

**University of Arkansas - Fort Smith**  
**5210 Grand Avenue**  
**P. O. Box 3649**  
**Fort Smith, AR 72913-3649**  
**479-788-7000**

**General Syllabus**

**HIST 3493: Colonial Latin America**

Credit Hours: 3      Lecture Hours: 3      Laboratory or other types of Hours: 0

Prerequisite(s): HIST 1123 or HIST 1133 or the consent of the instructor.

Effective Catalog:

**I. Course Information**

**A. Catalog Description**

The political, economic, social, and cultural formation of Latin America. This course examines Indigenous civilizations, the European discovery and conquest of the Americas, the development of colonial society, violent conflicts, and cross-cultural accommodation. The course places particular emphasis on the ways in which Indigenous, African, and European cultures shaped Latin America.

**II. Student Learning Outcomes**

**A. Subject Matter**

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Identify and evaluate the issues and institutions that shaped the development of Latin America, from before 1492 until 1808.
2. Apply the analytical skills needed in recovering, researching, and writing about the history of Latin America before 1808.
3. Understand the complexity of both change and continuity over time in the history of Latin America.
4. Formulate informed conclusions and judgments about the events and people that shaped Latin America before 1808.

**B. University Learning Outcomes (ULO)**

This course enhances student abilities in the following areas:

**Communication Skills (written and oral)**

Students will complete book reviews and other written assignments testing their knowledge of Latin American history. Students will also discuss interpretations and explanations of historical evidence in class.

**Analytical Skills****Critical Thinking Skills**

Students will consult both primary and secondary sources to write a final paper. Students will be required to reach their own conclusions regarding historical evidence and to support those conclusions through well-constructed arguments.

**Global and Cultural Perspectives**

Students will gain a greater appreciation for the many cultures and traditions in Latin America. Students will be able to identify and explain the roles of Indigenous, European, and African cultures and traditions in shaping colonial Latin American societies.

**III. Major Course Topics**

- A. Pre-Columbian Societies
- B. 1492
- C. Cortés and the Nahua
- D. Pizarro and the Inca
- E. Indigenous Conquistadors
- F. Opposing the Conquest
- G. Unfree Labor
- H. Religion in Colonial Latin America
- I. After the Spanish Century
- J. Trade and Commerce
- K. Class, Caste, and Race in Colonial Latin America
- L. The Bourbon Reforms
- M. The Revolutionary Atlantic