

HISTORY 524
HISTORY OF MEXICO
(CESD)

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Fall of 2006
Office Hours: MW 11-12,
or by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Students will examine selected themes in Mexican politics, economics, and culture from the Spanish conquest in 1521 to the present. Initially, we will focus on the blending of Spanish and Indian civilizations and the emergence of a Mexican identity from its colonial period. Students will then explore the process of nation-building after independence in the 19th century, and assess agrarian conflict and revolution in the 20th century. The state's ascent as the dominant force in society, the peculiar nature of Mexico's "one party democracy," and the exhaustion of such a system by the year 2000, are the main themes in the second half of the course.

GRADING

Class participation will take the form of structured discussions. Students will be expected to sign up for a discussion team and to prepare an individual position paper (3-4 pages) which will be presented in class. Instructions about discussion topics, materials, and the formation of teams will be given during the second week of class. The final grade will be based on the following:

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|--------------------------------------|-----|
| - A mid-term on October 25 | 20% |
| - A position paper and participation | 15% |
| - A 10 page term paper due on Nov.27 | 40% |
| - A final exam on Dec. 20 | 25% |

Please note that if, for any reason, you have to withdraw from the course, it is the student's responsibility to initiate the paper work. I will not initiate petitions for withdrawal.

LECTURE TOPICS

DATE	TOPIC	READING	ASSIGNMENT
Aug. 30, Sep. 1	Course introduction. Mexico hoy.		Bernal Díaz, pp.7-84.
Sep. 4	Labor day Observed. No class		
Sep.6-13	<i>Mexico Antiguo</i> -The roots of the nation. -The Valley of <i>Anáhuac</i> .		Meyer, 1-5; Bernal Díaz, pp. 85-244.
Sep.15-22	The Spanish Conquest. -Iberian expansion in the 15th and 16th centuries. -The fall of <i>Mexico-Tenochtitlan</i> .		Meyer, 6-8; Bernal Díaz, pp. 245-413.
Sep.25- Oct. 2	The Viceroyalty of New Spain. - <i>Encomienda</i> and <i>Repartimiento</i> . -Sevilla and the Atlantic. -Colonial society: Church and Gender.		Meyer, 9-15. Sor Juana.
Oct.4-11	Independence and Nationhood. -The Hidalgo revolt. -The loss of Texas - <i>Maximiliano y Carlota</i> .		Meyer, 16-25;
Oct. 6	TERM PAPER OUTLINES DUE. Selection of text/author.		
Oct. 13,16	Pofirian Mexico. -Positivism, order, and Modernization. -The hacienda and the village.		Meyer, 26-31; Zea; Reyes Heroles.
Oct.18-23	A revolution from above? -The Madero insurrection. -Zapata and Villa. -The meaning of the Rev.		Azuela; Meyer, 32-35.
Oct. 25 Oct. 27,30	MIDTERM EXAM. Forging a new order, 1917-1940. -Cultural renaissance. -Political reform under Cárdenas. -The Revolution institutionalized.		Meyer, 36-39; Knight.

- Nov. 1,3 Rural society.
 -The *campesinos*: the forgotten
 sons of the Revolution. Riding, 9,10.
 -The Indian communities.
- Nov.6,8 Development and
 underdevelopment Meyer, 40-42;
 -Industrialization. Riding 13.
 -Urbanization: Mexico City.
- Nov. 10 Veteran's day Observed. No class.
- Nov.13-17 The 1968 student movement. Meyer, 43,44
 -The end of the "Mexican Riding, 6-8.
 Miracle"
 -Political reform.
 -The oil boom.
- Nov.20-24 **Thanksgiving recess.**
- Nov. 27 **TERM PAPERS DUE.**
- Nov.27-
 Dec. 4 The political transformations Meyer, 45;
 of the 1990s. Riding,4,5;
 -The PRI: Democracy Mexican style. Russell.
 -Salinas de Gortari
 -The neo-Cardenista movement.
- Dec.6-11 Mexico and the world. Riding,16-17;
 -NAFTA.Relations with the U.S. Cárdenas;Paz;
 -Mexican foreign policy in Meyer, 46.
 Central America.
- Dec. 13,15 Which way Mexico? Russell, 9;
 -North or South? Krauze.
 -The Zapatista Insurrection Gillermoprieto.
 -The 2006 presidential
 election.
- Dec. 20 **FINAL EXAM**

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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- Cruz, Sor Juana Inés de la, Poems, Protest and a Dream. New York: Penguin Books, 1997.
- Díaz del Castillo, Bernal, The Conquest of New Spain. New York: Penguin Books, 1987.
- *Guillermoprieto, Alma, "Zapata's Heirs," in The New Yorker, May 16, 1994.
- *Guillermoprieto, Alma, "The Only Way to Win?," The New Yorker, Aug. 15, 1994.
- *Krauze, Enrique, "Pri-occupied," in The New Republic, April 25, 1994.
- *Knight, Alan, "Racism, Revolution, and Indigenismo: Mexico, 1910-1940," in Richard Graham (ed.), The Idea of Race in Latin America, 1870-1940, Austin: University of Texas Press, 1990.
- Meyer, Michael C., and William L. Sherman, The Course of Mexican History, York: Oxford U.P. 1984.
- *Paz, Octavio, "Mexico and the United States: Positions and Counterpositions," in Tommie Sue Montgomery (ed.), Mexico Today, Philadelphia: Institute for the Study of Human Issues, 1985.
- *Reyes Heróles, Jesús, "El liberalismo mexicano," in Ramón Eduardo Ruiz, ed., Interpreting Latin American History, New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, Inc. 1970.
- Preston, Julia and Samuel Dillon, Opening Mexico. The Making of a Democracy, New York: Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2006.
- Riding, Alan, Distant Neighbors, New York: Vintage Books, 1986.
- Russell, Philip L., Mexico Under Salinas, Austin: Mexico Resource Center, 1994.
- *Zea, Leopoldo, "Positivism", in Ramón Eduardo Ruiz, ed., Interpreting... 1970.
- *Electronic reserves:** www.eres.sfsu.edu
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