

HIST 2661, Spring 2021
 TR 10:10am-11:25am
 Office: 903 Milstein
 Phone: 212-854-5097

José C. Moya
 Off. Hours:
 TR 11:30-Noon, W 4-5pm
 jmoya@Barnard.edu

LATIN AMERICA CIVILIZATION II

This course surveys the history of Latin America over the last two centuries. After a general introduction and overview of the region's colonial background, the first chronological section of the course examines the independence movements (circa 1810-1825) that led to emancipation from Spain and Portugal. Next, we will discuss the aftermath of those wars, a time of political chaos and economic stagnation (c. 1820s-1860s), and the succeeding period (1870-1930) characterized by accelerated nation-building, globalization, economic growth, and social inequality. The next section (1930-present) examines the emergence of political populism, economic nationalism, socialist regimes, Cold War politics, and political, socioeconomic, and cultural trends since 1990. Although the course is organized chronologically, themes related to political formation, economic development, social welfare, race, and migration will be stressed.

The overall goals of the class are 1-to familiarize you with Latin America's cultural diversity, commonalities, and historical development—often in a global perspective; 2-to examine the broader, and ongoing, twin processes of modernization and globalization, their promises, contradictions, and accomplishments; and 3-to explore the uses of history as critical social analysis rather than a record of events.

Readings: Material for the course are posted on Canvas under “Files.” The readings are in folders for each week and numbered to indicate if you are supposed to do the reading for the first (Tuesday's) or second (Thursday's) lecture of that week. For example, in folder Readings Week 04, files 04-1a, b, and c are for Tuesday's lecture and 04-2a for Thursday's.

Grading

A midterm in-class examination consisting of 100 multiple choice and map questions will account for 25% of the final grade; a 5-7 page paper on a topic related to the class, selected in consultation with professor or TAs, for 25%; an in-class final examination consisting of short questions and an essay will account for 30%; and participation in discussion sessions for 20%. Much of the material for the examinations will come from lecture so attendance is recommended.

Grade Scale: Examinations and the paper will be graded numerically. Below are the letter equivalents

97-100	A+		87-89	B+		77-79	C+		67-69	D+		59-0	F
93-96	A		83-86	B		73-76	C		63-66	D			
90-92	A-		80-82	B-		70-72	C-		60-62	D-			

SCHEDULE OF CLASS MEETINGS:

Date	Topic
Week 1	
Jan. 12	Latin America's Distinctive Historical Characteristics in a Global Perspective
Jan. 14	Latin America's Distinctive Historical Characteristics in a Global Perspective
Week 2	
Jan. 19	The Colonial Background
Jan. 21	Prelude to Independence: The Bourbon Reforms
Week 3	INDEPENDENCE, 1810-1824
Jan. 26	Argentina, Uruguay, and Paraguay

Jan. 28	The Jewels in the Crown: Mexico and Peru
Week 4	
Feb. 2	Venezuela: A violent struggle & Brazil: A smooth shift from colony to monarchy
Feb. 4	The Meaning of Independence
Week 5	THE AFTERMATH OF INDEPENDENCE, 1824-1870
Feb. 9	Mexico: Chaos from Empire to Empire
Feb. 11	Chile: An Oasis of Order
Week 6	
Feb. 16	African slavery: Cuba, Brazil, and beyond
Feb. 18	African slavery: Cuba, Brazil, and beyond
Week 7	NATION STATE FORMATION & GLOBAL INTEGRATION, 1870-1930
Feb. 23	Globalization & the Atlantic World, 1870-1914
Feb. 25	European Immigration
Week 8	
March 2	SPRING BREAK
March 4	SPRING BREAK
Week 9	
March 9	Argentina and Uruguay
March 11	MIDTERM EXAM
Week 10	
March 16	Brazil and Chile, 1870-1930
March 18	Mexico: the Porfiriato and the Revolution
Week 11	
March 23	The Economic Consequences of Modernization: Dependency and/or Growth?
March 25	The Social and Cultural Consequences of Modernization
Week 12	POPULISM, SOCIALISM, POST COLD WAR, 1930-PRESENT
March 30	Populist regimes, 1930s to 1950s
April 1	Mid-Century Cultural Nationalism in Arts, Architecture, and Music
Week 13	
April 6	The Cuban Revolution and the Cold War in the Americas
April 8	Socialism Persists and Neo-Liberalism Surges, 1990s
Week 14	
April 13	Beyond Politics: Migration, Gender, Sexuality & Popular Culture
April 15	Latin America Today in a Global Perspective
April 29	Thursday, 9-noon FINAL EXAM PROJECTED