

SAMPLE SYLLABUS

INTRODUCTION TO LATIN AMERICAN HISTORY - HISTORY 75V

Professor Juliette Levy

juliette@ucr.edu

@profjuliette

Everything written below serves as your guide through the path of the class.

I will assume you have read this, and assume you are aware of the required reading, class structure and grading logic as it is explained below, as well as how to contact me, and what the class expects of you.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This class provides an introduction to Latin American history. You will study the region from its colonial origins to independence and through to the modern history. You will become knowledgeable about how this history was written and how it continues to determine the present of Latin America. To this end, you will read and use different types of text and media - feature films, documentaries, narratives, memoirs, journal entries, news paper articles. All these are sources that help us understand the past and how it contributes to writing the present.

One of the big differences between a face-to-face class and this class is that this is not a passive experience - even the videos will

SAMPLE SYLLABUS

ask you to interact with them (there are built-in comprehension questions & comments that pop up). The weekly assignments, discussions sections and multiple participation exercises should keep you engaged, and will help you learn.

This class is organized in learning modules, and each learning module includes different sets of assignments that you will complete independently and interactively with your classmates.

ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE DUE AS FOLLOWS each week:

Piazza posts - short contributions: each []@ 6pm

Quizzes are due each []@ 6pm

Writing and research assignments due each []@ 6pm

Library assignments (when due) are due on []@ 6pm

EXAM deadlines:

The Midterm is due on [] @ 6pm

The Final is due on [] @ 6pm

A NOTE ON DEADLINES FOR ASSIGNMENTS:

- All deadlines are firm and non-negotiable
- Late assignments will lose points at a rate of 10% per late hour, starting 10 minutes after the deadline. This is ONLY valid for writing assignments, the mid term and the exam. This is NOT valid

SAMPLE SYLLABUS

for the short piazza posts, quizzes and library tasks -- these are all due at the exact time of the deadline.

REQUIRED READING:

1) Anything and everything that is posted. Each module will have a combination of assigned readings from the textbook, links to PDFs of primary sources, links to other reading material, and Khan Academy videos. Please complete these readings before your Google Hangout meetings with your TA. In general, everything posted under "readings" anywhere in the course is required.

2) The textbook for the class is: Benjamin Keen & Keith Haynes, *A History of Latin America*, Cengage, 9th edition, 2012. You can buy it as one whole volume, or buy Vol. 1 and Vol. 2. It is available for sale or rent at www.cengagebrain.com. You can buy the eBook version or the hardcopy version, and you can rent it from the bookstore on the UCR campus. It is not a cheap book, but it is the only book I will ask you buy/rent. There are earlier versions available online for less, and it is probably ok to buy those, but you'll need to find a way to identify reading assignments across the editions.

- Quizzes will cover the material in the textbook.
- The written assignments essays, discussions, library project and final exam assume you have read all of the assigned material and have watched the lecture videos.

SAMPLE SYLLABUS

LIST OF CLASS OBLIGATIONS/TASKS/ASSIGNMENTS and GRADE DISTRIBUTION as % of FINAL GRADE:

Every assignment is graded with points and the groups of assignments are weighed as follows:

8 weekly short piazza posts = 15%

8 quizzes = 15%

8 writing & research assignments = 15%

5 discussion sections (attendance&participation - this includes online on Piazza and Zaption tours) = 10%

1 library project & midterm = 10% & 15%

1 final = 20%

CLASS STRUCTURE:

Readings and assignments, discussion questions and video lectures.

DISCUSSION SECTION (in [Google Hangout](#) or similar web conferencing platform)

Your participation in discussion sections is vital. Discussion sections happen with your TA. Discussion section will meet online.

ASSIGNMENTS: All assignments have been posted - you can complete them anytime before the due date.

QUIZZES: You will have three hours to answer each quiz (three hours from the moment you start the quiz). Quizzes must be completed in order, so check out the deadline for each quiz in

SAMPLE SYLLABUS

each module. You can also go to the quizzes tab to see the deadlines in the calendar.

WRITING ASSIGNMENTS: The writing assignments are also staggered, so make sure you upload them before the relevant deadline. Go to assignments tab to see the deadlines for each assignment.

*note: if you are using [Chrome](#) as your browser, be aware that you may have to reload the page to see all the posted videos (lectures and otherwise). As a rule of thumb, I suggest using [Firefox](#) (Mac & PC) or Internet Explorer (PC).

STORIFY ASSIGNMENT:

In module 8, your assignment is to create a storyboard using social media and online information. [Storify](#) is the platform you need to use to create that dynamic storyboard. There's a "Storify" tutorial in the Introduction module, but you may also want to go to [storify.com](#) and familiarize yourself with the project parameters.

All you need to do is go [storify.com](#) and click "create a story".

From there you can "pull" links from anywhere on the web into your storyboard. Once you are finished, save the storyboard and embed the link to your storyboard on the discussion board created for that purpose. In the Canvas storyboards, once you open a dialog box, you'll see the Storify logo in the toolbar (it's the blue S on the right of the pi symbol).

LIBRARY PROJECT:

The midterm exam is a long-term project for which you will complete a series of tasks, with specific deadlines. You will find

SAMPLE SYLLABUS

information on this project and associated tasks and deadlines in the "library project" module. You can also see the list of tasks associated with this project under the <assignments> tab.

FINAL EXAM:

There will be no make-up exam and no additional dates or extensions. The exam is due online, and needs to be submitted through the appropriate link on Canvas. The final is due on June 7th, 2014. You will find the exam and the link under the "final exam" module and are free to take a look at it, and submit it, anytime.

INCOMPLETES: I-grades will only be assigned if you have suffered a debilitating injury or a life altering loss AND you have completed a significant portion of the course work. If this is not the case, you will be assigned the grade earned.

EMAIL POLICY AND HOW TO CONTACT US:

1) PIAZZA: If you are unsure about an assignment, or are wondering about any of the module topics or readings, the best thing to do is ask the group first. Post the question on Piazza. The TAs and I will be monitoring Piazza, and we are also counting on class members to jump in if they know the answer to a question.

2) POST TO TWITTER WITH #UCRHIST75V: If you have a twitter account, follow me @profjuliette. You can tweet me if your questions are short and can be answered with a simple yes or no. Use the #ucrhist75V. My answers will be quick, and that way anyone else in class who is on twitter can check what updates/answers relevant to this class have been tweeted recently.

SAMPLE SYLLABUS

3) GOOGLE CHAT/HANGOUT: We will often be online and available for a google chat or hangout. Find one of us (TA or instructor), make contact, and let's talk and solve the problem.

4) LAST RESORT = EMAIL : this should be your last line of action. If all else fails, email me (Prof Levy's email is juliette@ucr.edu) or your TA. We will either be able to respond or we will set up an appointment for a Hangout. Email a summarized version of your questions (is it a question about methods, about an assignment, about history?) and let's schedule a meeting.

- When sending me an email, please address it and sign it, and maintain a formal tone.
- Please keep emails short and to the point. For longer discussion, let's make an appointment for an online Hangout meeting.

OFFICE HOURS WITH PROF. LEVY:

Apart from the above options, Prof. Levy will be on Google Hangout on a regular basis. Go to Piazza and find the Prof Levy OH (Office Hours) poll under the "polls" folder. Choose which times are best for you and I'll be available at least once a week for anyone to chat with me via Google Hangout. I will also be available via appointment if you ask me.

TA office hours will also be determined via poll in Week 1.

PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING: DO NOT DO IT!

SAMPLE SYLLABUS

- If you use work written by someone else and present it as your own, you are plagiarizing. If you buy a paper online, ask a friend to write the paper for you or copy passages from books without citing their source, you are plagiarizing.
- Plagiarism is a form of cheating.
- Cheating/plagiarism on the exam will result in an F in the class and disciplinary measures with the Office of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity.
- Cheating/plagiarism on an assignment (other than the exam) will result in an F on that assignment. Cheating on more than one assignment will result in an F in the class and disciplinary action with the Office of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity.

Weekly Modules and Themes:

Module 1: Intro to
the class

Things you need to
know

- What is a historical source?
- What is Storify, what does it do?
- How to use Google Hangout
- Sign in to discussion section via TA pages
- How to cite your sources
- Practice quiz
- Answer poll about office hours in Piazza folder
- Post to the Introductions folder: say hi to

SAMPLE SYLLABUS

	<p>ProfLevy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Get used to this online class
<p>Module 2 :</p> <p>The myth of the discovery and the invention of the Americas</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• This module introduces you to the context in which the Spanish set forth across the Atlantic and arrived on territory that would eventually be renamed America. The readings also explore how native people dealt with the encounter.
<p>Module 3 :</p> <p>The Conquest and the Clash of Cultures in the New World</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• This module explores Cortes's conquest of the Aztec civilization. Readings will review the conquest of Peru.
<p>Module 4:</p> <p>Race in Colonial Latin America</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• This module focuses on social and ethnic hierarchies in Colonial Latin America. The module also explores how colonial elites gradually developed a separate identity from that of Spain. Readings will also explore the role of the Church in the colonial world.
<p>Module 5:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• This module explores the difference between Spanish Colonial Latin America

SAMPLE SYLLABUS

Colonial Portuguese America: The making of Brazil	and Portuguese Colonial Latin America (covering what is now Brazil).
Module 6: The first revolution of the 20th Century: the Mexican Revolution	<ul style="list-style-type: none">This module explores the causes and major players of the Mexican Revolution, as well as its outcomes and lasting impressions on the culture of Mexico. Readings will cover most of late 19th and early 20th C Latin American history.
Module 7: The US and Latin America Part 1: Revolutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">This module focuses on the many revolutions and revolutionary wars (social, cultural, political) taking place in Latin America during the 20th century as well as the role the US plays in those revolutions.
Module 8: The US and Latin America part 2: Military Dictatorships	<ul style="list-style-type: none">This module continues the exploration of the relationship between the US and Latin America in the 20th century, with specific attention to the development of right wing military regimes in the context of the Cold War. Readings will cover this in detail across the continent.
Module 9: Trade will set you	<ul style="list-style-type: none">This module chronicles the tension between the integration of Latin America after the Cold War into a wider

SAMPLE SYLLABUS

free	democratic and economic world, and the rise regional indigenous movements as a reaction to Latin America's integration into a global culture.
Module 10: What is Latin America today?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• This module connects recent transformations in Latin America to those that the course has been studying in the past.
Final Exam	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Take home essay exam.

SAMPLE