

ANT 305 – Topics: Mexico as a Global Culture (CRN 90559)

Fall 2007
Room: CSS 134
W – 6:45 pm – 9:25 pm

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Course Description

This course introduces the student to the study of Mexico as a global culture, from pre-Hispanic days to the present. Topics to be studied include: Mexico's ancient pre-Hispanic cultures; native cultures at contact with the Spanish world; native resistance to Spanish colonialism; Mexico's War of Independence; War and Peace with the United States; Republican Mexico into the 20th century; the Mexican Civil War and the Forging of Modern Mexico; the Mexican "Miracle" and its collapse; N.A.F.T.A.; the US-Mexican Border; and how to do business in Mexico today.

As part of this course a field trip to Mexico in January 2008 (1/3 to 1/14/2008) is offered to the student (ANT 305-F), but it is not a pre-requisite in order to enroll in the academic part of the course. In order to take ANT 305-F (field trip), the student MUST be simultaneously enrolled in ANT 305 (the academic part).

Goals and Objectives

By the end of the course the student will be able to:

1. Provide a critical understanding of Mexico, from pre-Hispanic past to present.
2. Understand the many cultural and historical forces that have contributed to the Mexican ethos.
3. Discuss the importance of Mexico, throughout its culture and history, and to answer why is Mexico one of the most important and interesting countries of Latin America?
4. Understand the importance of Mexico to the United States.
5. Help destroy stereotypes and ethnocentric attitudes regarding Mexico, Mexicans, and Mexican-Americans.
6. Assess the impact of globalization in today's Mexico.
7. Assess the future of Mexico in the 21st century.

Measurement of Objectives

1. **Examinations:** There will be three formal examinations in this course: 2 partial exams (90 minutes along) and a final exam. The exam questions will consist of a combination of identifications, matching, and a few short and long essays. The final exam will be somewhat cumulative. Consult the **Course Outline** for the dates of exams. It is compulsory to take all examinations. A late arrival to an exam will count against you. Make-up exams are not given, unless the Office of the Dean of the College provides a formal excuse for your absence. In the event that a student may be allowed to make-up an exam, he/she will have to contact the LACS Administrative Assistant at x2370 to set up an appointment.

2. **Class Participation:** Class participation is highly solicited by the instructor and could determine your final grade in borderline cases. Class participation counts 50 points toward your final grade.

3. **Class Attendance:** Class attendance is closely observed and recorded. In accordance with College regulations, the instructor reserves the right to dismiss from a course any student whose absenteeism is excessive, or one who frequently disrupts the proceedings. Therefore, any student who misses more than two (2) classes without proper, written excuse from the Office of the Dean of College could be dropped from the course with a grade of "XF." Every time a student misses a class without the appropriate excuses listed above, will have his/her final grade dropped by as much as 2.5 points per class missed. Class attendance counts 10 points of the Final Grade.

4. **Writing Assignments:** There are two types of writing assignments in the course: Position/Focus Papers and Research Project. **A) Position/Focus Paper** – One Position Paper is assigned in the course based on the case study *The Death of Artemio Cruz* by Carlos Fuentes. An instruction sheet is provided on what is expected by your instructor on the Position/Focus Paper. The due date for the Position/Focus Paper is on the Course Outline and it counts up to 50 points of the final grade. Also, The Position/Focus Paper must

be between 5 and 6 pages long and word-processed. **B) Research Project** – A thesis oriented research paper is required in the course. The topic of the research paper is to be worked out with the instructor, no later than the third week of the course. The student must have the approval of the instructor in order to continue with the research topic, or risk not having the topic and paper approved at the end. As stated, the research paper must be a thesis driven original, and proven piece of work and must have at least 5 major academic bibliographical sources, such as, books, chapters in books, articles in academic journals, and Pro-Quest internet articles. General Internet pieces can be included, but beyond the five (5) required academic bibliographical entries. The length of the Research Paper must be between 9 and 10 pages, excluding bibliography. A schedule for the completion of the Research Paper following stages of development, etc., will be handed out in class. The Research Paper counts 90 points of the final grade, it is due the day stipulated in the Course Outline, and the instructor does not accept late Papers.

Honesty Policy

If caught cheating in an exam, the student shall be summarily dismissed from the course and a grade of “F” will be entered in his/her transcript. The Position/Focus Paper and Research Project are to be independent and original manifestations of the student intellect and joint efforts, plagiarism, and borrowing of ideas, are not accepted and, in addition, will result in serious (grading) punishment. Please consult the attached document containing information about the new Honor Code of Rollins College.

Grading

Grading is determined on the quality of performance: good examinations, class participation, good Position Paper, Good Research Paper, etc. Based on points and percentages, this is my grading profile:

Examinations	3 @ 100 points.....	300 points
Position/Focus Paper.....	1 @ 50 points.....	50 points
Research Project Paper	1 @ 90 points.....	90 points
Class Participation	50 points	50 points
Class Attendance.....	10 points	<u>10 points</u>
TOTAL		500 points

- Every time you miss a class you loose 2.5 attendance points. For example, 4 absences = - 10 points in attendance.
- No “extra work” is acceptable to improve your grade in the course, unless the instructor outlines a “contract” between the students and the instructor within the first four weeks of the course.

Points	Grade	Percentage	Points	Grade	Percentage
500-480	A	100 - 96%	394-380	C+	78 - 76%
479-459	A-	95 - 92%	379-355	C	75 - 71%
458-439	B+	91 - 88%	354-330	C-	70 - 66%
438-415	B	87 - 83%	329-305	D	65 - 61%
414-395	B-	82 - 79%	304 & below	F	60% & below

Learning Disabilities

Rollins College is committed to equal access and does not discriminate unlawfully against persons with disabilities in its policies, procedures, programs or employment processes. The College recognizes its obligations under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 to provide an environment that does not discriminate against persons with disabilities.

If you are a person with a disability and anticipate needing any type of academic accommodation in order to participate in this class, please make appropriate arrangements with the Disability Services Coordinator, located in the Thomas P. Johnson Student Resource Center, 407-646-2354.

Required Reading

Meyer, Michael C. and William Sherman. **The Course of Mexican History**. Oxford University Press. (main text)

Fuentes, Carlos. **The Death of Artemio Cruz**. (translation). Farrar, Straus and Giroux.

Krauze, Enrique. **Mexico: A Biography of Power**. Harper Perennial.

Course Outline

August 29

Basic Facts About Mexico. The importance of Mexico to Latin America and to the United States.
Read: lecture notes

Part I. The Pre-Hispanic and Colonial Eras of Mexico

September 5

The Spain that Encountered Mexico. The Mexico that Encountered Spain
Read: lecture notes. Section I (Pre-Columbian Mexico) in **The Course of Mexican History**
Film: On Pre-Columbian Mexico

September 12

Mexico on the Eve of the Spanish Conquest: The Mexican or Aztec
Read: Section II (The Spanish Conquerors) in **The Course of Mexican History**
Film: on the Spanish Conquest of the Mexica

September 19

The Spanish Empire in Mexico: Colonial New Spain. The Catholic Church
Read: Section III (The Colony of New Spain) in **The Course of Mexican History**
Film: "The Conquest of Souls"
Review for First Partial Exam

September 26

First Partial Exam (Attendance is required)

Part II. Mexico 1821 to 1911: From Independence to Revolution

October 3

Indian Resistance to Spanish Colonialism: Reform and Reaction: The Move to Independence. The End of Spanish Colonialism
Read: Section IV (Reform and Reaction...) in **The Course of Mexican History** and in Krauze's **Mexico** Introduction and Section I

October 10

The Trials of Nationhood. War and Peace with the United States. Mexican Society in the First Half of the Nineteenth Century.
Read: Section V (The Trials of Nationhood) in **The Course of Mexican History**

October 17

Benito Juarez, the French Intervention, and the Reconstruction of the Mexican Republic.

Read: Section VI (Liberals and Conservatives Search...) in **The Course of Mexican History** and in Krauze's **Mexico** Section II (Century of Caudillos), chapters 8 and 9.

Review for Second Partial Exam

October 24

Second Partial Exam (Attendance is required)

October 31

The Porfiriato and the Modernization of Mexico (1876 – 1910). The Beginnings of the Mexican Revolution.

Read: Section VII (The Modernization of Mexico) in **The Course of Mexican History**

November 7

The Mexican Revolution, 1910 – 1940

Read: Section III (The Revolution) in Krauze's **Mexico: A Biography of Power** (chapters 10 to 16)

November 14

Case Study: **The Death of Artemio Cruz** (for class discussion)

Position Paper / Focus Report is due in class on Wednesday, November 14, 2007. Late reports are NOT accepted.

November 21 to November 25

Thanksgiving Recess – No Classes

November 28

The Revolution Shift Gears: Mexico since 1940. The Modern Mexican State.

Read: Section X (The Revolution Shift Gears) in **The Course of Mexican History** and in Krauze's **Mexico** chapters 22, 23, 24, 25 and 26.

Research Paper/Project is due today.

Review for Final Exam

December 5

Final Exam – Attendance is required.