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Instructor: Dr. Maida Watson

Office Hours: By Appointment

E-mail: Please use Canvas Inbox

Course Description and Purpose

This course is designed to provide students with a background in the historical and cultural currents both from Spain and from the pre-Colombian cultures that created Latin America. The course will study the Spanish roots and the roots of the major pre-Colombian cultures from before the 15th century and the mixture of these cultures in Latin America from the late fifteenth to the late nineteenth centuries. Since the readings are all in Spanish and all essays are written in Spanish students will also improve their command of Spanish vocabulary by reading essays and book chapters in Spanish on social and historical topics and their command of written Spanish by writing their exam answers and compositions in Spanish.

This course meets the requirement for a Global Learning course. **This is a Discipline-specific Global Learning course that counts toward your graduation requirement.**

Matrix for Global Learning

Global Awareness: Students will be able to demonstrate knowledge of the interrelatedness of local, global, international, and intercultural issues, trends, and systems.

Students will be able to analyze the interconnections between historical events, political regimes, and linguistic changes that led to the development of a particular culture in Colonial Latin America as expressed through its art, food, music and literature.

Course Objectives

Estudiantes serán capaces de:

Entender las características principales de la cultura latinoamericana. Este curso estará enfocado en estudiar y analizar las principales características de la cultura latinoamericana y su relación con los procesos históricos que suscitaron su origen. El contenido sociocultural es la base fundamental para el análisis de la evolución y estructuración de la cultura latinoamericana.

Las lecturas seleccionadas de este curso permitirán al estudiante tener una visión más profunda y elaborada de la evolución de la identidad y el discurso latinoamericano. Estas están compuestas por textos que cubren desde el precolombino hasta las Colonias. Además estas lecturas van acompañadas de diferentes materiales didácticos como películas, documentales y música.

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Entender las características principales de la cultura latinoamericana y su conexión con los procesos históricos que le dan origen.

Distinguir las similitudes y diferencias en evolución cultural e histórica de los diferentes países de América Latina.

Adquirir una visión más clara acerca de la influencia de la diversidad histórica y cultural en la región

Analizar como diferentes factores políticos y geográficos afectaron el desarrollo y protagonismo económico, social y cultural de Latinoamérica en el mundo moderno

Entender la influencia de los factores políticos, históricos y socio culturales en el desarrollo de la identidad latinoamericana.

Course Awards

Affordability Counts

This course has been awarded the Affordability Counts Meritallion. The Affordability Counts initiative at FIU seeks to make learning more affordable by reducing the cost of course materials to \$60 or less. Find out more by visiting the Affordability Counts website at lowcost.fiu.edu.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Policies

Please review the FIU's Policies webpage. The policies webpage contains essential information regarding guidelines relevant to all courses at FIU, as well as additional information about acceptable netiquette for online courses.

Technical Requirements & Skills

One of the greatest barriers to taking an online course is a lack of basic computer literacy. By computer literacy we mean being able to manage and organize computer files efficiently, and learning to use your computer's operating system and software quickly and easily. Keep in mind that this is not a computer literacy course; but students enrolled in online courses are expected to have moderate proficiency using a computer. Please go to the "What's Required" webpage to find out more information on this subject.

Please visit our Technical Requirements webpage for additional information.

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Accessibility And Accommodation

Please visit our ADA Compliance webpage for information about accessibility involving the tools used in this course.

Please visit Blackboard's Commitment Accessibility webpage for more information.

For additional assistance please contact FIU's Disability Resource Center.

Panthers Care & Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)

If you are looking for help for yourself or a fellow classmate, Panthers Care encourages you to express any concerns you may come across as it relates to any personal behavior concerns or worries you have, for the classmate's well-being or yours; you are encouraged to share your concerns with FIU's Panther Care website.

Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) offers free and confidential help for anxiety, depression, stress, and other concerns that life brings. Professional counselors are available for same-day appointments. Don't wait to call 305-348-2277 to set up a time to talk or visit the online self-help portal.

Academic Misconduct Statement

Florida International University is a community dedicated to generating and imparting knowledge through excellent teaching and research, the rigorous and respectful exchange of ideas and community service. All students should respect the right of others to have an equitable opportunity to learn and honestly to demonstrate the quality of their learning. Therefore, all students are expected to adhere to a standard of academic conduct, which demonstrates respect for themselves, their fellow students, and the educational mission of the University. All students are deemed by the University to understand that if they are found responsible for academic misconduct, they will be subject to the Academic Misconduct procedures and sanctions, as outlined in the Student Handbook.

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Academic Misconduct includes: Cheating – The unauthorized use of books, notes, aids, electronic sources; or assistance from another person with respect to examinations, course assignments, field service reports, class recitations; or the unauthorized possession of examination papers or course materials, whether originally authorized or not. Plagiarism – The use and appropriation of another’s work without any indication of the source and the representation of such work as the student’s own. Any student who fails to give credit for ideas, expressions or materials taken from another source, including internet sources, is responsible for plagiarism.

Learn more about the academic integrity policies and procedures as well as student resources that can help you prepare for a successful semester.

Course Prerequisites

Prerequisite: ability to understand Spanish at advanced level. Review the Course Catalog webpage for prerequisites information.

Proctored Exam Policy

Please note that the information contained in this section applies only if your course requires a proctored exam.

This course does not require any on campus exams, all course work and assessments will be completed online.

Through a careful examination of this syllabus, it is the student’s responsibility to determine whether this online course requires proctored exams. Please visit our Student Proctored Exam Instructions webpage for important information concerning proctored exams, proctoring centers, and important forms.

Expectations Of This Course

This is an online course, which means most (if not all) of the course work will be conducted online. Expectations for performance in an online course are the same for a traditional course. In fact, online courses require a degree of self-motivation, self-discipline, and technology skills which can make these courses more demanding for some students.

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Students are expected to:

Review the how to get started information located in the course content

Introduce yourself to the class during the first week by posting a self introduction in the appropriate discussion forum

Take the practice quiz to ensure that your computer is compatible with Blackboard

Interact online with instructor/s and peers

Review and follow the course calendar

Submit assignments by the corresponding deadline

COURSE DETAIL

Course Communication

Communication in this course will take place via Messages ONLY and must be entirely in SPANISH.

Messages is a private and secure text-based communication system which occurs within a course among its Course members. Users must log on to Blackboard to send, receive, or read messages. The Messages tool is located on the course Menu, on the left side of the course webpage. It is recommended that students check their messages routinely to ensure up-to-date communication.

Visit our Writing Resources webpage for more information on professional writing and technical communication skills.

Discussion Forum

Keep in mind that forum discussions are public, and care should be taken when determining what to post. Students are required to create a student homepage and write a three-paragraph description about themselves and their goals for this course; it is recommended that students post a picture of themselves. 5% of the course grade will be based the student homepage.

The student homepage must be written completely in Spanish. Any homepage in English will receive zero (0) points.

To create a Student Homepage: go to the discussions link from the course tools menu and click on the Student Homepage topic.

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Assessments

There are six tests which will be open for 4 days. All tests will be in Spanish and have a time limit of two hours and 30 minutes. The six tests are multiple choice and will be based on the readings which are due BEFORE the test opens. You will see your score immediately after submitting your test and you will be able to see your correct and incorrect answers after each test's due date. You have 4 days to take each of the tests, therefore, if you do not take the test it will not open again.

In order to mitigate any issues with your computer and online assessments, it is very important that you take the "Practice Quiz" from each computer you will be using to take your graded quizzes and exams. It is your responsibility to make sure your computer meets the minimum hardware requirements.

Assessments in this course are not compatible with mobile devices and should not be taken through a mobile phone or a tablet. If you need further assistance please contact FIU Online Support Services.

Assignments

There is one long paper which is 600 words and smaller essays of no less than 300 words each. Papers will be written in Spanish with proper use of written accents and correct grammar and spelling. Topics for the papers are under ensayos in the assignment dropdown.

Essay topics will be listed on the course content under each lesson. They have to be written in Spanish with proper use of written accents and correct grammar and spelling

Grading

Course Requirements	Number of Items	Weight
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Study Hours Page	1	5%
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Long Essay	1	30%
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Tests	6	35%
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Short Essays	7	30%
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Total	15	100%
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Letter	Range (%)	Letter	Range (%)	Letter	Range (%)
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A	95 - 100	B	82 - 86	C	70 - 76
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A-	90 - 94	B-	80 - 82	D	60 - 69
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B+	87 - 89	C+	77 - 79	F	< 59
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COURSE CALENDAR

Module Weekly Schedule

UNIDAD I - LOS AZTECAS I

January 7 - January 20

Tasks:

Read all the readings in this unit

Watch Películas aztecas

Due:

Post Introduction Discussion. Please introduce yourself in Spanish and post a picture. Home Page located in Discussions is due January 20

UNIDAD II - LOS AZTECAS II

January 7 - January 20

Tasks:

Read Así vivían los aztecas and the Los Aztecas PPTs. Please take sometime to load so be patient.

Due:

Ensayo 1 due January 20

Test 1: You will have 90 minutes to complete the test. It will cover all reading on the Aztecs and the audios and movies on the Aztecs. Be sure and watch the Los Aztecas PPT before you take the test. Test opens on January 16 and closes on January 20

Last day to add/drop courses or withdraw from the University without incurring financial liability for Tuition and Fees January 15

UNIDAD III - LOS INDIOS DEL PERÚ E INCAS

January 21 - February 3

Tasks:

Read La época prehispánica

Read all the readings in the Peruvian Indians

UNIDAD IV - LA CULTURA INCA

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January 21 - February 3

Tasks:

Watch Los incas PPT

Read the Reading in this unit

Watch Películas incas

Due:

Ensayo corto 2 due February 3

Test 2: You will have 90 minutes to complete the test. It will cover all the reading on the Inca and the Indians of Peru, the PowerPoint, the videos, and the movies. Be sure to watch the PowerPoint on the Incas in Unidad 4 before taking the test. Test 2 opens on January 31 and closes February 3

UNIDAD V - LOS MAYAS

February 4 - 10 (Note: this unit is only one week)

Tasks:

Read Mayan Life

Read Misterios de la cultura maya Watch Mayan movies

Due:

Ensayo corto 3 due February 10

Test 3: You will have 90 minutes to complete the test. It will cover all the material on the Mayans and the movie on the Mayans. Be sure to watch and take notes of the ppt. before the test. Test 3 opens on February 6 and closes on February 10

UNIDAD VI - ESPAÑA: SU GEOGRAFÍA Y SU HISTORIA HASTA LA RECONQUISTA

February 11 - February 24

Tasks:

Read La Cultura de España I and II Read La España Antes 1492

Read España Medieval

Read Los judíos

Read Raíces de España

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Listen to audios and the songs

UNIDAD VII - ESPAÑA: SU GEOGRAFÍA Y SU HISTORIA HASTA LA RECONQUISTA PARTE 2

February 11 - February 24

Tasks:

Watch videos

Read Europe in the middle ages

Cities of light

Arte España desde la Reconquista

Due:

Ensayo corto 4 due February 24

Test 4: You will have 90 minutes to complete the test. It will cover all the material on Spain before 1492 and the audio and documentaries. Watch the PowerPoint on Spain before taking the test. Test 4 opens on Feb. 19 and closes Feb. 24

UNIDAD VIII – DESCUBRIMIENTO y LA COLONIA

February 25 - March 10

Tasks:

Watch The Conquista PowerPoint and the Reconquista versus Conquista PowerPoint

Read Cultura hispanoamericana I, II, and III

Read El conquistador hispano

Read descubrimientos y descubridores

Read conquista

Watch movies about Cortés, and the movie Guns Germs and Steel

Long essay due October 21

UNIDAD IX - LA COLONIA 2

February 25 - March 10

Tasks:

Read La esclavitud africana en América

Read Descubrimiento y conquista de América

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Read La sociedad indiana I, II, and III

Read La colonización

Read La sociedad colonial en el Perú colonial

Watch La Virgen y el toro – La edad de oro El Mestizaje

UNIDAD X – LA COLONIA 3

March 11 - March 24

Tasks:

Read La comida en México I and II

Read Comida en las colonias

La Colonia PPT

PPT Caribe

Due:

Ensayo corto 5 due March 24

Test 5: You will have 90 minutes to complete the test. It will cover all the readings on the Colony including the audios and the documents on the age of gold. Test 5 - March 24

UNIDAD XI - LA INDEPENDENCIA

March 25 - April 7

Tasks:

Read The Terra

Read Siglo XIX parts I and II

Read Población y

Read Estanciaero

Watch Power Points

Watch Campaña del desierto – Historia argentina –

Arte siglo XIX

Due:

Ensayo corto 6 due April 7

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Test 6: You will have 90 minutes to complete your test. It will cover all the readings on the 19th century and the independencía. Test 6 opens April 3 and closes April 7

UNIDAD XII – CAMILA

April 8 - April 21

Tasks:

Watch “Camila”

Read sumario lecturas Rosas

Due:

Ensayo corto 7 Due April 21

TEXTBOOK

Textbook Image

NO TEXTBOOK REQUIRED

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