

Course Syllabus: History 3302: V01: Modern Latin America

Fall 2026: Dr. Mark Saad Saka

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Course Objectives

This course will examine the Modern History of Latin America since 1821 but will mainly focus on the years following the 1880s to the present. The area encompasses some 33 sovereign nation-states and spans from the American-Mexico Border to the Southern tip of South America, plus thirteen Caribbean Islands, a total area two and a half size the United States. In addition to the Spanish speaking Americas, this also includes Portuguese speaking Brazil as well as the multiple indigenous languages spoken throughout the hemisphere.

Required Readings

Modern Latin America: James N. Green, Jennifer Lambe and Peter H. Smith Tenth Edition, Oxford University Press, 2026, ISBN # 978-0-19-780211-3

America, America: A New History of the New World by Greg Grandlin. Penguin Books, 2026, ISBN # 978-0593831274.

Course Outline

The course outline and content can be found on the Sul Ross Blackboard page at

https://shsu.blackboard.com/ultra/courses/_382808_1/outline

Each week we will lecture and discuss either a theme or a nation-state in Modern Latin America. The assigned readings and topics will be announced in advance and students will be responsible for keeping up with the topics readings and assignments through regular attendance.

Course Requirements

The requirements for this course includes:

- 1. Regular and punctual attendance on Thursday evenings 6:00-8:50**
- 2. Obtain the two required books and read them**
- 3. There will be ten writing assignments worth 100 points each, for a total of 1,000 points. 90% A, 80% B, 70% C, 60% D,**
- 4. The writing assignments five pages or 1,250 words, using MLA format and must include original work, and analysis.**

5. Smile and enjoy this course, Latin America is a fascinating region, peoples, cultures, political systems, and have a major role in the world as well as a major region of historic American involvement.

6. **Student Learning Outcomes:**

- The history student will demonstrate historical research skills in a logically organized, written paper that is mechanically correct and supported by relevant documentation of historical content.
- The history student will demonstrate the ability to write about topics in historiography and how those topics are interpreted.
- The history student will demonstrate knowledge of American History, World History, and Non-American History.

Marketable Skills of a History Major

- Students can identify useful resources from a pool of data.
- Students can select and organize data in a relevant manner.
- Students can make written presentations to various audiences.
- Students can utilize data to persuade various audiences.
- Students can utilize data to generate and strengthen ideas.
- Students can decipher stances adopted by various individuals.
- Students can meet deadlines in a successful manner.

Course Policies:

Contacting the Instructor: The instructor's email is the preferred method of contact. Msaka@sulross.edu. Please contact me only through the Sul-Ross email as I do not respond to private email such as yahoo, gmail, Hotmail, etc. This is for yours and my security.

I do, however, have a backup email, mark.saka1@yahoo.com. This is a backup in the event of a malware attack or if for some other reason the system goes down. I rarely check it as I want you to only use my yahoo account for emergencies. I check my Sul Ross email regularly. Please stay in contact if you are ill or cannot make class for a legitimate reason.

Academic Integrity: Students in this class are expected to demonstrate scholarly behavior and academic honesty in the use of intellectual property. A scholar is expected to be punctual, prepared and focused; meaningful and pertinent participation is appreciated. Examples of academic dishonesty include but are not limited to:

- Turning in work as original that was used in whole or part for another course and/or for another course and/or professor.

- Turning in another persons' work as one's own.
- Copying from professional works or internet sites without citations.
- Collaborating on a course assignment, examination, or quiz when collaboration is forbidden.

ADA Statement

SRSU Disability Services, SRSU is committed to equal access in compliance with Americans Disability Act of 1973. It is SRSU policy to provide reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities. It is the student's responsibility to request each semester for each class. Students seeking accessibility services must contact Kathy Biddick at (830) 279—3003. The address is 2623 Garner Field Road, Uvalde Texas 78801.

Kbiddick@sulross.edu

SRSU Distance Education Statement: Students enrolled in distance education courses have equal access to the university's academic support services, such as 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. Students enrolled in distance education courses at Sul Ross are expected adhere to all policies pertaining to academic honesty and appropriate student conduct, as described in the student handbook. Students in web-based or distance education courses must maintain appropriate equipment and software, according to the needs and requirements of the course, as outlined on the SRSU website. Directions for filing a student complain are located in the student handbook.