

University of North Carolina Wilmington

Spanish American Civilization-Spring 2008

Course Information

Instructor: Dr. Amrita Das
Office: Leutze Hall 286
Office Hours: 10-11 AM MWF or by appointment
Email: dasa@uncw.edu (preferred)
Office Telephone: 962-2430

Course: SPN 312-2
Time: MWF 1-1:50
Location: Leutze 104

Course Prerequisites: SPN 202 and SPN 203

Course Description and Objectives: The course is a general survey of Spanish American geography, history and cultures dating from Pre-Colombian times to the present. The objective of the class is to acquire a basic understanding of the cultures of Latin America, while acquiring language skills through reading, writing, listening and speaking. The students will be able to discuss analytically in Spanish the cultural, social, economic and political situations of different ages of Latin America.

Course Materials:

Required textbook: Fox, Arturo. *Latinoamérica: presente y pasado*. 3rd. edition. Pearson Prentice Hall, 2007.

Companion Website: < http://wps.prenhall.com/wl_fox_latinoamerica_3>

Recommended: A good Spanish-English-Spanish dictionary

UNCW email account

Class Policies

Language: Spanish will be the language of communication at all times, in-class, preparation, and exams. Use of any other language will affect your grade.

Attendance: Attendance is compulsory. However in case of emergency a student may miss three (3) absences classes with no penalty. Each absence after the third will earn 0 points for participation for that day. Tardiness will not be tolerated and being late to class will affect the participation grade. (See below for Participation grading system).

Deadlines: No late work will be accepted. If the student is aware of an upcoming absence, he/she will be responsible to turn in work earlier. A student may turn in the work in the next class ONLY if it is an un-foreseen absence due to emergency or illness. Work sent through email as an attachment is ACCEPTABLE.

Make-up: Pop quizzes and group projects will NOT be allowed to be made-up. Tests may be re-scheduled only with valid reason and early consultation with the instructor.

Preparation and Home Work: Pre-class and Post-class assignments are essential for successfully accomplishing the objective of this course. **Unannounced quizzes** will be given through out the course, based on the pre-class readings. Home Work will include readings, on-line activities and short essays. Failure to do work assigned will affect drastically the final grade.

Class behavior: No food is allowed in class. Cell phones must be turned off at all times during class. Group activities are to be taken seriously and respect for group/class members is required for this class. Engaging with any material outside course work will be confiscated. Failure to follow the above policies will be penalized by lowering the FINAL grade.

Electronic resources: Detailed calendar and other material will be made available through email or BlackBoard. Students must check their UNCW email at least once a day. Print any handouts sent and SAVE ALL EMAILS for future reference.

Academic Honor Code: All work must be the student's own work. Plagiarizing, on-line translators or any other source other than permitted, used is prohibited. Please read the following document for the details about UNCW's honor code <http://www.uncw.edu/stuaff/doso/documents/Code.Of.Student.Life.pdf>

Disability Services: Students with disabilities will be accommodated with prior notification to the instructor. Please contact UNCW's Disability services <http://www.uncw.edu/stuaff/disability/> for further information.

Safety on campus: UNCW practices a zero-tolerance policy for violence and harassment of any kind. For emergencies contact UNCW CARE at 962-2273, Campus Police at 962-3184, or Wilmington Police at 911. For University or community resources visit <http://uncw.edu/wrc/crisis.htm>.

Other resources: University Learning Services information (<http://www.uncw.edu/stuaff/uls/>)

Evaluation

Grading Scale:

93-100	A	83-86	B	73-76	C	60-62	D-
90-92	A-	80-82	B-	70-72	C-	63-66	D
87-89	B+	77-79	C+	67-69	D+	0-59	F

Class Participation and Preparation: 15%

All assigned readings must be completed with organized notes and thoughts, in legible writing or must be typed. They must be labeled, dated, and identified.

Active participation in class activities will be graded on a 10-point scale for each class.

10 points: On time. Prepared with notes and homework, completion of all instructions and active participation, and use of target language (Spanish) at all times.

7-9 points: On time. Prepared with notes and homework, not enough participation in class activities, and use of target language most of the times.

4-6 points: Late to class. Some notes, low participation in class activities, and little use of the target language.

0-3 points: Late to class. Sleeping/Dozing, no notes, low participation in class activities, and no use of the target language.

Essays: 15%

Short written answers as follow-up/reaction to class discussions/lectures (length will be specified). They must be typed with 1" margin all around, double-spaced and using font size 12 and type either Times or Times New Roman. All papers must have the student's complete name, instructor's name, class, title of paper. If more than one sheet please staple and number the sheet.

Quiz: 15%

Unannounced quizzes based on readings.

Tests: 20%

Short Answers, Multiple Choice, True or False etc: Based on class material

Web Exercises: 15%

Review and vocabulary online exercises available through http://wps.prenhall.com/wl_fox_latinoamerica_3

Must be completed by midnight of the date posted in the Calendar.

Group Presentation: 20%

1. Group members will choose their own partners. (3-4 max.)
2. Topic of presentation will be on a modern Spanish American nation.
3. Presentations will last 10-15 minutes maximum.
4. I (Instructor) must approve all presentation content.
5. Proposal deadline: **4th Week of class** and Content Approval deadline: **1 week prior to presentation date.** (DETAILS ABOUT HOW TO WRITE A PROPOSAL WILL BE GIVEN IN CLASS)
6. A group presentation Portfolio must be submitted
7. Presentation must include
 - i. A multi-media presentation
 - ii. Inter-active component (activities for non-presenters)
8. Evaluation based on
 1. Organization and Presentation
 2. Content
 3. Creativity
 4. Use of Spanish
 5. Group Evaluation (See below)
 6. Peer evaluation (See below)
 7. Group Work
 8. Individual work

