

## Historiography of Latin America, Modern Period

History G8664  
Spring 2007  
Monday 11:00am-12:50pm  
IAB 802

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This graduate colloquium will introduce students to the literature of modern Latin American history, discussing both recent and early books. Readings will include examples of the most important areas of research in the region, with an emphasis on the diversity of approaches that has characterized the historiography on post-independence Latin America in the last twenty years, from political history to studies of culture and economic development. Topics will include republicanism and the formation of nation states, peasant societies, social movements, gender, populism and new political languages and identities in the twentieth century.

For each week, one student will be assigned to prepare four or five discussion questions for the class. These should be sent to participants and the instructor at least one day before the class meeting. In addition, each student will write a 20-page historiographical essay examining the literature on a problem or question in Latin American history. The paper is due at the final class meeting.

The paper's topic will be defined as the course proceeds. It will be based in the first instance on books discussed in class plus additional works on the subject.

### Jan. 26. **1. Introduction**

### Feb 2. **2. Modern Latin America: Syntheses**

Rama, *The Lettered City*.

Additional readings:

Halperín Donghi, *The Contemporary History of Latin America; Cycles of Conflict*.

### Feb. 9. **3. Independence as social movements**

Van Young, *The Other Rebellion*.

Additional readings:

Alan Knight, Eric Van Young, debate in *Historia Mexicana*, vol. LIV núm. 2

(<http://revistas.colmex.mx/?BUSCAR=1111&numero=1114&scope=13>); Halperín Donghi, *Revolución y guerra*.

### Feb. 16. **4. Independence as intellectual process**

Guerra, *Modernidad e independencias*.

Additional readings:

Myers, *Orden y virtud*; Rojas, *La escritura*; Palti, *La invención de una legitimidad*.

### Feb. 23. **5. Republicanism as cultural change**

Chambers, *From Subjects to Citizens*.

Additional readings:

McEvoy, *La utopía republicana*.

### Mar. 2. **6. Imagined communities, race and nation**

Lasso, *Myths of Harmony*.

Additional readings:

Guardino, *The Time of Liberty*; Guardino, *Peasants, Politics*; Walker, *Smoldering Ashes*.

### Mar. 9. **7. Indigenous populations and nation building**

Mallon, *The Defense of Community*.

Additional readings:

Dawson, *Indian and Nation in Revolutionary Mexico*; Thurner, *From Two Republics*.

### Mar. 23. **8. National economies and global capitalism**

Adelman, *Republic of Capital*.

Additional readings:

Sábato, *Agrarian Capitalism*; Coatsworth, *Los orígenes del atraso*; Coatsworth, *Growth against Development*; Gootenberg, *Between Silver and Guano*.

Mar. 30. **9. Intellectual history.**

Hale, *Emilio Rabasa*.

Additional readings: Hale, *The Transformation of Liberalism*.

Apr. 6. **10. Revolution and peasant politics**

Womack Jr, *Zapata and the Mexican Revolution*.

Additional readings:

Katz, *The Life and Times of Pancho Villa*; Knight, *The Mexican Revolution*; Gilly, *La revolución interrumpida*.

Apr. 13. **11. Dictatorship, populism and mass politics**

Turits, *Foundations of Despotism*.

Additional readings:

Plotkin, *Mañana es San Perón*; Levine, *Father of the poor?*

Apr. 20. **12. Labor and class experience**

James, *Resistance and Integration*.

Additional readings: Weinstein, *For Social Peace in Brazil*; Klubock, *Contested Communities*; James, *Doña María's Story*.

Apr. 27. **13. Transnational perspectives on the Cold War**

Gleijeses, *Conflicting Missions*.

Additional readings:

Gleijeses, *Shattered Hope*.

May 4. **14. Transnational cultural exchanges**

Gilbert Joseph, *Fragments of a Golden Age*.

**Additional optional meetings:**

**15. Race, emancipation, citizenship**

Reis, *Death is a Festival*.

Additional readings:

Ferrer, *Insurgent Cuba*; Helg, *Our Rightful Share*; Scott, *Slave Emancipation in Cuba*

**16. Modernization, disorder and control**

Aguirre, *The Criminals of Lima*.

Additional readings:

Salvatore, *Wandering Paysanos*; Caimari, *Apenas un delincuente*; Piccato, *City of Suspects*; Salvatore, Aguirre and Joseph, *Crime and Punishment in Latin America*; Ruggiero, *Modernity in the Flesh*.

**Bibliography:**

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