

HIS 3326W: Colonial Latin America
T/TH 3:30-4:50 in Pafford 206
Spring 2016 Hybrid Course

Contact Info

Email: cvasconc@westga.edu or in CourseDen (no preference)

Phone: 678-839-6032

(Please note that I will only be available via phone on Thursdays from 2-3:30pm, and email correspondence is preferred. In the event of an emergency, emailing me at cvasconc@westga.edu is your best bet, as I will receive your email immediately through the gmail app on my phone and can respond to you ASAP.)

Office Hours

Face2Face (F2F) Office Hours in TLC 3208: Thursdays 2p-3:30p

Virtual Office Hours: M and W 1-5pm, and by appointment

(Please note that Virtual Office Hours will take place through the Blackboard Collaborate link located in the "Start Here" Content Module of CourseDen. Just click on the link, choose "Virtual Office Hours" and you will enter a room where we can engage in live chat or videoconferencing.)

Course Objectives:

This course on Colonial Latin America covers the Spanish and Portuguese colonial experience in the new world from 1492 until Independence. The course will emphasize the political, religious, and cultural history of the Viceroyalty of New Spain (present-day Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean). Discussion of Spanish and Portuguese possessions in South America will be limited. The course will focus heavily on primary sources that will allow us to understand the "colonial encounter" between European, Native American and African in the New World.

The learning outcomes for this course are as follows:

- To identify major periods and figures in colonial Latin America.
- To demonstrate an understanding of the narrative framework and factual basis of colonial Latin America.
- To identify and analyze the important political, economic, social, intellectual and religious forces that shaped colonial Latin American history.
- To summarize and interpret continuity and change in colonial Latin America.
- To demonstrate the ability to develop a thesis and support it with historical evidence both in writing and orally.
- To demonstrate basic research skills by locating and using source materials.
- To summarize, paraphrase and quote historical information in properly cited written analyses.
- To demonstrate the ability to state and support an interpretation of historical issues concisely, coherently, and logically.
- To improve writing and critical thinking skills through in-class exam essays, as well as both formal and informal written assignments, class discussion, and careful reading of primary and secondary sources.

This course is a DSW course, and it will be writing intensive. DSW courses accept the idea that writing is a valuable tool for learning and communication as a guiding principle. Therefore, the writing components of a course so designated are designed to help you learn the material and communicate what you have learned. Students are required to take two “W” courses for an undergraduate degree in the College of Arts and Humanities.

Textbooks and Course Readings:

1. Mark Burkholder and Lyman L. Johnson, *Colonial Latin America* 8th ed. (Oxford) ISBN 9780199865888
2. Leslie Bethel, ed., *Colonial Brazil* (Cambridge) ISBN 0521349257
3. Anna Lanyon, *Malinche’s Conquest* (Allen & Unwin, 1999) ISBN 1864487801
4. Matthew Restall, *Seven Myths of the Spanish Conquest* (Oxford) ISBN 0195176111
5. A handful of additional readings from selected sources (see course schedule for details)

Special Note

Students, please carefully review the following information at this link:

http://www.westga.edu/assetsDept/vpaa/Common_Language_for_Course_Syllabi.pdf

This link contains important material pertaining to your rights and responsibilities in this class. Because these statements are updated as federal, state, university, and accreditation standards change, you should review the information each semester.

Federal Privacy Laws and Grades

I cannot discuss grades or course progress with any student via email or over the phone. It must be in person. Furthermore, I cannot discuss grades or your progress in the course with your parents at all. If you would like to discuss any of your exam grades, your overall grade, or your progress in the course, it must be in person and I am happy to do so at any time. Just make an appointment and we’ll talk.

Course Requirements

COMPUTER ACCESS

This is a hybrid course. 50% of this course will take place online using CourseDen, with your computer as the main delivery system. It is highly recommended that you have regular (daily) computer access, preferably a home computer with broadband Internet access. This course can be completed using public computers at UWG or other public access areas. However, be aware that using public computers may create a hardship. All course requirements remain the same whether your computer access is public or private (home).

UWG | Online HelpDesk (M-F 8-5pm) Phone: 678-839-6248 Email: online@westga.edu
24/7 HelpDesk <https://D2LHelp.view.usg.edu>

COURSE EVALUATION AND GRADE DISTRIBUTION

The course will be evaluated on a ten-point scale: A=90-100 B=80-89 C=70-79 D=60-69 F=59-0

Exams 30%	Malinche Paper 15%
Colony Project 15%	Primary Source Analysis 15%
F2F Class Participation 12.5%	Online Class Participation 12.5%

Exams: 30% total, 15% each

You will have two essay exams over the course of the term: a midterm and a final. If you fail to submit an exam into the appropriately designated CourseDen Dropbox for any reason, unless those that are properly documented, you will receive a 0 for that exam. For those of you who miss an exam for properly documented reasons, you should make arrangements with me as soon as possible for a make-up exam. Failure to turn in that make-up exam within one week's time of it being scheduled will result in a 0. If you come to me at the end of the semester and have not made up an exam and request a make-up for a previously missed exam, the answer will be NO. Please see the individual exam modules in CourseDen for details.

Malinche Paper: 15%

Rather than write a more traditional book review of Anna Lanyon's *Malinche's Conquest*, you will instead write a 5 page analysis that follows prompts provided by me. Please see Malinche Module in CourseDen for details.

Colony Project 15%

This semester you will all participate in a semester long project that will take place online. We will discuss this more in class, but at the start of the semester you will create a colony that will eventually gain its independence. The object of the project is to lead your colony in the way that you find best as it relates to the material and events that we discuss throughout the semester in class and online. Periodically, over the course of the semester, I will issue certain prompts in relation to material we are discussing and reading in class, and you will be charged with discussing how your colony reacts. As governor, caudillo, or viceroy of your colony, it is up to you to decide how your constituency will handle things as they arise. Your responses must demonstrate that you have read and understand the material for that week. Therefore, you must offer specifics that that week's material in your responses. Please see the project description in CourseDen for more details.

Primary Source Analysis Paper: 15%

In addition to your other written assignments, you will also write a 6-8 page analysis on a collection of primary source documents that all relate to a particular topic of your choosing. You must choose a minimum of three primary sources, although you can use more primary sources if you wish. The topics can be on any particular aspect of colonial Latin American history covered in this course, and your primary sources must all relate to the same person, place, or event in some way. In these papers you will not only summarize these documents, but provide an analysis of them as well as the particular topic to which they relate. Points will be deducted for failure to use primary and/or archival sources for this assignment, as well as failure to properly document your sources. This paper is short, but it should be treated as a formal research paper that is smaller in scale. Please see the Primary Source Analysis Paper Module in CourseDen for details.

Class Participation: 25% total

Although there will be class lectures and online discussion activities throughout the semester, a significant amount of the course will be a seminar where each student is expected to participate actively on a daily basis. All reading assignments must be completed before the start of class and/or the online discussion activity, so that you will be ready to engage in class discussion, debate, and analysis. If

it is obvious that you did not read, you will be graded accordingly. Class participation is not attendance, but actual participation in the class discussion of the day. Therefore, even if you come to class everyday, but don't say a word, at most, you will be given a 70 for your class participation grade. **Any class participation must stay on topic, unless it relates directly to the subject at hand.** Comments to the contrary will be classified as disruptive, and you will be asked to refrain from making comments such as these in the future. If it continues, you will be asked to leave class.

F2F Class participation is 12.5% of your grade and will be graded as follows:

100: Substantial comments every class, outstanding participation

90: Participate regularly in the class discussion, but not every class meeting

85: Participate occasionally, with worthwhile insight and good questions

80: Commented once or twice over the course of the semester

70: no comments made

ONLINE DISCUSSIONS

Each week, you will have one discussion activity based on that week's course material. Each week, you will receive a separate grade for that discussion, which will be applied to your overall online class participation grade. Discussion activity assignments are community discussions about specific topics that include individual postings made by you and responses to other student postings. Postings should relate directly to the topic. **Discussion postings have two deadlines: one for the initial posting and one for your response posting.** Please make sure that you plan accordingly. Additional details will be provided in each assignment, so see the Discussion Forums for details.

Online class discussions will be a combined 12.5% of your grade and will be graded follows:

90: completed assignment as described with no additional comments

80: completed majority of the assignment but did not complete it 100%

70: attempted 50% of the assignment

60: posted initial comment but did not comment on classmates' posts

0: did not attempt assignment

You will receive one additional point for every comment made beyond the assignment requirements. For example, if you make your initial post, comment on 2 classmates' posts, and respond to a commenter on your original post, that qualifies as the bare minimum required of you and your class participation grade for that assignment will be a 90. Students who participate more than the minimum required will receive additional points. For example, lets say you make your initial post, but comment on 5 classmates' posts, and respond to two separate commenters on your original post. You will receive a 94 for that assignment. (3 additional points for 3 separate comments on classmates' posts and 1 additional point for your second response to a comment made to your original post).

Comments made after posting deadlines will not be counted, and comments not fulfilling comment requirements will not be counted either. See CourseDen for more information on Class Participation Guidelines and Grading in the Content Module.

While you are expected to speak up in class (either online or F2F) and ask questions, as well as actively

participate in online discussions, you are also expected to respect your fellow students' opinions and time. I will not tolerate disrespect of any kind, and you will be asked to leave. If disruptive behavior continues, you will be removed from the course. So play nice.

A Note about Submitting Assignments to CourseDen

ASSIGNMENT FORMAT

All submitted assignments will have the following format:

- MS Word
- Standard 1" margins, double-spaced text, with **NO** double-spacing between paragraphs
- Use size 12 font, Times New Roman, black text
- No cover pages. Just put your name on it and we are good.
- Please note that images do not count towards paper length.
- Citations should follow the Chicago Manual of Style Format. Kate Turabian's *Manual* is also accepted. You can use endnotes or footnotes, although footnotes are preferred. There are no exceptions, and *assignments that are not cited in the CMS format will receive a 10 point penalty for failure to adhere to assignment submission guidelines* (unless assignment guidelines allow for parenthetical references).

SUBMITTING ASSIGNMENTS LATE OR OUTSIDE COURSE DEN

I will not accept assignments by email, so please do not send them to me there unless you have received permission from me to do so. Late assignments submitted after the due date will not be accepted unless you have a properly documented excuse. Late assignments submitted without proper documentation will receive a 0. Please note that this rule is absolute. You have known about these assignments all semester, and have had plenty of time to complete them and upload them into their corresponding dropbox. Unless you have a properly documented excuse, there is no reason why you cannot get your work in on time.

THE RETURN OF GRADED WORK: All written assignment grades will be posted within one week of the due date. Discussion grades will be posted within one month of the discussion's completion.

EXTRA CREDIT: There is no extra credit offered in this class.

IN THE EVENT OF TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES

It is **your responsibility** to see that your assignments have posted to CourseDen properly. Please check to make sure that your assignment was uploaded correctly and appears in the appropriate Dropbox. If it does not appear, I cannot grade it, and I will not be asking you where it is. Instead, I will assume that you did not do the assignment on time and will grade your assignment accordingly. In other words, your assignment will be considered late once the submission deadline has passed. Please make sure that your link works properly, because I will not be contacting you to resubmit a working link.

In the event that you are having computer/wifi difficulties, please find an alternative source. **Do not wait until the last minute to submit assignments.** You are submitting items over the Internet, and sometimes the Internet Gods get angry and withhold access. There are many things that can go wrong

in the path between your computer and CourseDen. Technical problems related to computer connections or equipment cannot be used as an excuse for failure to complete assignments or to participate online.

It is your responsibility to locate the computer hardware, software and Internet connections necessary to stay connected and current with your course work online. Please be aware of alternate Internet connections and computers available through college computer labs, college Learning Resource Centers (libraries), the public library, and any friends, relatives, or neighbors and access them if my personal computer equipment is not working.

A FEW OTHER THINGS

Cell Phones: TURN THEM OFF!!!! I'm serious. I don't want to hear it, see it, or even know that it exists. If you need them on for emergency purposes, please set the ring to vibrate only. If I hear a phone ring, you will be asked to leave the class, and don't even let me catch you using it to text or check voicemail. Anyone texting in class will be asked to leave immediately. If you do it again, after already being caught once, you will be asked to leave the course and never come back. There is a time and place for phone usage, and it is not in my class.

Tobacco, Food, and Drink:

Tobacco Products of any kind and Fake Cigarettes are not allowed in this class. Food and drink are fine. Just clean up your mess after you leave. If you have a dip cup or an electronic cigarette, you will be asked to leave.

Attendance and Tardiness:

I will not be taking attendance in this class. Excessive lateness is disruptive to the class, affecting your fellow students as well as me. If for any reason, you need to leave class early, please let me know ahead of time. In short, come on time and stay for the whole class. If you miss class, I suggest you borrow notes from a classmate. My notes are not available.

Academic Honesty:

I should not have to have this conversation with any of you, but I will anyway.

I will not tolerate cheating, plagiarism, or any other form of academic dishonesty in this class, and **any student found guilty of plagiarism will automatically receive a failing grade for the course.** Any assignments given in class must be written in your own words, and will not consist of information found on the internet or from any outside source unless cited. This includes paraphrasing, which may not be taking a passage word for word, but certainly does not give credit to ideas and/or information.

All assignments will be turned into CourseDen and will be monitored by the Turnitin.com feature in CourseDen, which gives me the percentage of the paper that has been plagiarized as well as from where the offending passage was taken. If you plagiarize, you will automatically fail the course. Your name will be forwarded to through the appropriate channels, and I will recommend that UWG administration take

action. Plagiarism is a serious offense and it can lead to your expulsion and/or suspension from the University. **In short, don't do it.** See CourseDen for details on what constitutes plagiarism and how to avoid it in the Content Module.

Tentative Course Outline and Readings Assignments

In the event of unforeseen cancellations, I will try to notify you no later than the morning of the day of class via email and in CourseDen. The schedule below is tentative and subject to change if needed.

ABBREVIATIONS AND HIGHLIGHTING:

CD: These readings are found in the Supplemental Readings Folder in CourseDen

B&J: Mark Burkholder and Lyman L. Johnson, *Colonial Latin America*

7M: Matthew Restall, *Seven Myths of the Spanish Conquest*

BR: Leslie Bethel, ed., *Colonial Brazil*

F2F=We will be meeting in Pafford. F2F Days are designated in Green.

Online days are designated in Orange. Assignment Deadlines are designated in Red.

Week 1: Perceptions and Misconceptions

1/12: F2F. Introduction to Course

1/14: F2F. Perceptions and Misconceptions of Colonial Latin America. Readings: "A Handful of Adventurers: The Myth of Exceptional Men," 7M Ch 1.

Also for Week 1

- Click on the Take a tour of our course link in the Course Overview section of the Content Module in CourseDen and acquaint yourself with each of the modules.
- Introduce yourself to the class! Stop by the discussion forum and tell us a little about yourself. Don't be shy! See Discussion Forums for details.
- Complete the **Student Contract Quiz** in the Quizzes Module. This is the only quiz you will have this semester, and this quiz will count towards your class participation grade. **Failure to take this quiz by midnight EST, Saturday, January 16 will result in the deduction of 10 points from your first graded assignment.**

Week 2: Old World vs. New World

1/19: OL. Readings: [Letter from Columbus on His First Voyage](#)

1/21: F2F. Iberia and America Before the Conquest. Readings: B&J Ch 1.

Week 3: The Conquest of Mexico and Peru

1/26: OL. Readings: "Invisible Warriors: The Myth of the White Conquistador," 7M Ch 3

1/28: F2F. The Arrival of the Bearded Ones. Readings: B&J Ch 2; "Neither Paid Nor Forced: The Myth of the King's Army," 7M Ch 2. **Colony Prompt 1 Due.**

Week 4: Malinche

2/2: F2F. Readings: "The Last Words of La Malinche: The Myth of (Mis)Communication," 7M Ch 5

2/4: F2F. Discussion of Anna Lanyon's *Malinche's Conquest*. **Malinche Paper Due**

Week 5: The Black Legend

2/9-2/11: OL. Readings: “The Indians are Coming to an End: The Myth of Native Desolation,” 7M Ch 5; and [The Black Legend](#). **Colony Prompt 2 Due 2/11.**

Week 6: Becoming Brasil

2/16: OL. Settlement. Readings: BR Ch 1

2/18: F2F. Conquest and Settlement of Colonial Brazil. Readings: BR Ch 2 & 5.

Week 7: Colonial Economy and Society

2/23: OL. Readings: “Under the Lordship of the King: The Myth of Completion,” 7M Ch4

2/25: F2F. Life in Colonial Latin America. Readings: B&J Ch 3 & 5. **Colony Prompt 3 Due.**

Week 8: MIDTERMS. See CourseDen for details.

Week 9: The Plantation Complex

3/8: OL. The Atlantic Slave Trade. See the Discussion Forum for details.

3/10: F2F. Plantation Society in Latin America. Readings: B&J Ch 4; BR Ch 3.

Week 10: SPRING BREAK—NO CLASSES

Week 11: Race, Caste, and Class

3/22: OL. Readings: “Apes and Men: The Myth of Superiority,” 7M Ch 7

3/24: F2F. The Complexities of Social Stratification. Readings: B&J Ch 6. **Colony Prompt 4 Due.**

Week 12: Gender and Family

3/29: OL. Excerpts from Sor Juana de la Cruz. See the Discussion Forum for details

3/31: F2F. Women and Family in Colonial Latin America. Readings: B&J Ch. 7.

Week 13: Urban vs. Rural

4/5: OL. The Latin American Frontier. Readings: B&J Ch 9; BR Ch 4

4/7: F2F. Colonial Life in Latin America. Readings: B&J Ch 8. **Colony Prompt 5 Due.**

Week 14: Late Colonial Brazil

4/12: OL. Readings: BR Ch 6

4/14: F2F. Late Colonial Brazil. Readings: BR Ch 7. **Primary Source Analysis Due 4/14.**

Week 15: Independence

4/19: OL. Readings: [Simón de Bolívar: Message to the Congress of Angostura, 1819](#)

4/21: F2F. Bourbon Reforms and Revolution. Readings: B&J Ch 10. **Colony Prompt 6 Due.**

Final Exam Deets: Please submit your completed exam in Word Format to the Final Exam Dropbox no later than **midnight EST, Wednesday, April 27**. See CourseDen details.