

Fall 2008
George Gerdow
Office: CLS 4092

G-Gerdow@neiu.edu
Office Hours: Before and After Class
Phone: 442-5628(Main Campus)

HIST 111D World History: Latin America (Section L18)

The purpose of this course is to provide a better understanding of the economic, political, geographic, social and cultural forces that have shaped Latin American history. A daily discussion of current events will show how and why these factors continue to shape Latin America today.

My goal in this class is not simply to give you facts, but to encourage you to ask critical questions on the themes to be discussed, which will include: Pre-Colombian Indian societies; Impact of Spanish and Portuguese colonization; struggles for independence; entry into a global economy; consequences of foreign intervention; the Cold War, Communism, and Castro; human rights, the debt crisis, drug war, NAFTA, WTO, Globalization. Though there are objective facts to history (Columbus arrived in America in 1492), the results of these events (consequences of his arrival) may be interpreted quite differently. Therefore, I have assigned books that both give you facts and require you to analyze arguments based on those facts.

The required texts for this course are the following:

Martin, Wasserman, Latin America and its People. Second Edition.

Frank, Bananeras

Maps.com, Longman Atlas of World History.

2 Blue Books (Available at Beck's)

The grade for this course will be based on the following:

Class Participation:	50 points (10%)
Map Quiz I:	50 points (10%)
Map Quiz II:	50 points (10%)
Paper:	150 points (30%)
Mid-Term Exam:	125 points (25%)
*Final Exam:	75 points (15%)

500-450 points: A 449-400: B 399-350: C 349-300: D 299 or less: F

*If you do extra credit **and** maintain an "A" average, you do **not** have to take the final exam!

The Mid-Term and Final will be essay exams. The paper is to be 3-4 double-spaced, typewritten pages in length. It will be based on Bananeras. Specifics on the paper format appear later in this syllabus. Study guides will be handed out before all exams and quizzes. The final exam is not cumulative; it will cover material from where the mid-term left off.

Regular attendance is mandatory. Since I will be covering large chunks of material in my lectures, absences will result in a dramatic lack of continuity (you might also miss some good movies!). Class participation is encouraged, and will be graded. If you have any questions or problems, do not hesitate to call me or see me in my office.

Academic misconduct is any fraud or deception for the purpose of improving a grade. Cheating and

plagiarism will result in an automatic “F” for the course and a referral to the Dean of Students for further disciplinary action. What is plagiarism? Plagiarism is the appropriation or imitation of the language, ideas, and thoughts of another author and representation of them as one’s own original work. This includes 1) paraphrasing another’s ideas or conclusions without acknowledgement; 2) listing of entire sentences, paragraphs, chapters, etc., from another’s work; and 3) submission as one’s work, any work prepared by another person or agency.

Tentative schedule of Lectures, Readings, and Exams

August 28: Introduction; Origin of the Americans
Martin, Chapter 1.

September 4: Early Mesoamerica
Martin, Chapter 2.

SEPTEMBER 8: LAST DAY FOR A 90% CREDIT/REDUCTION OF TUITION AND FEES FOR WITHDRAWAL OF COURSES FROM THE FALL SEMESTER(LESS \$10.00 WITHDRAWAL FEE FOR A COMPLETE WITHDRAWAL)

September 11: The Aztecs & The Spanish
Martin, Chapter 3.
MAP QUIZ I ON SEPTEMBER 11!

September 18: Spain; Conquest of Mexico
Martin, Chapter 4.
MAP QUIZ II ON SEPTEMBER 18!

SEPTEMBER 22: LAST DAY FOR A 50% CREDIT/REDUCTION OF TUITION AND FEES FOR WITHDRAWAL OF COURSES FROM THE FALL SEMESTER(LESS \$10.00 WITHDRAWAL FEE FOR A COMPLETE WITHDRAWAL)

September 25: Peru & Pizarro
Martin, Chapter 5.

October 2: Syncretism
Martin, Chapter 6.
MID-TERM ON OCTOBER 2!!

OCTOBER 6: LAST DAY FOR A 25% CREDIT/REDUCTION OF TUITION AND FEES FOR WITHDRAWAL OF COURSES FROM THE FALL SEMESTER(LESS \$10.00 WITHDRAWAL FEE FOR A COMPLETE WITHDRAWAL)

October 9: New World Empires
Martin Chapter 7.

October 16: Independence

Martin, Chapter 8.

October 23: Postcolonial Blues
Martin, Chapter 9.

October 30: Order and Progress
Martin, Chapter 10.

PAPER DUE ON OCTOBER 30!!

NOVEMBER 7: LAST DAY TO DROP A COURSE OR COMPLETELY WITHDRAW

November 6: Neocolonialism
Martin, Chapter 11.

November 13: Nationalism
Martin, Chapter 12.

November 20: Revolution
Martin, Chapter 13.
EXTRA CREDIT DUE NOVEMBER 20!!

December 4: Reaction
Martin, Chapter 14.

December 11: Globalization and its Discontents.
Martin, Chapter 15.

FINAL EXAM ON THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11!!!

GUIDE FOR PAPER

This paper is to be based on the book Bananeras. Answer the following questions in 3-4 double-spaced, typewritten pages. Provide evidence for your answers, by quoting directly from the book.

What is the role of the United States in the banana economy of Latin America? Has this role been positive or negative? Provide examples. What shape has resistance to this role taken? In what ways does their work enslave the bananeras? What are their lives like? What alternatives to this kind of work are there?

Discuss the rise and fall of SITRATERCO. When and why was it first created? What obstacles did it face? What methods did women use to gain power within

it? Why did membership in it fall so dramatically?

How did COSIBAH differ from SITRATERCO? Who is Iris Munguia? Comite Femenil? What were the issues they identified as key concerns? How important were workshops in achieving their goals? How successful have women been in this union? Provide examples.

How does COLSIBA differ from the other union organizations considered so far? How do attitudes toward women differ within this union? How have women sought to make inroads into positions of power here? To what degree have they succeeded? Provide examples.

How does machismo affect the Bananeras? What limits on their actions does this attitude place? What problems do men who reject machismo face? Who else is affected by machismo? How do bananeras respond to machismo?

What organizations have bananeras counted on worldwide to aid them in their struggles? Who pays the bills? How specifically do they help? Provide examples.

What lessons or inspiration, if any, have you taken from this book? Does the story of the bananeras apply to your life in any way?

If you are uncertain about using footnotes or quotes to support your answers, consult the Turabian Manual for Writers, available at Beck's Bookstore and other locations.

If any of this is unclear, or if you have any questions or problems, don't hesitate to talk to me. This paper is due on **October 30, 2008!**

GUIDELINES FOR EXTRA CREDIT

EXTRA CREDIT is meant to encourage you to enhance your knowledge of this course outside of class time. Extra credit, which is worth a maximum of 25 points, involves writing a 1-2 page, double-spaced, typewritten paper based on a museum exhibit or other event that I have announced in class. You can do only one extra credit assignment per semester. If you do not do extra credit, you must take the final exam!

What to do? First, summarize the exhibit in 1-2 paragraphs. Next, compare it to the comparable theme we covered in class or in the textbooks. What are the similarities and differences: What have I discussed on that theme that was not covered in the exhibit? What did the exhibit include which I did not cover? Was there more detail on a given issue than I gave in class?

The last day I will accept extra credit is **November 20, 2008**. However, you can turn in this assignment anytime before this deadline.