

HC 205 HISTORY OF MEXICO: FROM AZTLÁN TO CHIAPAS - Fall 2007  
O'Hare Campus, Wednesdays, 6 - 9 PM

Faculty: Roberto Sanabria; email: rasanabria@sbcglobal.net

Textbook: The Course of Mexican History, Seventh Edition

Mexico is the world's most populated Spanish speaking country as well as one of the United States' largest trade partners. This course will explore Mexico's varied geography from the deserts of Sonora to the rain forests of the Yucatan Peninsula, survey the rich history of Mexico's pre-Colombian civilizations, the Spanish colonization, the struggle for independence, the Mexican-American War, the French occupation, the Revolution in 1910 and the recent social upheavals in Chiapas. Students will also examine the socio-cultural icons Frida Khalo, Diego Rivera, Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz, and the Virgin of Guadalupe. Readings for the course will include newspaper and magazine articles, essays, historical documents, and one book. In addition to the readings, a weekly and structured learning journal of relevant topics will be required as well as one final research paper of approximately ten pages. The research paper will have a theme germane to the course and must involve one of the competencies for which the student has enrolled. In preparation for the research paper, all students must make a ten minute presentation to the class illuminating the topics they choose. The instructor will distribute a list of possible themes for the research paper.

This course is offered for the following competencies:

A1D: Can analyze writers' or artists representations of human experience.

A1E: Can interpret the work of artists within a historical or social context.

H1F: Can describe and explain the roles of individuals groups, societies, or states in history.

H5: Can analyze issues and problems from a global perspective.

SESSION I --

INTRODUCTION

Mexico: Its Land and Its People

- \* Pre-Test -- How much do you already know about Mexico?
- \* Quick Geographical Tour of Mexico -- its limits, its place in Latin America, and its major cities
- \* First Civilizations
- \* Video Presentation -- The Maya

SESSION II --

Conquest and Colonization (1519 - 1700)

Read pages 50 - 87; 91 - 121, 173 - 178, and 213 -217.

- \* Video Presentation -- The Aztecs
- \* The Economy of New Spain and its Contribution to the Rise of European Capitalism
- \* Spanish Conquest of Mexico
- \* The Virgin of Guadalupe
- \* Women in New Spain: The Case of Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz

SESSION III --

The Bourbonic Reforms (1700 - 1810)

Read pages 192 - 206; and 237 - 267.

- \* El Mestizaje and the Social Construction of Race in Colonial Mexico (New Spain)
- \* The War of Spanish Succession
- \* New Spain under Bourbon Reconstruction

#### Session IV

The Quest for Independence (1810 - 1821)

Read pages 270 - 293

- \* Father Miguel Hidalgo
- \* The Grito de Dolores
- \* Mexico wins its Independence

#### SESSION V --

The Struggle to Create a Nation (1821 - 1855)

Read pages 297 - 365.

- \* From Empire to Republic
- \* Mexico Loses Texas
- \* The Mexican American War
- \* Los Niños Héroes
- \* Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo

#### SESSION VI --

La Reforma (1855 - 1876)

Read pages 367 - 395.

- \* French Intervention in Mexico
- \* Video Presentation
- \*The Restored Republic

#### SESSION VII --

El Porfiriato (1876 - 1910)

Read pages 413 - 459.

- \* The Modernization of Mexico
- \* Society and Culture during the Porfiriato

#### SESSION VIII --

Readings to be announced.

The Mexican Revolution (1910 - 1940)

- \* The Military Phase
- \* The Constructive Phase
- \* Cárdenas Carries the Revolution to the Left
- \* Student Presentations

#### SESSION IX --

Readings to be announced.

Mexico In the Middle of the 20th Century

- \* Bracero Program
- \* Diego Rivera, Siquieros; Frida Khalo, and José Clemente Orozco
- \* The Massacre of Tlatelolco
- \* Student Presentations

#### SESSION X --

Readings to be announced.

Mexico Today

- \* Maquiladoras
- \* NAFTA
- \* Chiapas and the EZLN
- \* Student Presentations

SESSION XI --

No reading requirement.

Student Presentations if necessary.

For those who are enrolled in the course for one competency, the grading rubric is as follows:

Class participation 30% (which includes attendance, active listening, and participation)

Structured Learning Journal 50%

Class Presentation 15%

Brief Outline of Presentation 5%

For those who are enrolled in the course for two competencies, the grading rubric is as follows:

Class participation 20% (which includes attendance, active listening, and participation)

Research Paper (7 - 10 pages) 40%

Structured Learning Journal 30%

Class Presentation 10%