

The History of Modern Mexico/Fall 2015: Dr. Mark Saad Saka/Sul Ross State University

Office: Lawrence Hall 210

Telephone 837-8304

Office Hours: T, Th 8:30-9:15; 11:00-12:00.

Objective of the Course

This course is designed to introduce you to the sweeping epic of Mexican history. We will examine the political, economic, social, and cultural forces that have shaped Mexico since Independence in 1821.

Classroom Requirements:

Regular attendance and punctuality is expected.

No cell-phones, no texting in class. If you violate this policy you will be asked to leave class.

Required Reading

Fuentes, Carlos. *The Year With Laura Diaz*, Harvest Books, ISBN 978-0156007566

Richmond, Douglas W. *The Mexican Nation: Historical Continuity & Modern Change*, Prentice Hall, 2002. ISBN # 978-013922274

Saka, Mark Saad. *For God and Revolution: Priest, Peasant, and Agrarian Socialism in the Mexican Huasteca*, University of New Mexico Press, 2013, ISBN # 978-0826353382

There will be five exams in this course including a mandatory final.

Each exam will consist of three essays. At the end of the course, your top four exams will be added together and divided by four and this will constitute your grade. 90-100=A; 80-89=B; 70-79=C; 60-69=D; 0-59=F.

In addition, you are required to read and write two 5 page book reviews over the book "For God and Revolution" due on October 1 and on the book "The Year With Laura Diaz" which is due on December 1.

Primary Learning Objectives

The graduating student in history will be able to:

1. The student will be able to develop an informed, critical, and articulate approach to the study of history.
2. The student will be able to demonstrate knowledge of historical events, movements, major turning points and personalities of the past.
3. The student will be able to demonstrate an ability to identify and relate the role that historical interpretations plays in the assessment of the past.
4. The student will be able to write effectively, logically, and persuasively about topics in history.

The Primary Learning Objectives (PLO) shall be measured by the administration of four exams, consisting of multiple choice questions which shall assess objectives one and two and two essays which shall assess objectives three and four.

The Americans with Disabilities Act

Sul Ross State University is committed to equal access in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is the student's responsibility to initiate a request for accessibility services. Students seeking accessibility services must contact Grace Duffy in Counseling and Accessibility Services, Ferguson Hall, Room 112. The mailing address is P.O. Box C-171, Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas 79832, Telephone Number 432-837-8203.

Course Outline

Aug 25-first class day/review syllabus and course. The Colonial Heritage of Mexico

Aug. 27-the Colonial Heritage of Mexico

Sept. 01- The challenges of Independence , 1821-1836

Sept. 03- The Texas Secession and War with the United States

Sept. 08- The Wars of La Reforma and the French Intervention

Sept. 10- The Restored Republic 1867-1876/Review for Exam # 1

Sept. 15-Exam # 1 (covers pages 126-187 in Richmond)

Sept. 17-The Porfirato 1876-1910

Sept. 22-The Porfirato 1876-1910

Sept. 24-The Porfirato 1876-1910

Sept. 29-The Porfirato 1876-1910

Oct. 01-Exam # 2 (covers pages 188-206 in Richmond; Book Review of For God and Revolution due)

Oct 06-the Mexican Revolution

Oct 08-The Mexican Revolution

Oct 13-The Mexican Revolution

Oct 15-The Mexican Revolution

Oct 20-The Mexican Revolution-film

Oct. 22-Review for Exam # 3

Oct 27-Exam # 3 (covers pages 207-294 in Richmond)

Oct 29-Post Revolutionary Mexico 1940-1958

Nov 03-Post Revolutionary Mexico 1958-1968

Nov 05- Post-Revolutionary Mexico 1968-1976

Nov. 10- Post-Revolutionary Mexico 1976-1982

Nov 12-Exam # 4 (covers pages 295-403 in Richmond)

Nov 17--1982-1994

Nov 19-Mexico 1994-2000

Nov 24-Mexico-Economic Integration and Immigration

Dec 01-Modern Mexico-2000-2012: The Rise and Fall of the PAN (**Book Review The Year with Laura Diaz due**)

Dec. 08-final exam (Exam # 5)

