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

Each week, one student will be assigned to introduce the reading and to prepare three or four key discussion questions for the class. These should be sent to the participants and the instructor at least one day prior to the class meeting. In addition, each student will write a 12-page historiographical essay examining the literature on a problem or question in Latin American history. The paper will be due at the final class meeting. Students can also participate in the course’s blog. The final grade will be based on the final essay but participation and presentations will count for up to twenty percent of the grade.

Paper topics will be defined as the course proceeds. They should be based on the books discussed in class plus additional works on the subject.

1. January 17

Defining Latin America


2. January 24

National economies and global capitalism

Other readings:
Mallon, The Defense of Community; Sábato, Agrarian Capitalism; Coatsworth, Los orígenes del atraso; Coatsworth, Growth against Development; Coatsworth, Taylor, Latin America and the World Economy; Gootenberg, Between Silver and Guano.

3. January 31

The intellectual process of nation building


Other readings:
Guerra, Modernidad e independencias; Rojas, La escritura; Palti, La invención de una legitimidad.

4. February 7

Slavery, rebellion


Other readings:
Reis, Death is a Festival; Scott, Slave Emancipation in Cuba

5. February 14

Cities, informality, rights


Other readings:
Fischer, A Poverty of Rights.

6. February 21
Sex, gender, and the night


Other readings:
Rago, Margareth. *Os Prazeres da Noite*.

7. February 28

Class, family, paternity

Nara Milanich, forthcoming book manuscript.

Other readings:
Milanich, *Children of Fate*; Isabella Cosse, *Pareja, sexualidad y familia*.

8. March 7

Popular culture, masculinity


Other readings:

9. March 21

Revolution and peasant politics


Other readings:

10. March 28

Modernization, disorder and control

Other readings:

11. April 4

Labor, populism, and class experience


Other readings:
Plotkin, *Mañana es San Perón*.

12. April 11

Fascism and its aftermaths


Other readings:
Finchelstein, *Transatlantic Fascism*.

13. April 18

Drugs, science, commodities


Other readings:
Campos, *Home Grown*.

14. April 25
Violence as politics


Other readings:
Lindo-Fuentes, Remembering a Massacre; Vezzetti, Pasado y presente.

Optional reading:

Protest and culture


Other readings:
Craib, Cry of the Renegade.

Bibliography


Wright-Rios, Edward N. (Edward Newport). Searching for Madre Matiana: Prophecy and