HIST 395-FALL 2012
POPULAR POLITICS IN MODERN LATIN AMERICA

UNIV 319, T.-Th. 1:30-2:45
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In this course we will study some of the multiple forms that popular protest and participation in politics took in post-independence Latin America. The readings cover from Muslim slave rebellions to working-class based electoral politics to peasant revolutions. This is a junior seminar and its main purpose is to give history majors a first exposure to research and writing in history. Therefore, this course will emphasize questions of methodology (sources, archives, analysis of historical data, etc.) and will explore the different types of writings that professional historians practice (book reviews, pieces of original research, etc).

Required readings:

-Joao Jose Reis, The Muslim Uprising of 1835 in Bahia (John Hopkins University Press)
-Natalia Sobrevilla Perea, The Caudillo of the Andes: Andres de Santa Cruz (Cambridge University Press)
-Ariel de la Fuente, Children of Facundo (Duke University Press)
-Hilda Sabato, The Many and The Few: Political Participation in Republican Buenos Aires (Stanford U. Press),
-Samuel Brunk, Emiliano Zapata! (University of New Mexico Press)

Class Schedule (*tentative*):

-8/21, 8/23: Introduction to Modern Latin American history.

-8/28, 8/30, 9/4: Slave rebellion: The Muslim Uprising of 1835 in Bahia (Brazil).

-9/6, 9/11: Caudillos in post-Independence Latin America (part 1): The Caudillo of the Andes (Bolivia and Perú)

-9/13, 9/18, 9/20, 9/25, 9/27: Caudillos in post-Independence Latin America (part 2): Caudillos and Gauchos (Argentina)

-10/2: 20th-Century interpretaions of 19th-Century Popular Politics (Jorge Luis Borges's fiction and poetry).

-10/4: No Class, extra-credit opportunity: Lecture by Prof. Daniel Balderston (more details TBA).

-10/9: No Class (October Break).

-10/11, 10/16: The urban masses in the 19th-century: Republican Electoral Politics in Buenos Aires (Argentina).

-10/18, 10/23, 10/25, 10/30: A Peasant Revolution: Emiliano Zapata and the Mexican Revolution (Mexico).

-11/1: no class, preparation of assignment.

- 11/3: paper proposal and bibliography due.

-11/6, 11/8, 11/13: no class, research and writing.

-11/15: first draft due.

-11/20: feedback on first draft.

-11/27: final round of comments.

-11/29, 12/4: revisions and rewriting.

-12/6: final paper due.

Assignments and grade:

-Class attendance: 5%: every absence will bring down proportionally this share of the final grade.

Written assignments: the guidelines for all these assignments will be discussed in more detail in class.

-Quizzes on reading assignments (40%)

-One research report on archives, sources, and data analysis (5%).

-One book review (5%).

-One-page paper proposal and bibliography (5%).

-Final paper (40%): the 15-page final paper will cover the narrative and analysis of a post-independence Latin American mass protest or political event shaped by popular participation. The essay should demonstrate familiarity with the appropriate literature and the sources that allow to study the event. I expect the essay to exhibit a logical development of the argument and to be written with clarity and precision of vocabulary.

University disclaimers:

Plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty: plagiarism refers to the duplication of phrasing without attribution. Plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty will be penalized in accordance with Purdue University policies. It is the student's responsibility to be informed about university policies in this respect.

Changes in syllabus: This syllabus is subject to change. In the event of any change I will notify students via their official Purdue email account and/or in class.

Campus emergency: In the event of a major campus emergency course requirements, deadlines, and grading percentages are subject to changes that may be necessitated by a revised semester calendar or other circumstances.