

MESOAMERICA AND THE ANDES

HIST 4485-02, Spring 2016, Pafford 204, MW 5:30-6:50 PM

Dr. Gary Van Valen

Office: TLC 3206

Office hours: TuTh 10:00 AM-3:00 PM, or by appointment

Phone: (678) 839-6036

E-mail: gvanvale@westga.edu

Course Objectives

Native Americans developed two distinct civilizations over thousands of years in the regions now known as Mesoamerica and the Andes. Although conquered by the Spanish in the 1500s AD, their people and their traditions did not disappear. In this class, we will learn about the history of the natives of these two regions (essentially the modern Mexico, Guatemala, Ecuador, Peru, and Bolivia) both before and after the Spanish conquest, as distinct civilizations and as part of the modern world.

Course Requirements

Students will be expected to keep up with the reading. Because of the large amount of material to be covered, class attendance is absolutely essential. Attendance will be taken. You are allowed up to five absences for all reasons (including sporting events, illness, and family issues). More than five absences will result in the loss of 5% of your final grade. More than 10 absences will result in the loss of 10% of your final grade.

I reserve the right to make changes to this syllabus. It is your responsibility to attend class so that you may be aware of any changes.

Grading

Your grade will be distributed as follows:

5% from a map quiz

20% from a written midterm exam

20% from a written final exam

10% from an assignment on Pre-Columbian women

10% from an assignment on Mesoamericans and Andeans under liberalism

15% from an assignment on Titu Cusi Yupanqui

15% from an assignment on Rigoberta Menchú

5% from a reaction paper to ONE of the three movies: *Apocalypto*, *The Devil's Miner*, or *Men with Guns*

Written work handed in late will be graded according to its quality and will have 2 points deducted if turned in after the class meeting when it is due, with a further 2 points deducted for each 24-hour period that has elapsed since the class in which it was due. If you will absent from class on the day something is due you must send your work as an e-mail attachment before the end of the normal class period to receive full credit. In all other cases, you must turn in a paper copy of your work.

For the midterm and final exams, you will need to turn in a blank blue book with your name on the front cover at least one class meeting prior to the exam. I will mark these and return them at the exam time. No exams written in unmarked blue books will be accepted. You may use your assigned readings and notes during these exams.

As noted above, excessive absences may result in the loss of up to 10% of your grade. Disruptive behavior may also result in points taken out of your grade. Your exam dates are noted on this syllabus. Do not make travel plans that conflict with your exam dates.

Academic Honesty

You are expected to be familiar with and abide by the university's policies on academic honesty. As a West Georgia student, you have pledged not to lie, cheat, steal, or commit plagiarism. It is equally wrong to give aid as it is to receive it. When copying word for word from another source, you must use quotation marks and cite your source. When paraphrasing material or borrowing another author's ideas, you must also cite your source. Plagiarism on the written assignments will result in an F for the course. Assignments are to be done independently. Two or more students cannot hand in variations of the same paper, even if they study together. You are not allowed to submit your own work from a previous course without the prior instructor's and my permission.

Special Accommodations

If you are on record with the university's Accessibility Services as having special academic or physical needs requiring accommodations, please let me know as soon as possible. We need to discuss your accommodations before they can be implemented.

If you believe you are eligible for accommodations but have not formally contacted Accessibility Services, please call (678) 839-6428 or drop by the Counseling Center at 123 Row Hall. Please also check their webpage at <http://www.westga.edu/counseling/4486.php>.

Policy on Electronic Devices and Communication

Cell phones and pagers must be turned off prior to entering the classroom. Laptops are allowed in the classroom only for taking notes. Do not text, check messages, use the internet, or listen to music on any device during class. The use of any electronic device during a quiz or exam is strictly prohibited. Any use of such devices during a quiz or exam will be considered a breach of academic honesty.

To protect your privacy, all electronic communication with me must be conducted through your West Georgia e-mail. As all e-mail is potentially insecure, I will only discuss your grades with you in person. Please be aware that I will not always be able to respond to e-mails or phone messages immediately, and will not answer e-mails asking for information that can be easily found on the syllabus. If you have an urgent matter, talk to me in person—either in class, or in my office.

Required Books

Robert Carmack et al., *The Legacy of Mesoamerica* (Pearson Prentice Hall, 2007, 2nd ed., ISBN 0130492922)

Peter Henderson, *The Course of Andean History* (University of New Mexico Press, 2013, ISBN 9780826353368)

Titu Cusi Yupanqui, *History of How the Spaniards arrived in Peru* (Hackett, 2006, ISBN 9780872208285)

Rigoberta Menchú, *I, Rigoberta Menchú* (Verso, 2009, ISBN 9781844674183)

Course Schedule:

DATE	TOPIC	READINGS
Jan. 11	Introduction & geography	Carmack 5-18
Jan. 13	Agriculture & early settlement	Carmack 38-46 Henderson 1-13
Jan. 18	NO CLASS (Martin Luther King Day)	
Jan. 20	The Olmecs & Chavín Map Quiz	Carmack 46-56 Henderson 15-22
Jan. 25	The Mayas & Teotihuacan	Carmack 56-60
Jan. 27	Classic Mayan Civilization	Carmack 60-71
Feb. 1	Film: <i>Apocalypto</i>	
Feb. 3	Tiahuanaco & Huari	Henderson 23-26
Feb. 8	Postclassic Mesoamerica <i>Apocalypto</i> reaction paper due*	Carmack 71-89, 103-118
Feb. 10	The Aztecs	
Feb. 15	The Aztecs continued Assignment on Pre-Columbian women due	
Feb. 17	The Incas	Henderson 31-44
Feb. 22	The Incas continued	
Feb. 24	MIDTERM EXAM	

Feb. 29	The Spanish Conquest: Mesoamerica	Carmack 151-181
Mar. 2	The Spanish Conquest: the Andes	Henderson 46-63
Mar. 7	Spanish Colonial Indian policy Titu Cusi Yupanqui paper due	Carmack 182-220 Henderson 66-81
Mar. 9	Mesoamericans & Andeans under colonial rule	Henderson 83-101
Mar. 14-16	NO CLASS (Spring Break)	
Mar. 21	Film: <i>The Devil's Miner</i>	
Mar. 23	Late Colonial Rebellions	Henderson 103-120
Mar. 30	The Independence and Early National periods <i>The Devil's Miner</i> reaction paper due*	Carmack 255-273 Henderson 122-182, 223-230
Apr. 4	Village life	
Apr. 6	The Caste Wars and Neocolonial Period Assignment on Mesoamericans and Andeans under liberalism due	Carmack 273-295 Henderson 201-220, 231-234
Apr. 11	Revolutions & Indigenismo	Carmack 296-346 Henderson 240-274
Apr. 13	Cold War conflicts Menchú paper due	Henderson 277-297
Apr. 18	Cold War conflicts Film: <i>Men with Guns</i>	
Apr. 20	Recent decades <i>Men with Guns</i> reaction paper due*	Carmack 347-406 Henderson 300-313, 333-351
Apr. 25	FINAL EXAM 5:00-7:30 PM	

*Remember to do only ONE of the three possible reaction papers to the films