

History 375: Colonial Latin America

Dr. Aaron Althouse
Fall 2009
MWF 12:00-12:50 p.m. (Brock 401)

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The region we know as “Latin” America consists of a tremendously complex collection of regions that, beginning in the late fifteenth century, was drawn together under Spanish (and, to a lesser extent, Portuguese) colonial administration. HIST 375 examines the historical development of this diverse area from the period before direct contact between native indigenous societies and Western Europe (pre-contact) through the independence movements that brought most colonial rule to an end in the first quarter of the nineteenth century. HIST 375 provides a general yet detailed examination of this three to four hundred year timespan, beginning with pre-contact native imperial societies and fifteenth century Spain, continuing with early contact between the regions, and the military “conquest” of the Aztec and Inca empires. Next, HIST 375 looks at the establishment of the colonial order, i.e., establishment of the political and legal framework of colonialism, the growth of the colonial and transatlantic economy, church activity, native population decline, and indigenous responses to the dramatic changes that occurred in the sixteenth century. Then, the course moves on to the time known as the “mature” colonial period, when dramatic change slowed to some extent, and long term social and cultural patterns took hold—for example, notions of race, ethnicity, and honor. HIST 375 concludes with analysis of the eighteenth century Bourbon reforms, social tension and conflict in the later eighteenth century, and the various movements for independence from Spain (and Portugal). Within these broad themes, the majority of the course material concerns Spain’s most valuable (and, consequently, most studied) viceroyalties of New Spain (Mexico) and Peru, but the Portuguese colony of Brazil and peripheral regions of Spanish America also receive consideration. The majority of class meetings follow a lecture format, with class discussions are three feature films composing the remainder of scheduled meetings.

REQUIREMENTS AND MATERIALS

Required course readings consist of four books (available at the campus bookstore):

Kenneth Andrien, ed., *The Human Tradition in Colonial Latin America* (Rowman and Littlefield, 2002).

Cheryl E. Martin and Mark Wasserman. *Latin America and Its People: Volume I, to 1830* (2nd edition, Pearson Longman, 2008).

Andrés Reséndez, *A Land So Strange: The Epic Journey of Cabeza de Vaca* (Basic Books, 2009).

GRADES

Semester grades will be calculated based upon performance in the following areas:

30% = Midterm paper. The exam will consist of a 6-8 page take-home essay question that will be due no later than 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 30. The exam will be distributed in class one week prior to the due date.

35% = Final exam. The exam will consist of a roughly 8 page take-home essay question that will be due no later than 5:00 p.m., Friday, December 4. The exam question will be distributed during class on Monday, November 23.

35% = Class participation. The student’s grade will be determined based upon performance in class discussions in terms of attendance, attentiveness, preparedness and quality of comments. Reading assignments are tied to class lectures and a series of class discussions. Students are expected to complete each set of readings prior to the discussion meeting and should bring the reading material to class and arrive prepared to talk! Regular class attendance is highly recommended though not required, but unexcused absence from class discussions will reduce the class participation grade.

**Completion and submission of all course assignments is REQUIRED in order to receive any course credit (submission of late material may only be approved and arranged with PRIOR consent of instructor).

ADA STATEMENT

Students with challenges that may require assistance or questions related to any accommodation for testing, note takers, readers, etc., are encouraged to speak with the professor as soon as possible. Students may also contact the Office for Students with Disabilities with questions about services offered to UTC students with qualified disabilities.

(110 Frist Hall, 425-4006, www.utc.edu/Administration/OfficeForStudentsWithDisabilities)

CALENDAR

The following schedule and assignments are subject to change at the instructor's discretion.

Worlds Apart: Indigenous American Society and Reconquista Spain

M, 8-17: Course Introduction

W, 8-19: Mesoamerica I

F, 8-21: Mesoamerica II

M, 8-24: The Pre-Contact Andes and the Inca State

W, 8-26: Fifteenth Century Iberia

- **READING:** *Latin America and Its People*, pp. 1-71.

Misconception, Miscommunication, and Some Understanding

F, 8-28: Encounters with the "Other"

M, 8-31: View film, "Cabeza de Vaca"

W, 9-2: View film, "Cabeza de Vaca"

F, 9-4: DISCUSSION

- **READING:** Susan E. Ramírez, "Introduction: Lost—and Found—in Translation? The Practice of Translating," *The Americas* 62:5 (January 2006), 303-312. (e-journals, Project Muse/Standard Collection)
- Reséndez, *A Land So Strange*.

M, 9-7: No class meeting

W, 9-9: Military "Conquest" of the Aztecs

F, 9-11: Military "Conquest" of the Incas

M, 9-14: View film, "La otra conquista"

W, 9-16: View film, "La otra conquista"

F, 9-18: DISCUSSION

- **READING:** *Latin America and Its People*, pp. 72-91.
- Alida Metcalf, "Domingos Fernandes Nobre: "Tomacauna," a Go-Between in Sixteenth-Century Brazil," *Human Tradition*, pp. 51-63.
- Matthew Restall, "Gaspar Antonio Chi: Bridging the Conquest of Yucatán," *Human Tradition*, pp. 6-21.
- Camilla Townsend, "Burying the White Gods: New Perspectives on the Conquest of Mexico," *The American Historical Review* 108:3 (June 2003), 659-687. (e-journals, University of Chicago Press Journals)

"Under Construction": The Colonial State...

M, 9-21: African Slavery Arrives in the Americas

W, 9-23: Early Colonization in Brazil

F, 9-25: Atlantic Trade Networks

M, 9-28: DISCUSSION

- **READING:** *Latin America and Its People*, pp. 91-109.
- Frederick P. Bowser, "Africans in Spanish American Colonial Society," in Leslie Bethell, ed., *The Cambridge History of Latin America*, volume 2 (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1984), pp. 357-379. (e-reserves)
- Noble David Cook, "The Mysterious Catalina: Indian or Spaniard?," *Human Tradition*, pp. 64-83.

...and its "softer" side: Spiritual Conquest

W, 9-30: Evangelization I (MIDTERM PAPER DUE TODAY!)

F, 10-2: Evangelization II

M, 10-5: DISCUSSION

- **READING:** *Latin America and Its People*, pp. 155-176.
- D. A. Brading, *The First America: The Spanish Monarchy, Creole patriots, and the Liberal state, 1492-1867* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1991), pp. 102-127. (e-reserves)
- Matthew Restall, "The Telling of Tales: A Spanish Priest and His Maya Parishioners (Yucatán, 1573-90)," in Richard Boyer and Geoffrey Spurling, eds., *Colonial Lives: Documents on Latin American History, 1550-1850* (Oxford, 2000), pp. 18-31. (e-reserves)
- J. Michael Francis, "Language and the 'True Conversion' to the Holy Faith: A Document from the Archivium Romanum Societatis Iesu, Rome, Italy," *The Americas* 62:5 (January 2006), 445-453. (e-journals, Project MUSE/Standard Collection)

European Disease and Native Responses

W, 10-7: Demographic Disaster and Indigenous Responses, Mesoamerica

F, 10-9: Demographic Disaster and Indigenous Responses, South America

M, 10-12: DISCUSSION

- **READING:** *Latin America and Its People*, pp. 144-155.
- Rolena Adorno, "Felipe Guaman Poma de Ayala: Native Writer and Litigant in Early Colonial Peru," *The Human Tradition*, pp. 140-163.
- Susan E. Ramírez, "Don Melchior Caruarayco: A Kuraka of Cajamarca in Sixteenth-Century Peru," *The Human Tradition*, pp. 22-34.
- Steve J. Stern, *Peru's Indian Peoples and the Challenge of Spanish Conquest: Huamanga to 1640* (Madison, WI: University of Wisconsin Press, 1982), pp. 51-71. (e-reserves)

Economic Development at What Cost?

W, 10-14: Knee Deep in Mercury – Profit and Peril in the Silver Mines

F, 10-16: African Slavery Revisited – The Plantation Complex in Brazil and the Caribbean

M, 10-19: No class meeting

W, 10-21: Great Estates – The Colonial Hacienda

M, 10-26: View film "Quilombo"

W, 10-28: View film "Quilombo"

F, 10-30: DISCUSSION

- **READING:** *Latin America and Its People*, pp. 110-143.
- Mary Karasch, "Zumbi of Palmares: Challenging the Portuguese Colonial Order," *The Human Tradition*, pp. 104-120.
- Jane Landers, "Felipe Edimboro Sues for Manumission, Don Francisco Xavier Sánchez Contests," *Colonial Lives*, pp. 249-268. (e-reserves)
- Kris Lane, "Africans and Natives in the Mines of Spanish America," in Matthew Restall, ed., *Beyond Black and Red: African-Native Relations in Colonial Latin America* (Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 2005), pp. 159-184. (e-reserves)

Daily Life and Culture – European Import or 'Merican Made?

M, 11-2: Race in Colonial Latin America

W, 11-4: Baroque Style and the Notion of "Honor"

F, 11-6: DISCUSSION

- **READING:** *Latin America and Its People*, pp. 177-211.
- Sonya Lipsett-Rivera, "Scandal at the Church: José de Alfaro Accuses Doña Theresa Bravo and Others of Insulting and Beating His Castiza Wife, Josefa Cadena," in Boyer and Spurling, *Colonial Lives*, pp. 216-223. (e-reserves)
- Sergio Rivera Ayala, "Dance of the People: The Chuchumbé," in Boyer and Spurling, *Colonial Lives*, pp. 178-184. (e-reserves)
- Ann Twinam, "Pedro de Ayarza: The Purchase of Whiteness," *The Human Tradition*, pp. 194-210.

The Empire Strikes Back, At Least for a While...The Bourbon Reforms and Social Change in the Late 1700s

M, 11-9: Charles III and the Bourbon Reforms

W, 11-11: Indian Uprisings in the 18th Century

F, 11-13: Development along the Colonial Periphery

M, 11-16: Military Reform and Mulatto Militias

W, 11-18: DISCUSSION

- **READING:** *Latin America and Its People*, pp. 212-244.
- **Christiana Borchart de Moreno**, "Victorina Loza: Quiteña Merchant in the Second Half of the Eighteenth Century," *The Human Tradition*, pp. 211-228.
- **Susan Schroeder**, "Introduction," in Schroeder, ed., *Native Resistance and the Pax Colonial in New Spain* (Lincoln, NE: University of Nebraska Press, 1998), pp. xi-xxiii. (e-reserves)
- **Ward Stavig**, "Eugenio Sinanyuca: Militant, Nonrevolutionary Kuraka, and Community Defender," *The Human Tradition*, pp. 241-258.

Regional Variations on Independence

F, 11-20: Mexico and Central America

M, 11-23: South America

W, 11-25: No class meeting

F, 11-27: No class meeting

M, 11-30: Business As Usual in Brazil/DISCUSSION

- **READING:** *Latin America and Its People*, pp. 245-273.
- **Peter Blanchard**, "Miguel García: Black Soldier in the Wars of Independence," *The Human Tradition*, pp. 278-292.
- **Virginia Guedea**, "José Nemesio Vázquez: An Insurgent Courier, 1812-1816," in Christon I. Archer, *The Wars of Independence in Spanish America* (Scholarly Resources, 2000), pp. 75-86. (e-reserves)
- **Camilla Townsend**, "Angela Batallas: A Fight for Freedom in Guayaquil," *The Human Tradition*, pp. 293-307.

F, 12-4: Final exam due by Noon to Brock 408B