



**BSAS HIST 3321
Modern Latin American History**

CAPA BUENOS AIRES PROGRAM

Spring 2017

Faculty name	:	TBD
E-mail	:	TBD
Class times	:	TBD
Classroom location	:	TBD
Office Hours	:	TBD

Course Description

This course seeks to introduce students to the history of Latin America by examining three present-day issues or challenges that loom very large in the life of the region: environmental issues; women's roles in Latin American societies; and racial inequality. For each of those topics, we will ask:

- How have historical conditions evolved over time to produce the present-day situation? What are the historical roots of current issues and challenges?
- How have Latin Americans mobilized themselves to confront those challenges? What sorts of political, cultural, and social movements have developed in the region, and with what long-term effects?
- What are the principal connections and intersections among these three phenomena? For example, how do struggles over indigenous land rights (racial inequality) connect to environmental questions? Or, within black and indigenous political movements (racial inequality), what are the relative roles of male and female activists?

By the end of the course, students will be able to discuss and analyze each of these topics and questions, both orally and in writing.

Requirements and Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for this course. Students must attend all class meetings and must come to class prepared to learn. This means coming to class on time, reasonably alert, and having done the reading for that week. Weekly reading assignments and other information relevant to the course are available on the course's webpage. You must consult that site at least once a week.

Developmental Outcomes

Students should demonstrate: responsibility & accountability, independence & interdependence, goal orientation, self-confidence, resilience, appreciation of differences.

Assessment/Grading Policy

• <u>Class participation</u>	20%
• <u>Mid-term exam</u>	20%
• <u>Short Papers</u>	30%
• <u>Short Assignments</u>	10%
• <u>Final Exam</u>	20%

DESCRIPTOR	ALPHA	NUMERIC	GPA	REQUIREMENT/EXPECTATION
Outstanding (High Distinction)	A	93+	4.0	Maximum grade: In addition to description for grade "A-", the student shows detailed understanding of materials about which he or she can show independent analytical ability. This means the ability to question an issue from different perspectives and evaluate responses in an objective manner.
Excellent (Distinction)	A-	90 - 92	3.7	Student shows understanding of literature beyond the textbook/class hand-outs/class notes, and the work shows a high level of independent thought, presents informed and insightful discussion and demonstrates a well-developed capacity for evaluation.
Very good (High Credit)	B+	87 - 89	3.3	Shows evidence of a capacity to generalise from the taught content, or the material in literature, or from class lectures in an informed manner. Also, the work demonstrates a capacity to integrate personal reflection into the discussion and an appreciation of a range of different perspectives.
Good (Credit)	B	83 - 86	3.0	The work is well organised and contains coherent or logical argumentation and presentation.
Good (Credit)	B-	80 - 82	2.7	Student shows understanding of literature beyond the textbook and/or notes, and, there is evidence of additional reading.
Average (Good Pass)	C+	77-79	2.3	The work demonstrates a capacity to integrate research into the discussion and a critical appreciation of a range of theoretical perspectives. Also, the work demonstrates a clear understanding of the question and its theoretical implications and demonstrates evidence of additional reading.
Adequate (Pass)	C	73 - 76	2.0	Shows clear understanding and some insight into the material in the textbook and notes, but not beyond. A deficiency in understanding the material may be compensated by evidence of independent thought and effort related to the subject matter.
Below Average (Borderline Pass)	C-	70-72	1.7	Shows some understanding of the material in the textbook and notes. A deficiency in any of the above may be compensated by evidence of independent thought related to the subject matter.
Inadequate (Borderline Fail)	D+	67 - 69	1.3	Fails to show a clear understanding or much insight into the material in the textbook and notes
Poor (Fail)	D	60 - 66	0.7 - 1.0	Besides the above for D+, student has not shown interest or engagement in the class work or study.
Poor (Fail)	F	<60	0	Shows little or no understanding of any of the material
Incomplete	I			Please see CAPA policy in the Faculty Handbook.

Dress Code

No requirements.

Course Materials

Required Readings:

- Medea Benjamin and Maisa Mendonça, *Benedita da Silva: An Afro-Brazilian Woman's Story of Politics and Love* (1997)
- Shawn Miller, *An Environmental History of Latin America* (2007)

Other required texts and excerpts will be posted on the course website.

Weekly Course Schedule

Meeting 1—What This Course Is About

Meeting 2—How to Think Historically

1. The Environment

Meeting 3—Before the Europeans

Reading: Miller, *Environmental History*, 1-48

Meeting 4—The Columbian Exchange, 1500-1800

Reading: Miller, *Environmental History*, 49-76

Meeting 5—Forests, 1500-1950

Reading: Miller, *Environmental History*, 77-135

Paper 1 due

Meeting 6—Culture over Nature, 1900-2015

Reading: Miller, *Environmental History*, 136-92; *Encyclical Letter Laudato Si'*, 15-44 (website)

Meeting 7—Mobilization, 1970-2015

Miller, *Environmental History*, 193-235; *Benedita da Silva*, 31-50, 139-53; Jim Schultz, "The Cochabamba Water Revolt and Its Aftermath" (website)

Paper 2 due

2. Racial Inequality

Meeting 8—Indigenous Peoples, 1500-1800

Reading: review Miller, *Environmental History*, 1-104; "The Indian town council of Huejotzingo to the King" (website)

Meeting 9—Indigenous Peoples, 1800-2015

Reading: Florencia Mallon, "Indigenous Peoples and Nation-States in Spanish America"; *Bolivia, Constitution of 2009*, 6-8, 13-15 (website)

Meeting 10—Midterm exam

Meeting 11—Slavery and Freedom, 1500-1900

Reading: George Reid Andrews, *Afro-Latin America*, 11-52; Stuart Schwartz, "Resistance and Accommodation in Eighteenth-Century Brazil: The Slaves' View of Slavery" (both website)

Meeting 12—Afro-descendants: Brazil, 1900-2015

Reading: Benjamin and Mendonça, *Benedita da Silva*, ix-x, xiii-xv, 31-50, 119-37

Discussion sections: *Brazil in Black and White*

Paper 3 due

3. Women

March 22-24—Women and Gender, 1500-1900

Reading: Susan Socolow, *Women of Colonial Latin America*, 5-15, Bartolomé Arzáns, *Tales of Potosí*, 116-26, 148-51 (website)

March 29-31—Eva Perón, 1919-1952

Reading: Fraser and Navarro, *Evita*, 102-47

April 5-7—Benedita da Silva, 1942–

Reading: *Benedita da Silva*, 1-30, 51-118, 155-201

Paper 4 due

April 12-14—Madame(s) Presidenta(s), 2006—

April 19-21—The Current Moment

April 30—Final exam

Attendance, Participation & Student Responsibilities

Attendance: CAPA has a mandatory attendance policy. Attendance is taken at the beginning of every class. Unauthorized absence from class will result in a reduction of the final grade and potentially a failure for the course.

Missing classes for medical reasons: If you need to miss a class for medical reasons or for a family emergency, you must send an e-mail to let the Director of Academic Affairs (DAA) or Resident Director know at least one hour in advance of your class or meeting at the following e-mail:_____. Note that calling the CAPA Center (_____) is acceptable only if you do not temporarily have access to the internet. An e-mail is still required as quickly as you can get access to the internet again. You will need to provide evidence of the reason for your absence. Unexcused absences will result in a grade reduction. In the event of a missed class or field trip, it is your responsibility to contact your instructor and make up any missed assignments.

Class Participation: Students are expected to participate actively and critically in class discussions, and the participation portion of the class will be graded accordingly. Students must read assignments **BEFORE** the class, and come in on time. Participation is a vital part of your grade: students are expected to participate orally in seminars and in online forums and discussions in a critical and evaluative manner; to interact with the faculty and fellow students with respect and tolerance; and to actively engage in discussion. Derogatory or inflammatory comments about the cultures, perspectives or attitudes of others in the class will not be tolerated.

Academic Integrity: A high level of responsibility and academic honesty is expected. Because the value of an academic course depends upon the absolute integrity of the work done by the student, it is imperative that a student demonstrates a high standard of individual honor in his or her scholastic work and class behavior. Plagiarism and cheating will result in dismissal from the program. See the Handbook of CAPA Academic Policies for more information and resources on plagiarism.

Use of electronic equipment in class: All devices such as laptops, I-pods, I-pads, netbooks, notebooks and tablets, smartphones, cell phones, etc. are **NOT** allowed unless you have express permission from the faculty or you have been instructed to do so. If you require an accommodation to use any type of electronic equipment, inform the Director of Academic Affairs or the Resident Director at the beginning of Term.

Use of Electronic Translators: In Language courses students are NOT allowed to use electronic translators for writing texts in the target language: those submitting compositions and texts of whatever kind translated in such a fashion will receive a final F grade for the course.

Late Submission: Late submission of papers, projects, journal entries, pieces of homework and portfolios is only permitted with prior approval. A request must be made to the relevant Faculty member no later than two days prior to the due date. Late submission without prior approval will result in a full alpha grade penalty. In either case, work cannot be submitted after feedback has been provided to the rest of the class on the relevant assessment or one week after the due date whichever comes first, after which point a grade of F will be given for the assessment.

Behavior during Examinations: During examinations, you must do your own work. Unless specifically instructed by the lecturer or instructor, talking during an exam is not permitted, nor may you compare papers, copy from others, or collaborate in any way. Any failure to abide by examination rules will result in failure of the exam, and may lead to failure of the course and disciplinary action.