HISTORY 333: Repression, Resistance and Reform: The Shaping of Contemporary Latin America

- Spring Semester 2007, MWF at 10 AM
- Department of History, Ohio Wesleyan University
- Jeremy Baskes, Elliott Hall, ext. 3638
- Office Hours: Just stop by or call

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course investigates dominant trends in Latin American history from Independence to the Present.

BOOKS REQUIRED FOR THIS COURSE: The student is required to obtain and read the following books.


COURSE REQUIREMENTS:
- Examinations: There will be a midterm and a final. The midterm will cover all materials preceding the date of the exam. The final exam will be comprehensive---it will cover materials from the entire course. Consult the syllabus for the date of the midterm. The final examination will take place at the time determined by the Registrar.

- Book Essays: 3 Book Essays: Each student will be required to prepare 1000 word (4 pages) essays on 3 of the 6 books (Slatta, Beezley, Levine, Immerman, Timerman & Rosenberg) read during the semester. Due dates are specified in the syllabus. See attached guidelines for further details. Due dates for all of the papers are as indicated in the syllabus.

OTHER MATTERS:
- Late Papers: Papers submitted late will be penalized one full grade per day. (from A to B, for example). Papers are due IN CLASS. Anything handed in after class starts is late.

- Plagiarism: Students caught plagiarizing will be failed for the course and reported to the Dean of Academic Affairs.

- Class Participation: Attendance is mandatory but not sufficient. Participation is expected.

GRADES: Final grades will be determined as follows:

- Participation & Attendance 10%
- Exam #1 20%
- Book Essay #1 15%
- Book Essay #2 15%
- Book Essay #3 15%
- Final examination 25%
WEEKLY READING ASSIGNMENTS:

WEEK 1: (Monday 1/15) Independence and the Colonial Legacy

Introduction. No reading.

WEEK 2: (Monday 1/22) Age of Caudillos & the Struggles of Nation Building


WEEK 3: (Monday 1/29) Everyday Life in the 19th Century

Slatta, *Gauchos and the Vanishing Frontier*. ch. 6-11.

WEEK 4: (Monday 2/5) The Age of Export Expansion and Oligarchic Rule

Essay on Slatta due in class on Monday.


WEEK 5: (Monday 2/12) Modernity Clashes with Tradition - Mexican Revolution


Essay on Beezley due in class on Friday.

WEEK 6: (Monday 2/19) End of an Era? The Great Depression and the Crisis of the Oligarchy

Levine, *Father of the Poor*, 1-74.

WEEK 7: (Monday 2/26) The Working Class and the Rise of Populism - Brazil

Levine, *Father of the Poor*, 75-138.

Essay on Levine due in class on Friday.

WEEK 8: (Monday 3/5) EXAM WEEK

Essay on Slatta due in class on Monday. Essay on Beezley due in class on Friday.

Required lecture "Latin America, the United States, and the Rise of the New Imperialism" Tuesday, March 6, 2007 at 7PM in Conrades-Wetherell Science Center 163

Exam on Friday & No new Readings.

SPRING BREAK

WEEK 9: (Monday 3/19) The United States and Latin America

Immerman, *The CIA in Guatemala*, ch. 1-4, pp. 3-100.
WEEK 10: (Monday 3/26) Post WWII Reformers: Bolivia & Guatemala
Immerman, *The CIA in Guatemala*, ch. 5-8, pp. 101-201.

WEEK 11: (Monday 4/2) The Cuban Revolution
Essay on Immerman due in class on Monday.

WEEK 12: (Monday 4/9) Augusto Pinochet and the Overthrow of Chilean Democracy
Timerman, *Prisoner Without a Name, Cell Without a Number*, begin book.

WEEK 13: (Monday 4/16) The Dirty Wars in South America
Timerman, *Prisoner Without a Name, Cell Without a Number*, Finish book.
Essay on Timerman, due in class on Friday

WEEK 14: (Monday 4/23) Central America in the 1980s

WEEK 15: (Monday 4/30) Latin America Today
Essay on Rosenberg, due in class on Wednesday.
Three Book Essays

During the semester, you will write 1000 word (4 pages) essays discussing three of the following required books, 1) Slatta, *Gauchos and the Vanishing Frontier*; 2) Beezley, *Judas at the Jockey Club*; 3) Levine, *Father of the Poor?*; 4) Immerman, *CIA in Guatemala*; 5) Timerman, *Prisoner Without a Name*; 6) Rosenberg, *Children of Cain*.

To help guide you, I have provided questions for you to address. All essays should directly address the question below and be written clearly and cohesively. State your “thesis” (what you consider to be the answer to the question) in the opening paragraph. The rest of the paper should develop your thesis providing evidence from the book. Be sure to cite the location of your evidence, whether direct quotations or merely factual references. Direct quotations are effective and encouraged but should be kept brief, a sentence or two at the longest. Your concluding paragraph should reiterate your thesis and make a general statement about the book’s treatment of the issue.

1) Essay on Slatta, *Gauchos and the Vanishing Frontier*.

   Why were Gauchos marginalized over the course of the nineteenth century? What factors (economic, political, social, legal or cultural) led to the decline of the Gaucho way of life?


   What does the author mean by the “Porfirian Persuasion?” Are you convinced by his argument?

3) Essay on Levine, *Father of the Poor*?

   Is it accurate to portray Getulio Vargas as “father of the poor?” Was he a sincere reformer or a crafty politician?


   Why did the United States invade Guatemala? Was the US justified in its intervention?

5) Essay on Timerman, *Prisoner Without a Name*.

   According to Timerman, what were the motivations and objectives of the Argentine military regime?

6) Essay on Rosenberg, *Children of Cain*.

   What factors have contributed to the excessive violence in Latin America as portrayed by Rosenberg (you should limit your discussion to the chapters read in class)?
Learn the Map of Latin America. It will appear on tests.