Naming and Seeing:

Conversations on Latin America

Spanish 2340

In person

CRN: 23842

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Office Hours: Tuesdays 11-12:30 by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION**:** We will discuss issues that have been key in the development and understanding of present-day Latin America. While the course follows a chronological order, from the period of so-called "discovery" and conquest to the twenty-first century, it also will consider themes, synchronically to better understand how they constitute ongoing dialogues in different historical periods.

COURSE OBJECTIVES OR EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES

The course has as its primary objective to introduce undergraduate students to important manifestations of and discourses about Latin American cultures. By placing Latin American cultural production within various contexts and theoretical frameworks, the course also has a major objective to move away from outdated model for teaching Latin American "Culture", in which names, dates, major historical figures and manifestations of high cultural production have been predominant, with "low-culture" being reduced to folklore; this time-worn model also treats Latin American "Culture" as monolithic and as an unproblematic add-on to history, politics, and economics, instead of being deeply—and problematically—embedded in them. By incorporating recent theoretical discussions and interdisciplinary research about Latin American cultures, this course also hopes to offer new ways of entering into an old theme in many undergraduate core curricula in the United States.

At the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Understand key critical issues on the idea of the ¨Discovery of America¨. ○ Reflect on why and how this continent was appropriated by Europeans and was named America ○ How did the exchange triggered by Christopher Columbus´ voyages shaped Europe´s and America´s political, cultural and natural landscapes.

- Undersdand where the idea of portraying the inhabitants of the New World as Savages and Cannibals came from?
- Understand the local and foreign influences that informed the creation of Latin American Nation States.

REQUIRED MATERIALS

All readings will be provided by the professor and his TA via Blackboard. The links to most of the viewings will be provided also and/or the student will be directed to the corresponding platforms when they can find them.

You will also need regular access to a computer, stable, consistent internet, Blackboard, and your UTEP email account.

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

In order to pass this course, students will have to complete five multiple choice-exams. There will be at least one for each class module. Participation in the Discussion Groups will earn students extra credit.

Grade Distribution:

1000-900 = A 899-800 = B 799-700 = C 699-600 = D 599 and Below = F

- 200 points: Exams (5)
- 100 Points: Participation in weekly panel discussions (10 points each) is an extra credit activity)

Participation: for this online course, **students will be required to participate in weekly discussion boards – both an initial post and responses to your peers.** These points cannot be made up.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

Course content is delivered via the Internet through the Blackboard learning management system (LMS). Ensure your UTEP e-mail account is working and that you have access to the Web and a stable web browser. Mozilla Firefox and Google Chrome are the most supported browsers for Blackboard; other browsers may cause complications with the LMS. When having technical difficulties, update your browser, clear your cache, or try switching to another browser.

You will need to have or have access to a computer/laptop, scanner, a webcam, and a microphone. You will need to download or update the following software: Microsoft Office, Adobe, Flashplayer, Windows Media Player, QuickTime, and Java. Check that your computer hardware and software are up-to-date and able to access all parts of the course.

If you encounter technical difficulties beyond your scope of troubleshooting, please contact the Help Desk as they are trained specifically in assisting with technological needs of students.

NETIQUETTE

- Always consider audience. Remember that members of the class and the instructor will be reading any postings.
- Respect and courtesy must be provided to classmates and to instructor at all times. No harassment or inappropriate postings will be tolerated.
- When reaching to someone else's message, address the ideas, not the person. Post only what anyone would comfortably state in a F2F situation.
- Blackboard is not a public internet venue; all postings to it should be considered private and confidential. Whatever is posted on in these online spaces is intended for classmates and professor only. Please do not copy documents and paste them to a publicly accessible website, blog, or other space. If students wish to do so, they have the ethical obligation to first request the permission of the writer(s).

DEADLINES AND LATE WORK POLICY

Partial Exams

- The Partial Exams will be due on Fridays at midnight (11:59 PM). **No late work will be accepted.**

Discussion Board Assignments

- All discussion board assignments will be due on Fridays at midnight (11:59 PM). **No late work will be accepted.**

DROP POLICY

To drop this class, please contact the Registrar's Office to initiate the drop process. If you cannot complete this course for whatever reason, please contact me. If you do not, you are at risk of receiving an "F " for the course.

ACCOMMODATIONS POLICY

"The University is committed to providing reasonable accommodations and auxiliary services to students, staff, faculty, job applicants, applicants for admissions, and other beneficiaries of University programs, services and activities with documented disabilities in order to provide them with equal opportunities to participate in programs, services, and activities in compliance with sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 and the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA) of 2008. Students who become pregnant or have parenting responsibilities may also request reasonable accommodations. Reasonable accommodations will be made unless it is determined that doing so would cause undue

hardship on the University. The UTEP Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) will process requests for accommodations based on a disability, pregnancy, or parenting. Contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services at 915-747-5148, email them at cass@utep.edu, or apply for accommodations online via the CASS portal."

For more information, please visit: https://www.utep.edu/titleix/pregnancy-and-parenting.html

SCHOLASTIC INTEGRITY

Academic dishonesty is prohibited and is considered a violaRon of the UTEP Handbook of OperaRng Procedures. It includes, but is not limited to, cheaRng, plagiarism, and collusion. CheaRng may involve copying from or providing informaRon to another student, possessing unauthorized materials during a test, or falsifying research data on laboratory reports. Plagiarism occurs when someone intenRonally or knowingly represents the words or ideas of another as ones' own. Collusion involves collaboraRng with another person to commit any academically dishonest act. Any act of academic dishonesty adempted by a UTEP student is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. All suspected violaRons of academic integrity at The University of Texas at El Paso must be reported to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict ResoluRon (OSCCR) for possible disciplinary acRon. To learn more HOOP: Student Conduct and Discipline.

STUDENT RESOURCES

UTEP provides a variety of student services and support:

- UTEP Library: Access a wide range of resources including online, full-text access to thousands of journals and eBooks plus reference service and librarian assistance for enrolled students.
- Help Desk: Students experiencing technological challenges (email, Blackboard, software, etc.) can submit a ticket to the UTEP Helpdesk for assistance. Contact the Helpdesk via phone, email, chat, website, or in person if on campus.
- University WriRng Center (UWC): Submit papers here for assistance with wriRng style and formaqng, ask a tutor for help and explore other wriRng resources.
- Math Tutoring Center (MaRCS): Ask a tutor for help and explore other available math resources.
- History Tutoring Center (HTC): Receive assistance with wriRng history papers, get help from a tutor and explore other history resources.
- Military Student Success Center: UTEP welcomes military-affiliated students to its degree programs, and the Military Student Success Center and its dedicated staff (many of whom are veterans and students themselves) are here to help personnel in any branch of service to reach their educational goals.
- RefWorks: A bibliographic citaRon tool; check out the RefWorks tutorial and Fact Sheet and Quick-Start Guide.

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