

**Hist 381/Lati 381/Intl 381, Transnational Latin Americas
Macalester College, Spring 2012, MW 10:50-12:20, CARN 105**

Professor: Ernesto Capello (ecapello@macalester.edu)
Office: Old Main 302 (x6772)
Office Hours: W 2:20-3:20, R 3:00-4:30 and by appt.

Overview

This course investigates the historical tendency to build cultural and political bridges across national borders in Latin America while also interrogating the import of the nation-state as the primary force for building collective identities in the postcolonial era. The main aim of the course is to introduce a growing body of critical work regarding the transnational, hemispheric, Atlantic, and Pacific cultures that have intersected in Latin America since the early colonial era. The readings generally emphasize intellectual history and also include classic texts by critical figures such as Simón Bolívar, José Martí, or José Vasconcelos as well as contemporary apostles of pan-Latin Americanism like Eduardo Galeano and Hugo Chavez. However, one of the goals of the course is to interrogate the boundaries and make-up of “Latin America” and thus includes substantial attention to “outsiders” encountering the region, including European and U.S. travelers (and meddlers) as well as immigrant populations from Europe, Asia, Africa, and the Middle East.

Course Format

This course is structured as a research seminar. Most classes will be run primarily in seminar format, with discussions at times led by students, but will also incorporate short lectures by Prof. Capello that seek to contextualize readings, periods, or national histories as needed. This hybrid structure aims to emphasize discussion of theoretical concerns or historiographical controversies and presupposes a basic familiarity with Latin American history. Students that have not previously taken courses in Latin American history are encouraged to consult with Prof. Capello for suggestions on outside reading – at the very least this should include a general textbook on the region’s history such as John Chasteen’s *Born in Blood and Fire*, which is on reserve in the library. As explained further below, students will be expected to lead discussion once during the term and will be also expected to conduct extensive research on a topic of their choosing, present this research to the class, and craft a short monograph on the subject.

Assessment

Class Participation	20%
Discussion Facilitation	5%
Weekly Reviews	15%
Research Paper Proposal	5%
Research Paper Rough Draft	10%
Peer Review Comments	5%
Oral Presentation	10%
Research Paper	30%

Class Participation 20%

Your class participation grade will be assessed by your engagement with our weekly readings and contributions in class. You are expected to attend class, have completed the reading, and be prepared to discuss its implications. If you are chronically absent you will be issued a warning letter. Your final grade will suffer by 1/3 of a letter grade during each subsequent absence following a warning letter. NO CELL PHONES.

Discussion Facilitation 5%

Once during the semester you will be asked to act as primary discussion facilitator for a given reading. This will entail preparing a summary of the reading for the day, preparing a series of interpretive questions in consultation with Prof. Capello that will be emailed to the class by Sunday evening for a Monday class and by Tuesday evening for a Wednesday class, and by driving class discussion regarding the text you have chosen.

Weekly Responses 15%

Each week, you will write a short (1.5-2 page) response, musing, or distillation of a theme or themes raised during the previous week. These are open-ended essays that will be graded Credit (✓)/No-Credit (NC)/Distinction (DS). Successful responses might include a summary of the primary theses of the authors discussed, a sustained exploration of an issue raised in classroom discussion, or a comparison to a theme considered earlier in the term or raised in your research. These will be uploaded to Moodle by 5 pm on Fridays and will be considered at the start of Monday's class in order to form a bridge between weekly discussions. You can miss one response over the course of the semester without it impacting your grade, but will lose 1/3 of a letter grade for every subsequent missed response. There will be no responses due 3/23, 4/6, or 4/27.

Research Paper 60%

As this is a research seminar, your grade will be largely determined by the paper that you craft over the course of the term. However, this will be divided into a series of steps. These include:

- Research Paper Proposal, 1 page proposal, bibliography due 3/2, worth 5%
- Research Paper Rough Draft, 8-10 pages, due 3/23, worth 10%
- Peer Review of Rough Draft, 2 pages, due 4/4, worth 5%
- Oral Presentation, 4/23-4/25, worth 10%
- Research Paper Final Draft, due 5/5, 16-18 pages worth 30%

Further guidelines on each of these steps will be distributed in class.

Writing Assignment Format

All writing assignments should be saved in MS Word or as a PDF, be double-spaced with 11 or 12-point font, 1 or 1.25-inch margins, page numbers, and use Chicago Style for citations. They should be uploaded onto Moodle by 5 pm on the due date.

Academic Integrity

Plagiarism in any form will not be tolerated. Be sure that your written work reflects your own ideas and be sure to properly attribute the work of others. For guidelines on how to avoid plagiarism, see <http://www.maclester.edu/max/writinghandbook/plagiarism.html>.

Readings

The following texts are available at the bookstore and on reserve. Additional readings will be uploaded onto the course moodle site .

Required:

Oscar Montero, *José Martí: An Introduction* (Palgrave 2004)

Alan McPherson, *Yankee No!: Anti-Americanism in U.S.-Latin American Relations* (Harvard, 2003)

Moodle

The course moodle site includes the course syllabus and acts as a repository for electronic copies of readings and further prompts. All assignments will be handed in on moodle. Access moodle at <http://moodle.macalester.edu/> and login with your Macalester username and password. Once you have logged in, click on the course link in the My Courses section (i.e., History 381-01).

Topics and Assignments

1/23 Introduction

1/25 Transnational Encounters and Reflexive Citizenship

- Roniger, “Global Immersion: Latin America and its Multiple Modernities”
- Mignolo, *Darker Side of the Renaissance*, Preface
- Tinsman and Shukin, *Imagining Our Americas*, Introduction

1/30 The Satanic Epic

- Cañizares-Esguerra, *Puritan Conquistadors*, Chapters 1-2

2/1 Cartographic Encounters

- Mignolo, *Darker Side of the Renaissance*, Chapter 5
- Mundy, Mapping the Aztec Capital
- Forum: Encounters and Power

2/6 Atlantic and Pacific Worlds

- Cañizares-Esguerra, *Puritan Conquistadors*, Chapter 6
- Slack, “Sinifying New Spain”

2/8 Asians in New Spain: Exchanges and Lives

- Pierce et al, *Asia & Spanish America : trans-Pacific artistic and cultural exchange*, selections
- Rustomji-Kerns, Mirrha-Catarina de San Juan: From India to New Spain
- Forum: Atlantic and Pacific Worlds

2/13 Enlightenment Paradigm Shifts

- Pratt, *Imperial Eyes*
- Berquist, The Politics of Slavery and Abolition

- 2/15 Simon Bolivar**
- Lynch, *Simón Bolívar* (selections)
 - Bolivar, selections
- 2/20 The Cult to Bolivar**
- Olmedo, "Song to Junín"
 - Conway, *The Cult of Bolívar in Latin American Literature*
 - Roy, Bolivar Comic Book
 - Chavez selections
 - Forum: Bolivar and Bolivarianism
- 2/22 Latin American Travelers**
- Racine, "Nature and Mother"
 - Barman, "Brazilians in France"
 - Darío, "The Lure of Paris"
- 2/27 Consumption and Cosmopolitanism**
- Ramos, *Divergent Modernities* (selections)
 - Needell, "Public Space and Public Consciousness"
 - Forum: Travel and Cosmopolitanism
- 2/29 Immigration and Stereotypes**
- Guy, "Road to Buenos Aires"
 - Moya, "Positive Side of Stereotypes"
 - Alberdi, "Immigration as a Means to Progress"
 - Lugones, "National Identity in a Cosmopolitan Society"
 - **Paper Proposal Due 3/2**
- 3/5 Hyphenated Identities and Latin American Minorities**
- Lesser, *Negotiating National Identity*
 - Forum: Immigration
- 3/7 General Midterm Forum**
- 3/12-3/14 Spring Break**
- 3/19 José Martí I**
- Montero, *José Martí*, 1-104
 - Martí Selections
- 3/21 José Martí II**
- Montero, *José Martí*, 105-end
 - Martí Selections
 - Forum: José Martí
 - **Final Paper Rough Draft Due 3/23 (weekly response optional)**
- 3/26 La Raza and Hispanism**
- Vasconcelos, *The Cosmic Race*
 - Rachum, "Origins and Historical Significance of Día de la Raza"

- 3/28 U.S. Travelers, Meddlers, and Colleagues**
- McGuinness, “Searching for Latin America”
 - Poole, “Landscape and the Imperial Subject”
 - Tenorio, “Stereophonic Scientific Modernisms”
 - Forum: Imperialism and Partnerships?
- 4/1 Screening “Saludos Amigos” and “The Three Caballeros”, tba**
- 4/2 Saludos from a Good Neighbor**
- Adams, “Saludos Amigos”
 - Meyer, “Toscanini and the Good Neighbor Policy”
- 4/4 Peer Review Discussions**
- no class meeting
 - optional response essay 4/6
- 4/9 Cold War and Anti-Americanism I**
- McPherson, *Yankee No!*, pp. 1-116
- 4/11 Anti-Americanism II**
- McPherson, *Yankee No!*, 117-end
 - Forum: Anti-Americanism
- 4/16 Dependency Theory**
- Galeano, *Open Veins of Latin America* selections
- 4/18 Latin American Interventionism?**
- Gleijeses, “The View from Havana”
 - Armony, “Transnationalizing the Dirty War”
 - Chavez, “Venezuela and the New Latin America”
 - Forum: Dependencies and Interventions
- 4/23 Oral Presentations**
- 4/25 Oral Presentations**
- 4/30 Concluding Thoughts**
- Roniger, “Global Immersion: Latin America and its Multiple Modernities”
 - Mignolo, *Darker Side of the Renaissance*, Preface
 - Tinsman and Shukin, *Imagining Our Americas*, Introduction
 - **Final Paper due 5/5**