

MESOAMERICA AND THE ANDES

HIST 5485-02, Spring 2016, Pafford 204, MW 5:30-6:50 PM

Dr. Gary Van Valen

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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

There will be two written examinations: a midterm worth 20% of the final grade, and a final worth 20%. You will have four written assignments based on four books chosen from the Titu Cusi Yupanqui, Andrien, Larson, McNamara, and Menchú books, each worth 10% of the final grade (one must be the McNamara book). You will write an original research or historiographic paper worth 20%. 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, and you will be informed of quiz dates ahead of time. 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 Disability Services as having special academic or physical needs requiring accommodations, please meet with me during my regular office hours as soon as possible. We need to discuss your accommodations before they can be implemented. Also, please note that arrangements for special accommodations must be made at least one week before the exams.

If you believe you are eligible for accommodations but have not formally contacted Disability Services, please call (678) 839-6428 or drop by the Student Development Center at 272 Parker Hall.

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.

Required Books

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

Kenneth Andrien, *Andean Worlds* (University Of New Mexico Press, 2001, ISBN 0826323588)

Brooke Larson, *The Trials of Nation Making* (Cambridge University Press, 2004, ISBN 0521567305)

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

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

Patrick McNamara, *Sons of the Sierra* (University of North Carolina Press, 2007, 0807857874)

Course Schedule:

DATE	TOPIC	READINGS
Jan. 11	Introduction & geography	Carmack 5-18
Jan. 13	Agriculture & early settlement	Carmack 38-46
Jan. 18	NO CLASS (Martin Luther King Day)	
Jan. 20	The Olmecs & Chavín	Carmack 46-56
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	
Feb. 8	Postclassic Mesoamerica	Carmack 71-89, 103-118
Feb. 10	The Aztecs	
Feb. 15	The Aztecs continued	
Feb. 17	The Incas	Andrien 11-39
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 Titu Cusi Yupanqui review due	
Mar. 7	Spanish Colonial Indian policy	Carmack, 182-220

Mar. 9	Mesoamericans & Andeans under colonial rule Andrien review due	Andrien 41-191
Mar. 14-16	NO CLASS (Spring Break)	
Mar. 21	Film: <i>The Devil's Miner</i>	
Mar. 23	Late Colonial Rebellions	Andrien 193-232
Mar. 30	The Independence and Early National periods McNamara review due	Carmack, 255-273
Apr. 4	Village life	
Apr. 6	The Caste Wars and Neocolonial Period Larson review due	Carmack, 273-295
Apr. 11	Revolutions & Indigenismo	Carmack, 296-346
Apr. 13	Cold War conflicts Film: <i>Men with Guns</i>	
Apr. 18	Cold War conflicts Menchú review due	
Apr. 20	Recent decades	Carmack, 347-406
Apr. 25	FINAL EXAM 5:00-7:30 PM	