

## **History 680: State and nation building in twentieth-century Latin America**

Spring 2006; California State University, Chico

Professor Stephen E. Lewis

Trinity Hall 208; 898-6244; [slewis2@csuchico.edu](mailto:slewis2@csuchico.edu)

Office hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9-10:30, Fridays 9-noon.

### **Course description**

This is a fast-paced graduate seminar designed to introduce students to current trends in the social history of twentieth-century Latin America, particularly Mexico, Argentina, and Brazil. It includes an overnight trip to Berkeley, where we will be introduced to the Bancroft Library, a major repository of primary source materials for the history of Europe, the US West, and Mexico.

### **Course requirements**

This course is a seminar that meets once a week. Please do the readings ahead of time and come to class prepared to discuss. Most class periods will consist of a lecture that will not exceed one hour in length; the rest of the time will be devoted to student-led discussions, presentations, and video clips.

Your final grade will be determined as follows:

First paper (7 pages)	15%
Second paper (5 pages)	15%
Review essay (7 pages)	15%
Final paper (12-15 pages)	40%
Discussion/question/participation grade	15%

### **Nuts and bolts:**

Since this class meets just once a week, your attendance and participation are required. If you skip more than one class, your final grade will be lowered by 1/3 of a grade for each additional class missed.

### **Late policy:**

Written work will be docked 1/3 of a letter grade each weekday that it is late.

### **Readings**

Please purchase the following at the bookstore:

*Seth Garfield on state- and nation in Brazil*

*Also Beatty on Brazil, the army, state and nation. Or, Daryle Williams. Probably cut Dávila.*

*Greg Grandin, The Blood of Guatemala*

Aviva Chomsky, Barry Carr and Pamela Maria Smorkaloff, eds., The Cuba Reader: History, Culture, Politics (Durham: Duke University Press, 2002).

Jerry Dávila, Diploma of Whiteness: Race and Social Policy in Brazil, 1917-1945 (Durham: Duke University Press, 2003).

Lyman L. Johnson, ed., Death, Dismemberment, and Memory: Body Politics in Latin America (Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 2004).

Mariano Ben Plotkin, Mañana es San Perón: A Cultural History of Perón's Argentina (Wilmington, DE: Scholarly Resources Inc., 2003 [1993]).

Mary Kay Vaughan and Stephen E. Lewis, The Eagle and the Virgin: Nation and Cultural Revolution in Mexico, 1920-1940 (Durham: Duke University Press, 2006).

*No Gonzales.*

*For the ways in which "scientific" theories of race were translated in diverse national periods in Latin America, see Martin Stabb's book "In Search of Identity." He has a synthetic, accesible chapter on late 19th century racism in Latin America.*

All other course readings can be found in the course packet, which can be purchased at Mr. Copy.

## Syllabus

### Introduction

Jan. 25

### Heroes, villains, and memory in Latin America

Feb. 1

Lyman L. Johnson, "Why Dead Bodies Talk: An Introduction," in Death, Dismemberment, and Memory: Body Politics in Latin America (hereafter DDM), ed. Lyman L. Johnson, (Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 2004), 1-26.

Lyman L. Johnson, "Digging Up Cuauhtémoc," in DDM, 207-244.

Jeffrey M. Shumway, "'Sometimes Knowing How to Forget is Also Having Memory': The Repatriation of Juan Manuel de Rosas and the Healing of Argentina," in DDM, 105-140.

Paul J. Dosal, "San Ernesto de la Higuera: The Resurrection of Che Guevara," in DDM, 317-341.

Katherine Elaine Bliss, Compromised Positions: Prostitution, Public Health, and Gender Politics in Revolutionary Mexico City (University Park, PA: Pennsylvania State University Press, 2001) 1-61.

*In-class presentation:* Juan Manuel de Rosas (based on Lynch biography)

Please e-mail three discussion questions to our discussant and to [slewis2@csuchico.edu](mailto:slewis2@csuchico.edu) by noon, Feb. 1.

### The Spanish-(Cuban-Philippine-)American War

Feb. 8

Selections from The Cuba Reader:

José Martí, "José Martí's 'Our America'," 122-127.

New York Journal, "The Explosion of the *Maine*," 130-134.

John J. Johnson, "U.S. Cartoonists Portray Cuba," 135-138.

Fifty-fifth Congress, Second Session, "The Devastation of Counterinsurgency," 139-142.

President Theodore Roosevelt, "The Platt Amendment," 143-149.

Manuel Moreno Fraginals, "Spain in Cuba," 157-162.

El Partido Independiente del Color, "The Independent Party of Color," 163-166.

Rosalie Schwartz, "The Invasion of the Tourists," 244-252.

Oscar Lewis, et. al., "A Prostitute Remembers," 260-63

Oscar Zanetti, "The United Fruit Company in Cuba," 290-295.

*In-class presentation:* selections from TCR:

Ursino Rojas, "Life at the Mill," 226-233.

Leví Marrero, "Migrant Workers in the Sugar Industry," 234-238.

Fernando Ortiz, "The Cuban Counterpoint," 239-243.

*In-class presentation:* selections from TCR:

R. Hart Phillips, "The Fall of Machado," 274-280.

Salvador Rionda, "Sugar Mills and Soviets," 281-282.

Sumner Welles and Cordell Hull, "The United States confronts the 1933 Revolution," 283-286.

Samuel Farber, "The Political Gangster," 287-289.

*In-class presentation:*

Che Guevara (based on Jorge Castañeda's biography)

Please e-mail three discussion questions to our discussant and to [slewis2@csuchico.edu](mailto:slewis2@csuchico.edu) by noon, Feb. 8.

### **The Mexican revolution**

Feb. 15

Bliss, 63-215.

Paul J. Vanderwood, "Resurveying the Mexican Revolution: Three Provocative New Syntheses and Their Shortfalls" in Mexican Studies/Estudios Mexicanos 5(1) (Winter 1989) 145-163.

*In-class presentation:* Bolivia's new president Evo Morales

Please e-mail three discussion questions to our discussant and to [slewis2@csuchico.edu](mailto:slewis2@csuchico.edu) by noon, Feb. 15.

### **Historiography and the "new cultural history"**

Feb. 22

Mary Kay Vaughan, "Cultural Approaches to Peasant Politics in the Mexican Revolution," in Hispanic American Historical Review 79:2 (1999) 269-305.

Stephen Haber, "Anything Goes: Mexico's 'New' Cultural History," in Hispanic American Historical Review 79:2 (1999) 309-330.

Alan Knight, "Subalterns, Signifiers, and Statistics: Perspectives on Mexican Historiography," Latin American Research Review 37:2 (2002) 136-158.

Anne Rubenstein, Bad Language, Naked Ladies, and Other Threats to the Nation (Durham: Duke University Press, 1998) 1-11 and 35-73.

*Finally, I have used Alan Knight's „The peculiarities of Mexican History: Mexico Compared to Latin America, 1821-1992%o (Journal of Latin American Studies, vol. 24 1992) in some of my classes to talk about approaches to Mexican history. Knight's expansive argument always leads to interesting methodological discussions, and may be interesting to your student.*

*In-class presentation:* Mexican president Vicente Fox

**Video:** "The Frescoes of Diego Rivera"

*In-class presentation:* Mexican presidential candidate Andrés Manuel López Obrador

**Paper # 1 due in my box in the History Dept. office by 4:00 PM Monday, Feb. 27.**

March 1

No class. Lewis at a conference. Please use the time to research holdings at the Bancroft and Main libraries at UC Berkeley.

### **Mexico's "Cultural Revolution"**

March 8

Rick A. López, "The Noche Mexicana and the Exhibition of Popular Arts: Two Ways of Exalting Indianness," in Mary Kay Vaughan and Stephen E. Lewis, eds., The Eagle and the Virgin: Cultural Revolution in Mexico (hereafter EV) (Durham: Duke University Press, 2006), 23-42.

Desmond Rochfort, "The Sickle, the Serpent, and the Soil: History, Revolution, Nationhood, and Modernity in the Murals of Diego Rivera, José Clemente Orozco, and David Alfaro Siqueiros," in EV, 43-57.

Sarah Lowe, "Frida Kahlo," in EV, 58-66.

Adriana Zavala, "María Izquierdo," in EV, 67-78.

Adrian A. Bantjes, "Saints, Sinners, and State Formation: Local Religion and Cultural Revolution in Mexico," in EV, 137-156.

*In-class presentation:* Mexican presidential candidate Roberto Madrazo

Please e-mail three discussion questions to our discussant and to [slewis2@csuchico.edu](mailto:slewis2@csuchico.edu) by noon, March 8.

March 22

Wendy Waters, "Remapping Identities: Road Construction and Nation Building in Postrevolutionary Mexico," in EV, 221-242.

Joanne Hershfield, "Screening the Nation," in EV, 259-280.

USE HAYES OR OLSEN, OR BOTH

Michael Snodgrass, "'We Are All Mexicans Here': Workers, Patriotism, and Union Struggles in Monterrey," in EV, 314-334.

Please e-mail three discussion questions to our discussant and to [slewis2@csuchico.edu](mailto:slewis2@csuchico.edu) by noon, March 22.

March 24-25

Bancroft trip

### **The Cuban revolution**

March 29

*The 26<sup>th</sup> of July movement*

Selections from TCR:

- Carlos Franqui, "Three Comandantes Talk It Over," 302-305.
- Fidel Castro, "History Will Absolve Me," 306-314.
- Che Guevara, "Reminiscences of the Cuban Revolutionary War," 315-320.
- Morris Morley, "The United States Rules Cuba, 1952-1958," 321-325.
- Herbert L. Matthews, "The Cuban Story in the *New York Times*" 326-332.
- Fidel Castro, "Castro Announces the Revolution," 341-343.
- Medea Benjamin et. al., "How the Poor Got More," 344-353.
- Margaret Randall, "Women in the Swamps," 363-369.
- President John F. Kennedy, "Offensive Missiles on That Imprisoned Island," 544-46.
- Select Committee to Study Governmental Operations with Respect to Intelligence Activities, "The Assassination Plots," 552-56.

*Social revolution?*

Selections from TCR:

- Ernesto "Che" Guevara, "Man and Socialism," 370-374.
- Richard R. Fagen, "1961: The Year of Education," 386-388.
- Oscar Lewis et. al., "The Literacy Campaign," and "The 'Rehabilitation' of Prostitutes," 389-398.
- Margaret Randall, "The Family Code," 399-405.
- Reinaldo Arenas, "Homosexuality, Creativity, Dissidence," 406-411.

*In-class presentation from TCR:*

- Carlos Moore, "Silence on Black Cuba," 419-423.
- Christian Parenti, "Post-modern Maroon in the Ultimate *Palenque*," 427-432.
- Roberto Fernández Retamar, "Caliban," 451-457.

*In-class presentation from TCR:*

- Juan Antonio Blanco and Medea Benjamin, "From Utopianism to Institutionalization," 433-442.
- Susan Eckstein, "From Communist Solidarity to Communist Solitary," 607-622.
- Saul Landau, "The Revolution Turns Forty," 623-627.

*In-class presentation:*

- Fidel Castro (based on Sebastian Balfour's biography, plus current news articles)

**Paper #2 due in my box in the History Dept. office by 4:00 PM on Monday, April 3.**

**Populist state and nation building in Argentina and Brazil**

April 5

Mariano Ben Plotkin, Mañana es San Perón: A Cultural History of Perón's Argentina (Wilmington, DE: Scholarly Resources Inc., 2003 [1993] 3-134.

Begin work on your research paper.

*In-class presentation:* Argentine president Nestor Kirchner

Please e-mail three discussion questions to our discussant and to [slewis2@csuchico.edu](mailto:slewis2@csuchico.edu) by noon, April 5.

**Video:** "The Garden of Forking Paths"

April 12

Plotkin, 135-202.

Paul W. Drake, "Conclusion: Requiem for Populism?" in Michael L. Conniff, Latin American Populism in Comparative Perspective (Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 1982) 217-245.

Come to class prepared to discuss your progress on the research paper.

*In-class presentation:* Eva Perón

Please e-mail three discussion questions to our discussant and to [slewis2@csuchico.edu](mailto:slewis2@csuchico.edu) by noon, April 12.

April 19

Jerry Dávila, Diploma of Whiteness: Race and Social Policy in Brazil, 1917-1945 (Durham: Duke University Press, 2003). DON'T ASSIGN PAGES 192-231

Please e-mail three discussion questions to our discussant and to [slewis2@csuchico.edu](mailto:slewis2@csuchico.edu) by noon, April 19.

*In-class presentation:* Brazil's president Luis Ignacio "Lula" da Silva

**Video:** "Capital Sins"

April 26

Samuel Brunk, "The Moral Remains of Emiliano Zapata," in DDM, 141-178.

Jürgen Buchenau, "The Arm and the Body of a Revolution: Remembering Mexico's Last Caudillo, Alvaro Obregón," in DDM, 179-206.

Donna J. Guy, "Life and the Commodification of Death in Argentina: Juan and Eva Perón," in DDM, 245-272.

Daryle Williams and Barbara Weinstein, "Vargas Morto: The Death and Life of a Brazilian Statesman," in DDM, 273-315.

*In-class presentation:* Chile's new president Michele Bachelet

**Review essay due in my box in the History Dept. office by 4:00 PM on Friday, April 28.**

May 3

No class. Meet in small groups with Lewis to discuss progress on research papers.

May 10

No class. Continue working on your research papers.

May 17 (finals week)

Presentations on research papers. **Research papers due.**