

**University of Arkansas - Fort Smith**

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**General Syllabus**

**SPAN 3103 Culture and Civilizations: Latin America**

Credit Hours: 3

Lecture Hours: 3

Laboratory Hours: 0

Prerequisite: SPAN 3063 Advanced Composition

Effective Catalog: 2023-2024

**I. Course Information**

**A. Catalog Description**

This interdisciplinary course explores the history, culture, customs, geography, and art of the Americas. This course is conducted in Spanish.

**B. Additional Information**

What do we mean when we talk about the culture and civilizations of the Americas? Through a selection of written texts, music, and art, students will delve into the culture and civilizations of Latin America, improving their reading, speaking, and writing skills while developing critical thinking.

**II. Student Learning Outcomes**

**A. Subject Matter**

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

1. Apply the Spanish language effectively in written, interpersonal and presentational communication.
2. Compare and contrast the ancient civilizations of Spanish America.
3. Explain the impact of colonization on Latin America.
4. Analyze texts, music, and art within their historical, social, political, and cultural spheres.
5. Conduct research and cite secondary sources using MLA standards.

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

This course enhances student abilities in the following areas:

**Global and Cultural Perspectives**

Students will be able to reflect upon cultural differences and their implications for interacting with people from cultures other than their own. They will be

able to demonstrate the understanding of application of their discipline in a global environment. Students will be able to demonstrate how their discipline impacts or is impacted by those of different cultures.

**Communication Skills (written and oral)**

Students will communicate proficiently. They will be able to communicate effectively with a variety of audiences in any setting, as well as compose coherent documents appropriate to the intended audience. They will be able to effectively communicate orally in a public setting.

**Analytical Skills**

**Critical Thinking Skills**

Students will draw conclusions and/or solve problems. They will be able to access and evaluate appropriate information through written and electronic means and to think critically to reach viable solutions to a problem and be able to justify those solutions.

**III. Major Course Topics**

- A. Unity of the Spanish American World
- B. American Indian Voices: Maya, Nahua, Quechua
- C. European Voices and Colonization
- D. Cultural Emancipation/After Independence  
Assimilation and Difference (1976-to the present)