological Consequences of Native American, European and African Contact*

• Burkholder, *Colonial Latin America*, Chapter 3: Ruling New World Empires


Centers and Peripheries in Colonial Spanish America

*Required reading:*

• Instructor’s notes: *Centers and Peripheries in Colonial Spanish America*

• Burkholder, *Colonial Latin America*, Chapter 4: Population and Labor

Sugar and Gold Cycles in Colonial Portuguese America

Required reading:

- Instructors’ notes: Sugar and Gold Cycles in Colonial Portuguese America
- Burkholder, Colonial Latin America, Chapter 5: production, Exchange and Defense

The Church in Colonial Latin America

Required reading:

- Instructor’s notes: The Church in Colonial Latin America
- Burkholder, Colonial Latin America, Chapter 6: Living in an Empire
- Film and history: The Mission

THE MOVE TOWARD INDEPENDENCE (c. 1700-1825)

The Bourbon Reforms and the Reforms of Pombal

Required reading:

- Instructor’s notes: The Bourbon Reforms and the Reforms of Pombal
- Burkholder, Colonial Latin America, Chapter 7: Imperial Expansion

God, Earthquakes and Enlightenment

Required reading:

- Instructor’s notes: God, Earthquakes and Enlightenment

The Move Toward Independence

Required reading:
• Instructor’s notes: *The Move Toward Independence*

• Burkholder, *Colonial Latin America*, Chapter 8: Crisis and Collapse


**The Independence of Latin America and its Challenges**

*Required reading:*

• Instructor’s notes: *The Independence of Latin America and its Challenges*