Sul Ross State University

Course Syllabus

SPN 3316 – Culture& Civilization of Spanish America
Fall 2016
Web Course

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Instructor: Dr. Ana Sylvia Acevedo
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Office Phone: (830) 703-5031
Office D-202
Office hour: Monday and Wednesday
           1:00-5:00 or by appointment

Course Description:

This course explores the development of modern Spanish America from its pre-Colombian beginnings to the present. The historical, cultural, political, and societal characteristics of the Spanish American people will be discussed in detail.

Course Text:

Fox, Arturo A. *Latinoamérica:Presente y pasado, 4ª ed.* Upper Saddle River,

New Jersey:Pearson Education. ISBN 9780205794263

OBJECTIVES:

The Expected Learning Outcome: The students will

- Show understanding of major historical and contemporary developments in Spanish America, including the individuals, groups, and events that shaped the development of the various nations of this region.

- Show understanding of the geographical features of Spanish America, and how regional geography influenced historical developments.

- Identify the major social, economic, and cultural features of Spanish America, as well as the significant features of daily life in the various countries of this region.

- Apply knowledge of Spanish American art, literature, and music, including the major artists, writers, and musicians and the characteristics of their works as well as the major movements and periods in art, literature and music.

Program Learning Objectives:

The student graduating with a degree in Spanish will:

PLO 1: demonstrate advanced level proficiency in reading Spanish.

PLO 4: demonstrate awareness and understanding of the cultural characteristics of the Spanish speaking world.

Assessment: The expected learning outcome for this course will be assessed through a series of assessment tools. In order for the student to demonstrate awareness and knowledge of distinctive cultures and subcultures, including but not limited to ethnicity, gender, class, political systems, religions, languages, or human geography. The student's success will be evaluated according to the following plan:

Discussion Board 15%

Written homework 25%

Examinations (3) 40% .

Special project 20%

*** Please do not hesitate to see me during the semester about questions you may have regarding the material or any other relevant information. I will be very happy to provide you with whatever assistance you may need.

*Written work will be evaluated for completeness, coherence, original insights, and appropriate level of Spanish.

Grading
A: 90 – 100
B: 80 – 89
C: 70 – 79
D: 60 – 69
F: 0 - 59

Procedures:

> Since this is a web-based course, class attendance is not a factor, however, regular participation in the discussion board on line is a requirement for this course. You will be expected not only to answer questions from the instructor, but also to formulate your own questions/comments so that other students or the instructor may answer or comment on them.
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> All assignments and discussions will take place via the Blackboard course page. Further instructions can be found on this page once you have logged in. The exams will be available on the Blackboard site on the dates indicated on the course syllabus.
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> The exams will only be available during the published examination period. If you cannot take the exam at the designated time, you must notify the instructor **before** the exam is given in order to reschedule your exam. If you do not do this, you will forfeit your opportunity to take the exam. In all cases, it is up to the instructor to decide if an alternative examination schedule is warranted.
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> All written work, including homework assignments and exams, is to be done individually without assistance from or collaboration with others. The University's policy on Academic Honesty, as published in the Student Handbook, will be strictly adhered to in this course.
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> **Students with any disability which might affect their performance in this course are encouraged to notify the instructor so that materials and methods may be altered in order to ensure the student an equal opportunity for success.**

Online course Non-Participation Policy:

> Policies in effect for on-campus, traditional classroom instruction courses also apply to students enrolled in distance education courses, including Web-based and ITV courses. The University allows a maximum **of 20% absences in a course before an instructor may drop a student for excessive absences.** In Web courses, this policy is interpreted as not participating for more than <u>3 weeks in a long semeste</u>r or 1 week in a summer session. Any student dropped for non- participation will receive an **F** in the course dropped. Inactivity may include the following:

- not logging on to the course
- not submitting assignments
- not participating in scheduled activities

- not communicating with the instructor by phone or email, and/or
- not following the instructor's participation guidelines stated in the syllabus

Distance Education Statement:

Students enrolled in distance education courses have equal access to the university's academic support services, library resources, and instructional technology support. For more information about accessing these resources, visit the SRSU website. Students should submit online assignments through Blackboard or SRSU email, which require secure login information to verify students' identities and to protect students' information.

The procedures for filing a student complaint are included in the student handbook. Students enrolled in distance education courses at Sul Ross are expected to adhere to all policies pertaining to academic honesty and appropriate student conduct, as described in the student handbook. Students in web-based courses must maintain appropriate equipment and software, according to the needs and requirements of the course, as outlined on the SRSU website.

NOTE:

Students with any disability which would affect their performance in this course are encouraged to inform the instructor so that methods and materials may be altered in such a way as to insure an equal opportunity for success.

If you have difficulties with this course and need to consult with me, please call my office phone above, or for faster response, send me a message through the Message Center in Blackboard.

Please Note:

If you do not have <u>reliable</u> access to a computer with an internet connection several days a week you should not take this class. If you do not have a computer at home, you may use the computers in one of the Rio Grande College computer labs. Please be advised that the RGC computer labs are only open Monday through Thursday from 8am to 9pm and Friday 8am to 5pm. As of this writing, there are no lab hours during the weekends at RGC. You may access the internet at the SWTJC labs, however.

- Now that you have successfully logged on to this course, please familiarize yourself with the information available on the system. Most everything you do will start by clicking on one of the buttons on the left side of the main course page. Feel free to experiment to familiarize yourself with the site. If you have trouble, click the "**Help**" button on the left side of the page.

- Every time you log on, check for new announcements by clicking on the "**Announcements**" button. This is how I will communicate general information to the class. I recommend logging on several times a week just to be sure.

- For all matters pertaining to this course, I will use the **"Message Center"** in Blackboard, so please check your messages **daily**. If you need to ask me a question or make a comment about the course, use **ONLY** the "Message Center". We will only use email for matters **unrelated** to the course. For example if you want to ask me a question regarding your degree plan, use email.

- Some of the course documents you will access in this course are in PDF format. The PDF format is used by Adobe Acrobat Reader which allows you to view and print out any document, independent of the word processing or image viewing software you are using. In order to view these documents, your computer must have Acrobat Reader installed on it. All the computers at SRSU-Rio Grande College already have

  this program installed. If you are using a computer at home that does not have the Acrobat Reader, you can download a free copy by going to http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html and following the instructions.

The basic format of this course is summarized here:

- Each week you will complete the reading for that week ON YOUR OWN. You can find the assignments for each week on the syllabus.

- The reading quizzes and the two major exams for this course will be given on Blackboard on the dates and times indicated on the syllabus. The exams will be available **only** at those times. Once you begin taking the exam, you will have a maximum amount of time to complete it. You **will** be able to restart the exam if you decide to stop before completing it, however, you will automatically resume where you left off, and you will not be able to see previously answered questions. The time limit applies even if you log out and get back in, so don't waste time off line. Be sure to use a reliable computer to avoid such problems as drop offs, freezes, etc. I suggest using the computers in one of the Rio Grande College computing labs. Finally, **don't wait** until the last minute of the exam period to begin your exam.

- Class discussion topics will be posted frequently and will be announced under the "Announcements" on the main course page. You can find activity this by clicking on the "**Discussion Board**" button on the left side of the main course page. Once on the discussion board, you will find topics of discussion that you can respond to, or if you like, you can post your own topic or "thread". A thread is a topic of discussion which any number of people can participate in. It is not in "real time" so you can contribute whenever you like, as long as it is within the time allotted for each topic. Your course participation grade will be determined primarily by the quantity and quality of your comments throughout the semester.

NOTE:

ALL TECHNICAL QUESTIONS SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO ONE OF THE RGC TECHNICAL SUPPORT STAFF MEMBERS BELOW. THIS INCLUDES QUESTIONS ON HOW TO LOG ON TO BLACKBOARD, HOW TO OBTAIN AND USE A SUL ROSS EMAIL ACCOUNT, HOW TO USE EMAIL ATTACHMENTS, ETC.

Uvalde:
Mr. George Hernandez   Phone: 830-279-3045 Email: ghernandez2@sulross.edu

Del Rio:
Mr. Francisco Rodríguez   Phone: 830-7034818 Email: frodriguez2@sulross.edu

Eagle Pass:
Mr. Juan Garza   Phone 830-758-5010 Email: jgarza@sulross.edu

IF YOU CANNOT GET HELP FROM ONE OF OUR LOCAL TECHNICIANS, PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ON THE ALPINE CAMPUS USING ONE OF THE FOLLOWIING RESOURCES:

LoboTechnologyAssistanceCenter Support Staff

Phone: 432-837-8888 (ext. 8888/8765)

Online: Lobo Technology Assistance Center (LTAC)

For Service Requests: https://techassist.sulross.edu