



COURSE: SPAN 362: SPAIN AND THE AMERICAS: FROM THE PRE-COLUMBIAN PERIOD TO THE PRESENT

COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course aims to introduce historical, political, social, anthropological and cultural aspects of Spanish-speaking countries in America.

Beginning with the great civilizations that flourished in America before the Spaniards' arrival, students will analyze culture throughout different historical eras. We will study different periods from the initial encounter, conquest, colonization and independence to current times.

The opening of sea routes in the 16th century made Seville a hub of commerce and exchange with both fellow Spaniards and other Europeans. The port city became the crossroads between America and Europe. To this day, Seville's culture bears witness to its prosperous and cosmopolitan past.

We will also study key events marking the contemporary history of Latin America, along with their implications in international politics. It is essential for students to cultivate *critical thinking* skills as they approach the different topics of this course.

STRUCTURE

Classes are based on the instructor's explanation of the topics and on students' contribution. Throughout the course, the instructor will provide additional written and audiovisual sources on key topics. The textbook will mark the structure of the course. Relevant current events will be incorporated into different sessions in order to stay informed on Spanish American realities.

Students must study the topics prior to the class in order to enhance participation and debates.

In accordance with the Writing Program, each student must prepare a research project, using Word, double-spaced in 12-point Arial font. This paper will be six to eight pages long. Before beginning work, each student will hand in an outline and receive the instructors' feedback and suggestions of bibliographical sources.

In addition to this project, there will be other assignments, including oral presentations, visits, movies and online debates and tasks. Students will receive a list of *key questions* on each topic to orient them as they approach the readings and aid in comprehension.

There will be two exams, a mid-term and final.

Class visits: 1500s Seville, Indias Archive and Biblioteca Colombina.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Lynch, J. Las revoluciones Hispanoamericanas,1808- 1826. Barcelona: Editorial Ariel, 1997.

Morales Padrón, F. Historia del descubrimiento y conquista de América. Madrid: Editorial Gredos, 1999.

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Skidmore, E y Smith, H: Historia contemporánea de América Latina. Barcelona: Ed. Crítica, 1996.

Tzvetan,T. Historia contemporánea de América Latina. Nueva York : Editorial Harper & Row, 1991.

Vázquez, G. Historia de América. Madrid: Editorial SGEL, 2005.

TEXTBOOK

Coursebook. **SPAIN AND THE AMERICAS**

EVALUATION

Students will be evaluated on their participation, as well as their attitude and contribution to the making classes work. **Unexcused absences*** will lower the participation grade, in accordance with the Center's attendance policy.

1. Participation*	20%
2. Mid-term exam	20%
3. Presentations, activities and assignments	20%

4. Research paper	20%
5. Final exam	20%

1. OTHER REQUIREMENTS

It is a requirement of this class and CC-CS to participate in the language exchange program. A *special activity* will be held in the center to introduce language partners.

1. COURSE TOPICS

	<i>Topic/Activity Planned</i>
Week 1	TOPIC 1: American Seville TOPIC 2.1 Characteristics of pre-Columbine cultures. <i>Visit to American Seville</i>
Week 2	Topic 2.2: Great pre-Colombine civilizations <i>Documentary on pre-Colombine cultures</i>
Week 3	TOPIC 3: The discovery of America Causes and factors that made it possible <i>Visit to the Indias Archive</i>
Week 4	TOPIC 3.2 Columbus and his journey: Consequences
Week 5	TOPIC 4: The conquest TOPIC 5: The impact of the discovery and conquest on both civilizations
Week 6	TOPIC 6: The colonial era Organization of colonial life, culture and art <i>Visit to the Biblioteca Colombina</i>
Week 7	TOPIC 7: Other European colonial experiences The English colonial model and its contrasts with the Spanish model
Week 8	TOPIC 8.1 : Causes of independence Graphic document TOPIC 8.2. Results and consequences for Spain and America.
Week 9	Topic 9. Cuba <i>Relations between Spain and the US</i> <i>Documentary on the revolution</i>
Week 10	Topic 10: Chile Socialism, takeover and democracy
Week 11	Topic 10 continuation. Video <i>Hand in research papers</i> Review of course
	FINAL EXAMS

