

## Subject overview

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This subject presents a critical analysis of contemporary human issues, current affairs, life situations and social issues characterized by change in Mexico and Latin America. Topics include analysis of social sciences, approaches to the humanities, the development of Latin America, and socio-cultural communication in Latin America.

## Learning Outcomes

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By the completion of this course students will be able to:

- Develop self learning in managing a methodology to analyze social and cultural issues that are given in today's society in which we live (both nationally and internationally).
- Display a critical attitude towards economic, social and political processes of their country.
- Acquire a sense of belonging to their regional and national cultures and commit to act inside them in order to benefit society in general.
- Analyze what they need to develop in terms of capabilities, attitudes and values to be able to operate as a responsible citizen in their community.
- Communicate effectively with a host of citizens from different social classes, nationalities, ethnicities or cultures.

## Assessment overview

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| • Readings                                | 40% of total assessment |
| • Group Research Project 1: Postmodernism | 10% of total assessment |
| • Group Research Project 2: Tendencies    | 10% of total assessment |
| • Major essay: Free                       | 40% of total assessment |

## Subject modules

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- Humanistic debate between modernity and post modernity.
- Construction and transition of contemporary State: A humanistic approach.
- From liberalism to economical neoliberalism: A humanistic approach.
- Contemporary communication's phenomenon.
- Meaning of aesthetic manifestations.
- Tendencies of culture during the XXI century.
- Debates around development.
- Models for development: Socialism; liberalism and neoliberalism; the third route and social-democracy.
- Regionalisms and integration processes.
- Analysis of different integration process (European Union, NAFTA, MERCOSUR, etc)

## Required Readings

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- Jameson, F. (1991). *Postmodernism, or the cultural logic of late capitalism*. Durham, NC: Duke University Press.
- Butler, C. (2003). *Postmodernism: A very short introduction*. Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press.
- Stiglitz, J.E. (2002). *Globalization and its discontents*. New York City: W.W. Norton & Company.
- Butler, J. (1990). *Gender trouble, feminism and the subversion of identity*. London, UK: Routledge.
- Giddens, A. (2000). *The third way and its critics*. Malden, MA: Polity Press.

## Questions?

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