

Department of Humanities
Dr. Christopher B. Davis
Email: cdavis@sulross.edu
Phone: 830.703.4845
Office: Del Rio, F215
Hours of Availability:
Monday-Thursday, 2-4:30p



Latin American History

HST 5306
Online Course – Fall 2020

Course Description

This course will explore Latin American history over four major chronological eras: pre-colonial, colonial, independence, and modern. The goals for students will be understanding the major trends that shaped the history of the continent as well as examining localized topics, such as individuals or events, that fit in broad context and speak to larger issues.

Course Style

Activities will focus on readings, discussion, and writing.

Importance of Communication

It is vital that students stay in communication with me as the course progresses. Most struggles students have in college courses can be resolved with simple conversations between student and teacher. If there are difficulties with concepts or assignments, it is not a cause for embarrassment or panic but an opportunity to improve skills and expand knowledge. Just get in touch. We will work through the issue.

I try to make communication as easy as possible and keep regular hours when I am available. We can email, talk on the phone, or video chat.

If you cannot meet during my hours of availability you can request another time when you are available. Please just email me to set up a time.

In the course I will typically communicate with everyone via announcements on Blackboard. That way you should receive them via email and have them available on the class Blackboard. Please check both your email and Blackboard regularly for communications for this class and all of SRSU.

Resources

For this course your readings will be made available on Blackboard under the course week resources tab. See the folder that corresponds with the class week listed on the syllabus.

The resources provided are for your use only for this class. That is why they are being provided via a password protected system like Blackboard. Do not illegally reproduce or distribute them.

Syllabus

Please keep your syllabus accessible for the entire semester. It will serve as a guide to not only class assignments but also to understand class expectations. If any major revisions have to be made to the class schedule during the semester, I will let you know when to obtain an updated syllabus from Blackboard.

Assignments and Grading

Weekly Responses	200 points (20 each)
Teach-a-Topic	100 points (50 each)
Research Project	300 points

Your grade will be the number of points you receive on the items listed above divided by the total number of points possible. For example, if you receive 540 points among the assignments that is 540 divided by 600 equals 0.9 or 90%. That is the minimum needed for an A in the class.

Note: There are no extra point opportunities in this course. It is best to keep up with your scores on assignments to know how you are doing.

Participation / Attendance

To stay engaged and enjoy the experience we all need to work together. Your participation in the weekly responses will be the primary interactive portion.

Student Learning Objectives (SLOs)

- 1) Develop the ability to understand history rather than simply memorize.
- 2) Communicate causes and effects clearly.
- 3) Have the ability to explain the “why” of history instead of just the “who, what, when, and where.”
- 4) Improve short-form writing skills in content, organization, style, and grammar.
- 5) Develop skills in assessing non-textbook material for how it connects to the course content.

Blackboard Help

If you run into trouble using Blackboard (accessing resources, submitting assignments, etc.) the best source of help is the Online Blackboard Support Desk. It is staffed 24/7. Please contact them at 888-837-6055 or via email at blackboardsupport@sulross.edu.

Academic Integrity

Academic dishonesty hurts everyone and reduces the value of college degrees. Doing someone else's work, presenting the ideas and work of others as your own, submitting the same paper for multiple classes, and/or failing to cite your sources when you utilize the ideas of others, are all examples of academic dishonesty. It is your responsibility to read and understand the university's policy on academic dishonesty in the SRSU Student Handbook, as all violations will be taken seriously and handled through the appropriate university process. The Student Handbook can be found at: <https://www.sulross.edu/page/2454/student-handbook>

Distance Education Statement

Students enrolled in distance education courses have equal access to the university's academic support services, such as Smarthinking, library resources, online databases, and instructional technology support. For more information about accessing these resources, visit the SRSU website. Students should correspond using Sul Ross email accounts and submit online assignments through Blackboard, which requires 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.

ADA Statement

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 Kathy Biddick in Student Services, Room C-102, Uvalde campus. The mailing address is 2623 Garner Field Road, Rio Grande College-Sul Ross State University, Uvalde, Texas 78801. Telephone: 830-279-3003. E-mail: kbiddick@sulross.edu.

Class Weeks and Assignments

Week 1

Monday – August 24th

- **Introduction to Latin American History**
- Weekly Response due Sunday August 30

Week 2

Monday – August 31st

- **Ancient Latin America I: Prehistory**
- Weekly Response due September 6

Week 3

Monday – September 7th

- **Ancient Latin America II: Cultures at Their Height**
- Teach-a-Topic 1 due at noon
- Weekly Response due September 13

Week 4

Monday – September 14th

- **Ancient Latin America III: Cultures and Change**
- Topic Ideas for semester project due at noon
- Weekly Response due September 20

Week 5

Monday – September 21st

- **Colonization: Why Colonize Another Continent?**

Week 6

Monday – September 28th

- **Colonizers: State and Religion**
- Weekly Response due October 4

Week 7

Monday – October 5th

- **Colonized: Interactions**
- Secondary Source List for semester project due at noon

Week 8

Monday – October 12th

- **Colonies: Structure**
- Weekly Response due October 18

Week 9

Monday – October 19th

- **Colonies: The Broad Context**
- Weekly Response due October 25

Week 10

Monday – October 26th

- **Semester Project Work Week**
- Teach-a-Topic 2 due at noon

Week 11

Monday – November 2nd

- **Modern Latin America I: Independence**
- Project Check in due at noon
- Weekly Response due November 8

Week 12

Monday – November 9th

- **Modern Latin America II: Structure**
- Weekly Response due November 15

Week 13

Monday – November 16th

- **Modern Latin America III: People**
- Weekly Response due November 22

Week 14

Monday – November 23rd

- **Recent Latin America**
- Thanksgiving Holiday – November 25-27

Week 15

Monday – November 30th

- **Semester Project Work Week**
- Semester Project Presentations due December 2
- Semester Project Paper due December 2