

Brunk
History 3350
The Mexican Revolution
Spring 2014

Office Hours: T 3:00-4:30; R 11:00-12:00
and 3:00-3:30 and by appointment
Office: Liberal Arts Building 312
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COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course will examine the events during the regime of Porfirio Díaz (1876-1911) that led to the Mexican Revolution, the actual fighting of the revolution (1910-1920), the institutionalization of the revolution in the decades after 1920, the period of economic growth often called the “Mexican Miracle” (1940-1970), and the extended period of change and crisis that followed. Among the topics we will discuss are the reasons the revolution happened; the goals of different revolutionary groups; state and nation building in the aftermath of the fighting; the struggle for economic development; and the role of the United States in Mexican history. Along the way we will discuss the lives of such figures as Emiliano Zapata, Pancho Villa, Diego Rivera, Frida Kahlo, Lázaro Cárdenas, and Subcomandante Marcos. Three books will constitute most of the required reading; there will be two exams, a book review, and a short research paper. The course will combine lecture and discussion.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: Students will become familiar with the major trends, figures, and events of twentieth century Mexican history. They will achieve an understanding of the complex relationship between Mexico and the United States. They will also develop the ability to evaluate and critically discuss historical materials.

GRADING: Final grades for undergraduates will be determined on the basis of two exams (a midterm and a final), a book review, a short research paper (ten pages), and class participation (which includes the periodic submission of short, informal writing assignments). Grades will be weighted as follows:

Exams	25% each
Book Review	10%
Research Paper	25%
Class Participation	10%
Two Research Exercises	5%

Graduate Students will be required to write a somewhat longer research paper (15-20 pages). For them, exams will be worth 20% each, the book review 15%, research paper 35%, and class participation 10%.

No extra credit will be offered in this course. Students hoping to raise their grades should talk to the professor about how to improve on the tests and papers assigned. **Improvement will be rewarded** in determining final grades (for those students who regularly attend class and complete informal writing assignments and tasks related to research papers).

BLACKBOARD: Handouts will be distributed through Blackboard. The Powerpoint lecture outlines will be available there as well. Please don't try to contact me through the Blackboard email system, however, since I rarely check it. Email me at my regular utep email address,

sbrunk@utep.edu.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES: You are expected to attend class, and your participation grade depends, in part, on your attendance. Absences due to scheduled university activities, health problems, or serious family emergencies (such as the illness of a child or a death in the family) will be excused, but only if you document them with a note from an appropriate professional (physician, funeral director, etc.). If for some reason you must miss a class period, it's your responsibility to inform the instructor and obtain handouts (from Blackboard) and notes (from a fellow student).

If you miss an exam for any reason other than a scheduled university activity or a health, family, or other emergency that you can document, you will not be eligible for a make-up. If missing the exam was due to circumstances outside your control, **contact me immediately**. If it wasn't, and you aren't eligible for a makeup, you should drop the course.

You are also expected to arrive on time and stay until the end of the class period. It's better to come in late or leave early than not to come at all, but don't make a habit of it. Arrange your life so you can attend this class. If you do have to come in late, avoid making a spectacle of yourself. Quietly take the first seat available near the door. Don't walk in front of the instructor. Don't come up front to turn in a paper (it will still be accepted at the end of class).

It is also your responsibility to turn in papers on time. Late papers will be penalized and **formal papers will not be accepted after the discussion** period dedicated to the material they cover.

You may use a computer to take notes, but turn off your cell phones and all other devices when you enter the classroom. This will make it easier for you to remain in your seat rather than leaving the room to answer the phone. (Of course, if you have a potential emergency, let me know and I'll gladly make an exception).

ACADEMIC HONESTY: Plagiarism is the use of the ideas, information, or words of another author without giving proper credit to your source. You are responsible for citing your sources as indicated by the instructor and, in cases where you directly quote from a source, for enclosing those words that are not your own in quotation marks. Failing to give proper credit to your sources in these ways is academic dishonesty. You are also responsible for adhering to my rules on exams. All suspected incidences of academic dishonesty will be referred immediately to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution for investigation. Students found guilty of such actions will be punished. See UTEP policy on this issue at <http://www.utep.edu/dos/acadintg.htm>.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES: If you have a disability and need classroom accommodations, please contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) at 747-5148, or cass@utep.edu, or visit their office located in the Student Union Building East, Room 106. For additional information, please visit the CASS website at www.sa.utep.edu/cass. CASS Staff are the only individuals who can validate and, if need be, authorize accommodations for students with disabilities.

READINGS:

Required:

David Romo, *Ringside Seat to the Revolution*

Paul Gillingham, *Cuauhtémoc's Bones*

Sam Quiñones, *True Tales from Another Mexico*

Richard Marius, *A Short Guide to Writing About History*

Primary source reader, available at Paper Chase, 3233 N. Mesa

Optional:

If you feel the need for a traditional textbook, see the appropriate parts of Michael Meyer, William Sherman, and Susan Deeds, *The Course of Mexican History*.

Aside from the primary source reader, the required readings are all available for purchase in the student bookstore. They are also all on reserve in the library, as is the Meyer, Sherman, and Deeds volume. The Romo and Quiñones volumes can also be found on the sixth floor of the library, in special collections, where you can read them but not check them out.

SCHEDULE OF TOPICS AND ASSIGNMENTS

Date	Topics and Assignments	Readings
Jan 21	Introduction	
23	Video: The Last Zapatistas	Begin Romo
28	Colonial Mexico	
30	Independent Mexico, to 1876 (RESEARCH EXERCISE DUE)	
Feb 4	The Porfiriato (INFORMAL PAPER DUE)	Primary reader docs on Porfiriato
6	Discussion of Romo through p. 77	
11	Origins of the Revolution	Marius, ch. 3
13	Zapata and Villa (INFORMAL PAPER DUE)	Primary reader docs on origins of revolution
18	Carranza and the Constitution of 1917	Primary reader docs on Villismo, Carranza,
20	Discussion of Revolutionary Theory (RESEARCH EXERCISE DUE)	Zapata
25	Video on U.S. and Villa	Primary reader docs on views of foreigners
27	Role of the United States (BOOK REVIEW OF ROMO DUE)	Finish Romo
Mar 4	Discuss Romo	Begin Gillingham

(POSSIBLE RESEARCH TOPICS DUE)

6 The Sonoran Dynasty: Alvaro Obregón

SPRING BREAK

18 Review

20 **MIDTERM EXAM**

25 Research day

27 The Sonoran Dynasty: Calles and the Cristeros
(INFORMAL PAPER DUE)

Primary reader docs
on 1920s

Apr 1 Art and Revolution

3 Lázaro Cárdenas, 1934-40
(LISTS OF SOURCES DUE)

8 More Cárdenas
(INFORMAL PAPER DUE)

10 The Mexican “Miracle” (1940-70)

Finish Gillingham
Begin Quiñones

15 Discussion of Gillingham
(RESEARCH THESES OR QUESTIONS DUE)

17 Society and Culture, 1940-70

22 The Myth of Zapata

24 After the “Miracle,” Change and Crisis
(OUTLINE OF RESEARCH PAPER DUE)

29 Rebels, Drugs, Neoliberalism, and the PAN
(INFORMAL PAPER DUE)

Finish Quiñones

May 1 Discussion of Quiñones

6 Final Remarks
(RESEARCH PAPER DUE)

8 Review

FINAL EXAM: Thursday May 15, 1:00-3:45