

Brunk
History 3350
Modern Mexico
Summer 2017

Office Hours: MW 10:30-11:30; R
2:00-3:00, and by appointment
Office: Liberal Arts Building 320
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COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course centers on the Mexican Revolution as the key event in modern Mexican history. It 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, more briefly, the period of crisis with which that period ended. Among the topics we will discuss are the reasons the revolution happened; the goals of different revolutionary groups; ethnic, gender, and class dynamics; state and nation building in the aftermath of the fighting; the pursuit of economic development; and the role of the United States. Along the way we will discuss the lives of such famous figures as Emiliano Zapata, Pancho Villa, Diego Rivera, Frida Kahlo, and Lázaro Cárdenas. Class readings will consist of two books and a series of short articles and documents; there will be two exams and two short formal writing assignments, and the course will combine lecture and discussion.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: Students will become familiar with the major trends, figures, and events of modern Mexican history. They will achieve greater understanding of the complex relationship between Mexico and the United States. They will also develop the ability to critically discuss different kinds of historical materials, including both primary and secondary sources.

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

Exams	25% each
Formal Papers	20% each
Class Participation	10%

Graduate Students will be required to do additional written work, and should speak to the professor immediately about that.

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 (but only for those students who regularly attend class and complete all informal writing assignments).

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 beyond your control, **contact me immediately**. If it wasn't, and you aren't eligible for a makeup, you should drop the course. Please don't count on me to do that for you.

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 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 the instructor's 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://sa.utep.edu/osccr/academic-integrity/>.

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 a Revolution*

Elena Poniatowska, *Massacre in Mexico*

Documents on Blackboard

Rick López, "The India Bonita Contest of 1921 and the Ethnicization of Mexican National Culture," *Hispanic American Historical Review* 82 (2002): 291-328

Mary Kay Vaughan, "Women School Teachers in the Mexican Revolution: The Story of Reyna's Braids," *Journal of Women's History* 2 (1990): 143-168

Eric Zolov, "Protest and Counterculture in the 1968 Student Movement in Mexico," in *Reading, Writing, Revolution: Student Protest Since 1960*, edited by Gerard DeGroot (London: Addison Wesley Longman, 1998).

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* or Gilbert Joseph and Jurgen Buchenau, *Mexico's Once and Future Revolution*

The two required books are available for purchase in the student bookstore. They are also on reserve in the library, as are the Meyer, Sherman, and Deeds volume and the book by Joseph and Buchenau. Finally, they can be found on the sixth floor of the library, in special collections, where you can read them but not check them out. The documents, and the pieces by López, Vaughan and Zolov, are in the "Readings" file on Blackboard.

SCHEDULE OF TOPICS AND ASSIGNMENTS

Date	Topics and Assignments	Readings
June 12	Introduction; "The Last Zapatistas"	Begin Romo
13	Discussion, "The Last Zapatistas"; Background: Mexico to 1876	Documents on Porfiriato
14	The Porfiriato (INFORMAL ESSAY DUE)	
15	Discussion of informal essay; Origins of the Revolution	Documents on origins of revolution
16	Finish Origins of the Revolution; Zapata and Villa (INFORMAL ESSAY DUE)	
June 19	Discussion of informal essay; Carranza and the Constitution of 1917 (INFORMAL ESSAY DUE)	Documents on Carranza the Constitution, Zapata
20	Discussion of essay; "The Hunt for Pancho Villa"	Finish Romo

- 21 Discussion of video; Role of the United States
(BOOK REVIEW OF ROMO DUE)
- 22 Discussion of Romo; Review for Midterm
23 MIDTERM EXAM
- June 26 The Sonoran Dynasty
(INFORMAL ESSAY DUE)
- 27 Sonoran Dynasty continued; Discussion of essay
- 28 Art and Revolution
(INFORMAL ESSAY DUE)
- 29 Women in the Revolution; Lázaro Cárdenas, 1934-40
30 More Cárdenas
(INFORMAL ESSAY DUE)
- July 3 Discussion of Poniatowska through p. 167;
The Mexican “Miracle” (1940-70)
- 4 Independence Day **(NO CLASS)**
- 5 Society and Culture, 1940-70
- 6 The Myth of Zapata
FORMAL PAPER ON PONIATOWSKA, ZOLOV DUE
- 7 Discussion of Poniatowska and Zolov; Review
- July 10 FINAL EXAM, 1:00-3:45 p.m.**
- Documents on views of foreigners; begin Poniatowska to p. 167
- Documents on 1920s; Rick López article
- Read Vaughan article and Reed and Campobello docs
- Read Zolov article, then Poniatowska, 171 ff.