

**SAN FRANCISCO STATE UNIVERSITY  
History Department History 500  
COLONIAL LATIN AMERICA**

Prof. Julyana Peard  
Fall 2007 T-Th 14:10 -15:25  
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The purpose of this course is to introduce the student to the history of colonial Latin America from around 1492 through the European conquest, the creation of new empires, and the subsequent fall of the latter in the first two decades of the 19th century. The course explores the connections of past and present in the American world that the Iberians wrought. A central theme is the way in which resilient native cultures molded, mediated and refracted this new world, creating a hybrid colonial order. The course will consist of lectures, discussions, and a few films. You **MUST** come to class having read the required readings.

This course fulfills the requirement for GE Segment III cluster entitled, Latin America: Society and Culture (provided you complete all the cluster requirements).

There are two required books:

1. **Benjamin Keen and Keith Haynes**, *A History of Latin America*, Vol I
2. **Stuart Schwartz**, ed., *Victors and Vanquished: Spanish and Nahua Views* (An attempt to approach the Conquest of Mexico from various perspectives.)
3. An electronic **Reader**. (Password given in class)

The following journals may be helpful:

Hispanic American Historical Review  
Latin American Research Review  
Journal of Latin American Studies  
Colonial Latin American Review

And the following general surveys of Colonial Latin America:

J. Lockhart & S. Schwartz. *Early Latin America*  
Lyle N. McAlister, *Spain and Portugal in the New World, 1492-1700*  
Mark A. Burkholder & Lyman L. Johnson, *Colonial Latin America*  
Peter Bakewell, *A History of Latin America*.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

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|---|------------|
| 1. <b>In-class midterm: Thursday, Nov. 1</b>                    | <b>20%</b> |
| 2. <b>Take-home final exam (essays): noon, Tuesday, Dec. 18</b> | <b>30%</b> |
| 3. <b>In-class quizzes</b>                                      | <b>20%</b> |
| 4. <b>Term paper: Thursday, Dec. 13</b>                         | <b>20%</b> |
| 5. <b>Class attendance and participation.</b>                   | <b>10%</b> |

**SYLLABUS**

**Week 1: Aug 28-30**

-Introduction  
-From **Reader on e-reserve**: "Introduction, Holmberg's Mistake,"  
"Amazonia," selections from Charles C. Mann, *1491: New Revelations of the Americas Before Columbus* (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2005)

## I. ON THE EVE OF CONQUEST

### Week 2: Sept 4-6

#### The Pre-Columbian background:

- K&H, Chap 1, 1-27
- Film: “**Out of the Past: Realms**” (#86096)

### Week 3: Sept 11-13

- K&H, Chap 1, 27-35
- Film: “**Incas**” (88199)

## II. CONQUEST AND RESISTANCE

### Week 4: Sept 18-20

#### The Iberian background:

##### Quiz Chap 1

- K&H, Chap 2, 35-50
- Film: “**Columbus’ World**” (#84853)

### Week 5: Sept 25-27

#### Conquest, first approaches:

##### Quiz Chap 2

- K&H, Chap 3, 51-65
- K&H, Chap 3, 65-74
- (If time: Film: “**Conflict of the Gods**” (#84305))

### Week 6: Oct 2-4

#### The conquest of the Aztecs:

##### Quiz Chap 3

- Schwartz, *Victors and Vanquished*, 29-78
- Schwartz, *Victors and Vanquished*, 79-126

### Week 7: Oct 9-11

#### Continued:

- Schwartz, *Victors and Vanquished*, 127-221
- Schwartz, *Victors and Vanquished*, 221-243

### Week 8: Oct 16-18

#### Biological consequences:

- Population collapse
- Reader:** “A Pest in the Land;” “Born to Die;” “The Columbian Exchange.”
- Film: “**The Columbian Exchange**” (#84858)

### Week 9: Oct 23-25

#### Where we are so far:

- Discussion and review
- In-class midterm

### III. GOVERNING

#### Week 10: Oct 30-Nov 1

##### **Early colonial economy:**

- K&H, Chap 4, 75-82
- K&H, Chap 4, 82-94

#### Week 11: Nov 6-8

##### **Institutions of empire: State and Church**

###### Quiz Chap 4

- K&H, Chap 5, 95-100 (State)
- Reader:** "Francisco de Toledo" in K. Andrien, *Andean Worlds*, 49-66
- K&H, Chap 5, 100-117 (Church); **Reader:** "Spiritual Conquest" in A. Knight, *Mexico: Colonial Era*, 31-52

### IV. MATURE COLONIAL ECONOMY

#### Week 12: Nov 13-15

##### **Silver and imperial linkages:**

###### Quiz Chap 5

- Reader,** "Mining," by P. Bakewell in *Colonial Spanish America*, ed., Leslie Bethell, 203-249
- Reader,** "The Colonial Socioeconomic Order," in Andrien, *Andean Worlds*, 73-95

#### Thanksgiving Break November 20-25

#### Week 13: Nov 27-29

##### **Land and labor; hacienda and village:**

- Reader,** "Excerpts on the Hacienda," A. Knight, *Mexico: Colonial Era*, 28-31, 72-102, 150-172
- The Seventeenth Century: A looser grip? K&H, 88-90

### V. MATURE COLONIES and DISINTEGRATION

#### Week 14: Dec 4-6

##### **Bourbon Reforms**

- K&H, Chap 7, 131- 143
- K&H, Chap 7, 143-156
- Film: "Americas: Age of Gold" (84306)

#### Week 15: Dec 11-13

##### **Independence:**

###### Quiz Chap 7

- K&H, Chap 8, 157-176
- Hand in paper.**

**Final Examination: Hand in Tuesday December 18, at noon**