

University of Arkansas - Fort Smith
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General Syllabus

HIST 3503 Modern Latin America

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

Prerequisite(s): None

Effective Catalog: 2023

I. Course Information

A. Catalog Description

Formation of the Latin American countries stressing political, economic, social, and cultural factors, as well as the role of Latin America in world affairs.

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 since 1800.
2. Use the analytical skills needed in recovering, researching, and writing about the history of Latin America since 1800.
3. Develop an appreciation for 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 since 1800.

B. University Learning Outcomes

This course enhances student abilities in the following areas:

Communication Skills (written and oral)

Students will complete book reviews and essay examinations 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 synthesize materials from various sources to complete book reviews and construct answers to essay examinations. 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 wealth of cultures and traditions in Latin America. Students will be able to identify and explain the roles of native, Spanish, and African cultures and traditions in shaping contemporary Latin American societies.

III. Major Course Topics

- A. Spanish domination
- B. Wars for independence
- C. Trade and commerce
- D. The Catholic Church in Latin America
- E. Spanish-American War
- F. Roosevelt Corollary and American Intervention
- G. Industrialization
- H. Communism and Latin America
- I. Contemporary Latin America