

## **Introduction to Latin American Studies**

**Book: A History of Latin America, 9th Edition By Keen/Haynes. ISBN13: 978-1-133-05050-6**

### **Course Description:**

This course is an interdisciplinary introduction to the culture, history, and political economy of contemporary Latin America. It examines the history of colonialism and independence, values and social structures, political institutions, and economic relations in the region.

### **COURSE OBJECTIVES AND LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Students will study human history and culture to acquire the skills necessary to think critically, read at college level, analyze documents, and apply historical knowledge while writing logically sound explanations of past events.

- In this course students will be introduced to and master the following skill-sets:
- 1. Identify and analyze primary and secondary source materials.
- 2. Identify reliable sources and articulate why sources are reliable.
- 3. Construct valid written arguments that translate into a variety of genres.
- 4. Read critically for content comprehension and argument construction.
- 5. Demonstrate an ability to recognize valid cause and effect relationships and to create valid cause and effect relationships.

### **Course Expectations:**

Students are expected to read the Syllabus and ask any questions regarding class operations. All readings and other assignments are to be done individually unless otherwise noted; cheating of any kind can lead to expulsion from the class. Students will be expected to demonstrate independent and critical thinking skills as well as a mastery of concepts critical to understanding the multifaceted Latin American experience.

### **Course Format:**

This is a blended class comprised of both online and in-class components. I will lecture on course materials on Mondays and then will do one-on-one help and small group discussions on Wednesdays.

### **Learning Management System:**

We will be using **Canvas** for this class. You will access Canvas for the first time through Webcampus. Go to <https://webcampus.unlv.edu/>

### **Course work:**

Students are expected to turn all assignments in on or before the due dates. I will accept late assignments, but I will deduct points as a penalty for not meeting the due date deadline.

### **Assignments:**

8 Discussion Questions @ 50 Points Each = 400  
Points  
4 Short Papers @ 85 Points Each = 340 Points  
4 Paper Postings @ 5 Points Each = 20 Points  
12 Paper Responses @ 10 Points Each = 120  
Points  
Introduction: 20 points  
Attendance @ 100 points

**Total Points Possible:** 1000 (Your final grade will be your total points earned divided by 1000)

**Bonus 25 Points for completing all assignments**

**Attendance will be taken on Mondays.** Students may miss one Monday class without penalty. Subsequent absences beyond one will result in a deduction of 25 points per missed class.

**Disclaimer:**

I reserve the right to correct or change any part of the Syllabus and/or class assignments due to errors or unforeseen circumstances.

Week 1: Chapter 1	Week 9: Chapter 12
Week 2: Chapters 2 & 3	Week 10: Chapter 13
Week 3: Chapters 4 & 5	Week 11: Chapter 14
Week 4: Chapter 6	Week 12: Chapter 15
Week 5: Chapters 7 & 8	Week 13: Chapters 16 & 17
Week 6: Chapter 9	Week 14: Chapters 18 & 19
Week 7: Chapter 10	Week 15: Chapter 20
Week 8: Chapter 11	Week 16: Chapters 21 & 22

<b><u>Grading Scale</u></b>
<b>925 to 1000 = A</b>
<b>895 to 924 = A-</b>
<b>865 to 894 = B+</b>
<b>825 to 864 = B</b>
<b>795 to 824 = B-</b>
<b>765 to 794 = C+</b>
<b>725 to 764 = C</b>
<b>695 to 724 = C-</b>
<b>665 to 694 = D+</b>
<b>625 to 664 = D</b>
<b>595 to 624 = D-</b>
<b>0 to 594 = F</b>

## **GRADING**

I will grade each assignment based on four very important criteria.

- First, each assignment has very detailed instructions, so students must follow the instructions in their entirety to be eligible to receive the full points.
- Second, students are expected to demonstrate having read, listened to, and completed all the materials in each Module to receive the full points.
- Third, students must use appropriate grammar and spelling.

- Fourth, students must strive to use appropriate word usage.

## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

Odd numbered modules each contain two discussion questions; you will access the instructions by clicking on the discussion question title. Discussion questions will cover the in-class lectures and module materials. Discussion questions are in Modules One, Three, Five, and Seven.

## **PAPERS**

Over the course of the semester you will write 4 papers that cover different historical eras. Do not think of these as research papers; instead, think of them as creative writing assignments **based on historical facts**. Each paper must be in first person narrative format. Paper instructions are in Modules Two, Four, Six, and Eight.

## **POSTING AND RESPONDING TO PAPERS**

Each student will post his/her paper to the Discussion Board and then will read and respond to three other papers. Discussion Board instructions are in Modules Two, Four, Six, and Eight.

## **PLAGIARISM WARNING**

Students must complete all quizzes and other assignments individually. No assignment is to be done as a group effort.

- **Any student's assignment that matches another student's, is plagiarized from the textbook or internet, or is obviously not the student's work will be subject to the UNLV Student Conduct Code.**
- **The first offense will result in a zero for that assignment.**
- **The second offense will result in an F grade for the class.**

**Academic Misconduct** – Academic integrity is a legitimate concern for every member of the campus community; all share in upholding the fundamental values of honesty, trust, respect, fairness, responsibility and professionalism. By choosing to join the UNLV community, students accept the expectations of the Academic Misconduct Policy and are encouraged when faced with choices to always take the ethical path. Students enrolling in UNLV assume the obligation to conduct themselves in a manner compatible with UNLV's function as an educational institution.

An example of academic misconduct is plagiarism. Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of another, from the Internet or any source, without proper citation of the sources. See the *Student Academic Misconduct Policy* (approved December 9, 2005) located at: <http://studentconduct.unlv.edu/misconduct/policy.html>.

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**Copyright**—The University requires all members of the University Community to familiarize themselves **with** and to follow copyright and fair use requirements. **You are individually and solely responsible for violations of copyright and fair use laws. The university will neither protect nor defend you nor assume any responsibility for employee or student violations of fair use laws.** Violations of copyright laws could subject you to federal and state civil penalties and criminal liability, as well as disciplinary action under University policies. Additional information can be found at: <http://www.unlv.edu/provost/copyright>.

**Disability Resource Center (DRC)**—The UNLV Disability Resource Center (SSC-A 143, <http://drc.unlv.edu/>, 702-895-0866) provides resources for students with disabilities. If you feel that you have a disability, please make an appointment with a Disabilities Specialist at the DRC to discuss what options may be available to you. If you are registered with the UNLV Disability Resource Center, bring your Academic Accommodation Plan from the DRC to the instructor during office hours so that you may work together to develop strategies for implementing the accommodations to meet both your needs and the requirements of the course. Any information you provide is private and will be treated as such. To maintain the confidentiality of your request, please do not approach the instructor in front of others to discuss your accommodation needs.

**Religious Holidays Policy**—Any student missing class quizzes, examinations, or any other class or lab work because of observance of religious holidays shall be given an opportunity during that semester to make up missed work. The make-up will apply to the religious holiday absence only. It shall be the responsibility of the student to notify the instructor **within** the first 14 calendar days of the course for fall and spring courses (excepting modular courses), or **within** the first 7 calendar days of the course for summer and modular courses, of his or her intention to participate in religious holidays which do not fall on state holidays or periods of class recess. For additional information, please visit: <http://catalog.unlv.edu/content.php?catoid=6&navoid=531>.

**Transparency in Learning and Teaching**—The University encourages application of the transparency method of constructing assignments for student success. Please see these two links for further information:

<https://www.unlv.edu/provost/teachingandlearning>

<https://www.unlv.edu/provost/transparency>

**Incomplete Grades**—The grade of I—Incomplete—can be granted when a student has satisfactorily completed three-fourths of course work for that semester/session but for reason(s) beyond the student's control, and acceptable to the instructor, cannot complete the last part of the course, and the instructor believes that the student can finish the course without repeating it. The incomplete work must be made up before the end of the following regular semester for undergraduate courses. Graduate students receiving "I" grades in 500-, 600-, or 700-level courses have up to one calendar year to complete the work, at the discretion of the instructor. If course requirements are not completed within the time indicated, a grade of F will be recorded and the GPA will be adjusted accordingly. Students who are fulfilling an Incomplete do not register for the course but make individual arrangements with the instructor who assigned the I grade.

**Library**— Students may consult with a librarian on research needs. For this class, the subject librarian is . UNLV Libraries provides resources to support students' access to information. Discovery, access, and use of information are vital skills for academic work and for successful post-college life. Access library resources and ask questions at <https://www.library.unlv.edu/>

**Tutoring and Coaching**—The Academic Success Center (ASC) provides tutoring, academic success coaching and other academic assistance for all UNLV undergraduate students. For information regarding tutoring subjects, tutoring times, and other ASC programs and services, visit <http://www.unlv.edu/asc> or call 702-895-3177. The ASC building is located across from the Student Services Complex (SSC). Academic success coaching is located on the second floor of the SSC (ASC

Coaching Spot). Drop-in tutoring is located on the second floor of the Lied Library and College of Engineering TEB second floor.

**UNLV Writing Center**—One-on-one or small group assistance with writing is available free of charge to UNLV students at the Writing Center, located in CDC-3-301. Although walk-in consultations are sometimes available, students with appointments will receive priority assistance. Appointments may be made in person or by calling 702-895-3908. The student's Rebel ID Card, a copy of the assignment (if possible), and two copies of any writing to be reviewed are requested for the consultation. More information can be found at: <http://writingcenter.unlv.edu/>.

**Rebelmail**—By policy, faculty and staff should e-mail students' Rebelmail accounts only. Rebelmail is UNLV's official e-mail system for students. It is one of the primary ways students receive official university communication such as information about deadlines, major campus events, and announcements. All UNLV students receive a Rebelmail account after they have been admitted to the university. Students' e-mail prefixes are listed on class rosters. The suffix is always [@unlv.nevada.edu](mailto:@unlv.nevada.edu). **Emailing within WebCampus is acceptable.**

**Final Examinations**—The University requires that final exams given at the end of a course occur at the time and on the day specified in the final exam schedule. See the schedule at: <http://www.unlv.edu/registrar/calendars>.

**Any other class specific information**—(e.g., absences, make-up exams, status reporting, extra credit policies, plagiarism/cheating consequences, policy on electronic devices, specialized department or college tutoring programs, bringing children to class, policy on recording classroom lectures, etc.)

Thank you for including these items in your syllabi. Have a great year!