TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY - CORPUS CHRISTI

Course Information Sheet

SPAN3305.001
Spanish American Civilization
SPRING 2014

Instructor: Dr. Cristina Ortiz
Faculty Center 275
Tel: 825-6009
e-mail: cristina.ortiz@tamucc.edu
Office hours: TR 11:25-12:25 & W 12-3

TEXTBOOK

Latinoamérica: presente y pasado, forth edition, 2011
by Arturo A. Fox

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is an overview of Spanish speaking Latin America. We will explore various aspects of its civilizations and cultures through textbook readings, literature, newspaper articles, film and Latin American speakers. This course is designed for students with an advanced reading level in Spanish. They should be able to follow class discussions in Spanish and participate with comments and basic analysis of issues that affect the peoples of Latin America, past and present. Discussions and assessment will be based on readings, presentations, films, tests, written reports and other activities which students will be asked to prepare for in advance.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

At the end of this course students will demonstrate ability to:
- Identify the different elements that have shaped the cultures of Spanish-speaking Latin America through weekly assignments and multiple choice tests.
- Recognize the causes and effects of specific problems that affect Latin American societies and their cultures through short essays and written reports.
- Discuss in an informed manner a variety of literary, cultural, historical, social, and political issues that affect the peoples from Spanish-speaking Latin America. This demonstration will be done through class discussion and oral presentations.

REQUIREMENTS

Class preparation, attendance and participation. Your syllabus lists the primary readings assigned for each class of the semester. You must read the material assigned for each day before class. Most readings will come from the textbook (as specified in your syllabus), but you will also receive some photocopied material to read over the week.

Attendance is mandatory. Each class will involve the discussion of the assigned readings and different aspects of the class topic. Your participation is expected. If you are absent you cannot participate, nor demonstrate that you have read or prepared the material. This will inevitably reflect on your understanding of the issues discussed, and eventually on your grade (see grade distribution). Most importantly, every student in class brings a different view of a cultural, historical or social issue, therefore contributing to a richer discussion and analysis. You are allowed three absences without penalty.
After the third one, your final grade will begin dropping by 3 points for every day you are absent. Beware of tardiness. After the third time you are late, the absence mark will remain an absence.

**Written Assignments.**

*Opiniones:* You will choose one of the options under *Opiniones* and write a commentary of 200 words. This assignment must be typed and turned in on the due date as marked on the syllabus.

*Visit report:* Latin American guests will come to our class to share with us their experiences and knowledge of their country. You will write a summary of what the visit was about, followed by your personal reaction to it in one page. You will be expected to incorporate material from our readings and class discussions in your reaction. Your report must be typed and turned in on the due date as marked on the syllabus. No late work will be accepted without previous arrangement with the instructor.

**Presentations.** Once during the semester you will be asked to prepare a presentation on a topic that concerns our class subject. You will receive your topic early in the semester to be able to prepare in advance. Your presentation must reflect a research effort and should provide our class with information that cannot be found in our textbook. I urge you to prepare in advance to be as organized and as knowledgeable of your topic as possible. No late presentations will be accepted without previous arrangement with the instructor. A presentation schedule will be distributed early in the semester.

**Midterm and Final Exams.** Both exams will contain a multiple choice part and a short essay one. Both parts will cover all the material read and discussed in class up to that point. No makeup exams will be offered without previous arrangement with the instructor.

**COURSE EVALUATION.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Participation</th>
<th>20 pts</th>
<th>90-100 = A</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Written Assignments</td>
<td>20 pts</td>
<td>80-89 = B</td>
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<tr>
<td>Presentation</td>
<td>10 pts</td>
<td>70-79 = C</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm exam</td>
<td>25 pts</td>
<td>60-69 = D</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final exam</td>
<td>25 pts</td>
<td>below 60 = F</td>
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<td>Total</td>
<td>100 pts</td>
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**GRADING**

**COMMENTS.**

This program is planned to help you learn about Spanish speaking Latin America. It requires your careful reading of the material assigned, but above all, it needs your participation regardless of how simple and unimportant your comments might seem to you. Everyone’s comments and participation are important and worth sharing, especially when they are backed up by a careful reading. Students are expected to follow the Student Code of Conduct as described by the University and to have an amicable and respectful attitude towards their fellow students and instructor. My office hours are listed above; they are reserved specifically for you to come and see me whenever you need it.
Dates to remember:

January 22…………………. Wednesday…………. Classes begin
January 29………………….. Wednesday…………. Last day to register or add a class
March 10-14………………... S p r i n g  B r e a k…………………………………..
April 11…………………. Friday………………. Last day to drop a class
May 05………………......... Monday………………Last day to withdraw from university
May 06…………………... Tuesday………………. Last day of classes
May 07………………….. Wednesday…………. Reading Day
May 08-14………………..... Final Examinations
May 17…………………... Saturday……………. Fall Commencement

Academic Advising:
Academic advisers are available to assist students with course selection, degree plans, and other academic matters. Each college has an academic advising center, staffed by full-time, professional advisors. It is imperative that all students visit regularly with an academic adviser. In our college the undergraduate adviser is Linda Miller (825-3466) Linda.miller@tamucc.edu). The graduate adviser is Rachelle Stanley (825-3466, Rachelle.stanley@tamucc.edu). Both are located on the second floor of Driftwood. Students who have yet to declare a major are advised by the Academic Advising Transition Center. FMI - please call (361) 825-5931 or log on to http://www.tamucc.edu/~aac.

Americans with Disabilities Act:
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please call or visit Disability Services at (361) 825-5816 in Corpus Christi Hall, Room 116. If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816

Grade Appeal Process: Students who feel that they have not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in this class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details on the process of submitting a formal grade appeal, please visit the College of Liberal Arts website, cla.tamucc.edu/students/studentinfo.html. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Associate Dean.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fecha</th>
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<th>Lecturas</th>
<th>Asignaturas escritas</th>
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<td>lunes 27 de enero</td>
<td>Introducción</td>
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| lunes 3 de febrero | 1. Civilizaciones precolombinas I  
                   2. Civilizaciones precolombinas II                          | Texto pp. 3-17  
                   Texto pp. 19 – 31         | TBA                  |
| lunes 10 de febrero | 3. Europa en la época del descubrimiento de América  
                   4. La conquista de la América hispana                                | Texto pp. 33 - 45  
                   Texto pp. 47 – 61         |                      |
| lunes 17 de febrero | 5. El sistema colonial  
                   6. Sociedad, vida y cultura en el mundo colonial                          | Texto pp. 63 – 73  
                   Texto pp. 75 - 89         |                      |
| lunes 24 de febrero | 7. El siglo XIX. La independencia y sus consecuencias  
                   8. Latinoamérica a vista de pájaro                                        | Texto pp. 91 – 107  
                   Texto pp. 109 - 131        |                      |
| lunes 3 de marzo | Visita                                                                       |                               |                      |
| lunes 10 de marzo | Vacaciones de primavera                                                        |                               |                      |
| lunes 17 de marzo | EXAMEN DE MEDIO SEMESTRE                                                      |                               |                      |
| lunes 24 de marzo | Gastronomía  
                   Película y discusión                                                      |                               |                      |
| lunes 31 de marzo | 9. El siglo XX. Panorama latinoamericano  
                   10. La escena cultural hasta la Segunda Guerra Mundial                    | Texto pp. 133-159  
                   Texto pp. 161-179         |                      |
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<th>Fecha</th>
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<tr>
<td>7 de abril</td>
<td>11. La escena cultural desde la Segunda Guerra Mundial</td>
<td>pp. 181-199</td>
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<td>12. Centroamérica y México</td>
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<td>14. La Hispanoamérica andina: Ecuador, Perú, Bolivia</td>
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<td>21 de abril</td>
<td>15. Los países del Cono Sur: Paraguay, Uruguay, Argentina, Chile</td>
<td>pp. 293-327</td>
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<td>16. El norte de Suramérica: Colombia y Venezuela</td>
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<td>Gastronomía</td>
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<td>12 de mayo</td>
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