

Subject overview

Using History as a springboard for cultural analysis of Pre-Hispanic America, the subject continues on with the formation of the Colonial Spanish world and the vast differences it held with the Portuguese Colonial establishment. Later on through distinct but strategic analysis the subject takes you through the diverse socio-political outcomes of the Spanish America Independent movements. Taking us into the 20th century, the subject explores not only the most significant regional conflicts but how with the advent of the 21st century different Nations with a common past face the challenge of sustainable development and economic growth.

Learning Outcomes

By the completion of this subject, students will be able to:

- Demonstrate a capacity to explain the political, cultural and economic differences that shaped each region's current political position
- Describe the historic development in Spanish and Portuguese America
- Demonstrate a capacity to connect the historic development of Latin America to socio-political changes in later periods
- Capably debate the current socio-political conflicts taking place in the region

Assessment overview

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| • Active Class Participation | 10% of total assessment |
| • Module Quiz 1 | 25% of total assessment |
| • Module Quiz 2 | 25% of total assessment |
| • Term Paper | 40% of total assessment |

Subject modules

- Discovering the New World: Origins of Hispanic America
- The Maya Legacy in Mesoamerica
- Pre-Hispanic Culture and Civilization in South America
- Emergence of the Latin American Colonial World
- Prevailing racial and economic minorities in the 17th century
- The Bourbon Reforms and America in the 18th century
- Spanish America and Independence
- Brazil in the 19th Century
- Country-specific investigations in the 20th Century: Colombia; Mexico; South Cone Military Dictatorships; Cuba, Venezuela, Bolivia; Mexico, Chile and Brazil
- What Future for Latin America?

Required readings

- Martin, C.E. & Wasserman, M. (2005). *Latin America and its people*. New York City, USA: Pearson Longman.
- Skidmore, T.E. & Smith, P.H. (2001). *Modern Latin America* (6th Ed.). Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press.
- Hoberman, L.S. & Socolow, S.M. (Eds.). (1996). *Countryside in colonial Latin America*. Albuquerque, NM, USA: University of New Mexico Press.
- Burns, B.E. & Carlip, J.A. (2001). *Latin America: A concise interpretive history*. Englewood Cliffs, NJ, USA: Prentice Hall.
- Conniff, M.L. (Ed.). (1999). *Populism in Latin America*. University of Alabama Press.
- Ai Camp, R. (1999). *Politics in Mexico: The decline of authoritarianism*. Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press.
- Students will also read a variety of articles assigned by Academic Teaching Staff.

Questions?

If you have any questions about any of the subject summaries, please contact us.