

**History 3203 Colonial Latin America**  
**Fall Semester 2009**  
**University of Arkansas**

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Time: 2:00-3:20 T Th  
Classroom: 423 Old Main  
Office Hours: 12:30-1:30 T Th

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Course Description

This course is an introductory survey to the history of colonial Latin America. The course begins with a brief overview of major pre-Columbian civilizations and closes with the independence movements of the 1820s. Several important topical areas will be introduced and developed through the course including: conquest, assimilation and resistance, the economic, political, and cultural foundations of colonialism, slavery, religion and syncretism, and gender relations.

Required Books:

Burkholder and Johnson, *Colonial Latin America* (Oxford, 6<sup>th</sup> Edition)

Boyer and Spurling, *Colonial Lives* (Oxford, 2000)

Susan Socolow, *Women of Colonial Latin America* (Cambridge, 2000)

*Additional readings as assigned in daily schedule. Links and readings on blackboard site.*

Assignments:

Map Quiz	20
Exam 1	100
Exam 2	100
Film Essay	100
Critical Essay	100
Participation	<u>50</u>
Total	470

**Attendance and Participation.** Prompt and regular attendance is expected from every student. Participation is integral to your success in this course. Participation by all students also ensures a learning environment that is challenging and meaningful. Participation/attendance also represents a significant proportion of your grade and will be judged in terms of its quality rather than quantity.

**Classroom Etiquette.** All cell phone ringers must be turned off and phones stowed away during class. I do not tolerate texting in class and phones may not be visible during an exam. If you want to use a laptop in class, please use it for taking notes not surfing the internet or working on other coursework. Be courteous and arrive on time. In addition, be respectful of others' opinions and contributions in class discussions.

**Late Papers, Missed Exams etc.** All assigned work is due at the beginning of class on the due date. No late reading responses will be accepted. Late essays and other work will automatically be marked down 10% for each class period that passes. Students have two class periods to turn in work. Missed quizzes receive a zero. Excused absences at exam time will be allowed a make-up exam. No incompletes for the course will be given.

**Examinations and Quizzes.** There will be two examinations—one in class, one take home. Both exams will be comprised of essay questions. Materials for essays will come from lecture and readings. Pop-quizzes may be given at the instructor’s discretion. Therefore it is important to keep up on the reading assignments for the course.

**Grading.** Grades on essays will be based on the following criteria: 1) use of relevant class material (evidence); 2) expression of ideas in a clear, concise, and engaging prose (style); and 3) development of an argument or point of view that is pertinent to the issue at hand and has breadth, coherence, and insight (interpretation).

- A – excellent in all three areas. Offers an insightful argument based on solid, ample evidence
- B – good. Strong in all three areas or notable strengths in one balanced by weaknesses in another
- C – average. Adequate performance in one or more areas offset by serious weakness in others that leaves presentation fragmented, unclear, or narrow
- D – poor. Notable problems in all three areas. Remedial work need to improve substantive understanding or basic communication
- F – unacceptable. Serious flaws in all three areas. No evident engagement in assignment.

**Essays.** The first essay will be based on questions provided by the professor. Students will also write an essay based on “The Mission.” Both essays will be 4-5 pages in length, double-spaced, with title and page numbers. I will also provide a critical review of the film. These essays will be emailed to me before class begins on their due date. I will correct/edit them online and then return them to you with a grade.

**Class Participation.** The format of this course is lecture and discussion. This course requires regular and quality participation by all students. This means that students are advised to come to class prepared by reading the assignment for the day and ready to discuss the reading and or themes of the day from a critical and analytical perspective. Coming to class regularly is not enough to earn a good participation grade – you must actively and verbally participate! Attendance is also expected of every student.

**Discussion.** There are designated days for discussion listed in the daily schedule but I will also incorporate discussion into course meetings each week. For designated discussion days, I will sent out a list of prompts but I encourage students to pose their own questions for reflection and dialogue with the class.

### **Academic Dishonesty and Plagiarism**

- The University of Arkansas strives to be a center of academic excellence. As part of our Statement of Ethics, the University strives to preserve academic honor and integrity by repudiating all forms of academic and intellectual dishonesty, including cheating, plagiarism

and all other forms of academic dishonesty. Academic dishonesty is unacceptable and is subject to a disciplinary response.

- Students who are caught cheating or committing plagiarism may be given a failing grade in the course by the professor and may be subject to dismissal or further discipline.

- Plagiarism is often misunderstood. It can be defined as submitting someone else's work as your own. It is not permissible to "cut and paste" and then just cite another's work. In writing for homework or projects, you should read and learn, process through your mind, relate ideas, and then express what you learned in your own words. Cite the references where you found your information. If you do use someone else's words, you must use quotation marks and cite. You should not overuse quotes – save them for a rare occurrence.

*Any student in this course who has a disability that may prevent him/her from fully demonstrating his/her abilities should contact me personally as soon as possible so we can discuss accommodations necessary to ensure full participation and facilitate the educational opportunity.*

**Inclement weather policy:** If Fayetteville schools are closed for inclement weather, class is cancelled. Please check email because I live in rural Washington County and I may determine that the roads are not safe enough to travel.

**Daily Schedule:**

**Preconquest Americas & Spain**

Tuesday, 8/25: Introduction to class and Latin American geography

Thursday, 8/27: The Aztecs & their Antecedents  
Burkholder & Johnson, Chapter One

Tuesday, 9/1: The Inca  
[Chronicle of the Incas](#)

Thursday, 9/3: The Iberian World on the Eve of Conquest  
Socolow, 1-31  
**Map Quiz**

**Explorations, Encounters, & Conquest**

Tuesday, 9/8: Explorations and European Views of the New World  
Socolow, 32-51;

Thursday, 9/10: The Conquests of Mexico  
Burkholder & Johnson, Chapter Two

[Aztec Account of the Conquest; The Enigma of Aztec Sacrifice; Columbus' Letter to the King and Queen](#)

Tuesday, 9/15: The Conquest of Peru  
Socolow, 52-59; [Failing to Marvel](#)  
**Essay One Due (email it)**

Thursday, 9/17: **Class Discussion**

**The Imposition of Colonialism: Authority, Rule, and Labor**

Tuesday, 9/22: The Indian Question and Debates of “Just War”  
['Are These Not Also Men?', Las Casas' Destruction of the Indies](#)

Thursday, 9/24: The Columbian Exchange  
[The Columbian Exchange](#)

Tuesday, 9/29: Administration of the Colonies  
Burkholder & Johnson, Chapter Three

Thursday, 10/1: Labor Systems: Repartimiento, Mita, and Slavery  
Burkholder & Johnson, Chapter Four

Tuesday, 10/6: The Colonial Economy: Defense, Mining, Trade  
Burkholder & Johnson, Chapter Five

Thursday, 10/8: **Discussion**  
Boyer & Spurling, Chapter One  
Socolow, 60-89

Tuesday, 10/13: **Examination I (in class) (read Urrea reading for Thursday)**

Thursday, 10/15: Luis Urrea Visit – Meet in Giffels Auditorium, Old Main

**The Church, Evangelization, and Society**

Tuesday, 10/20: The Catholic Church in Colonial Latin America  
Burkholder & Johnson, Chapter Six  
Boyer & Spurling, Chapter Three

Thursday, 10/22: Women, the Church, and Sor Juana Ines de la Cruz  
Burkholder & Johnson, Chapter Seven  
Boyer & Spurling, Chapter Seven

Tuesday, 10/27: Honor and Shame in Society

Burkholder & Johnson, Chapter Eight  
[Siete Partidas](#), Boyer & Spurling, Chapter Nine

Thursday, 10/29: Race and Miscegenation in Colonial Society  
Boyer & Spurling, Chapters Eleven  
Socolow, 90-129

Tuesday, 11/3: **Discussion**  
Socolow, 130-164

### **Conflicts at the Local and Global Levels**

Thursday, 11/5: Rebellion in the Andes  
Boyer & Spurling, Chapter Sixteen

Tues-Thur,  
11/10-12: Film "The Mission;" [Critical Review](#)  
Burkholder & Johnson, Chapter Eight & Nine  
Boyer & Spurling, Chapter Twenty

Tuesday, 11/17: Buccaneers, Smuggling, and Foreign Interlopers  
Burkholder & Johnson, Chapter Ten

Thursday, 11/19: The Haitian Revolution & Its Impact on the Americas  
Boyer & Spurling, Chapters Fifteen & Eighteen  
**Film Essay due before beginning of class (email it)**

### **Late Colonial Society: Crisis and Collapse**

Tuesday, 11/24: NO CLASS

Tuesday, 12/1: The Bourbon Reforms & Creole Proto-nationalism  
Boyer & Spurling, Chapter Twenty Two  
Socolow, 165-199

Thursday, 12/3: The Independence of Latin America  
Boyer & Spurling, Chapter Twenty Three

Tuesday, 12/8: Course wrap-up & Discussion

**FINAL TAKE HOME EXAM IS DUE MONDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2009 BY 5:00 PM.  
Please email it to [ksloan@uark.edu](mailto:ksloan@uark.edu).**