

HI115-30 A History of Latin America (EUTOPIA)

26/27

Department

History

Level

Undergraduate Level 1

Module leader

Camillia Cowling

Credit value

30

Module duration

21 weeks

Assessment

100% coursework

Study location

University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

Description

Introductory description

This 30 CATS team-taught undergraduate first-year module draws on the expertise of a number of Latin American specialists to provide a wide-ranging overview of Latin America's social, political and cultural history. The module begins with the first meetings of Iberians, American peoples and Africans at the end of the fifteenth century, and ends with a consideration of the vibrant new social movements that have helped shape democratic transitions and the new "Pink Tide" in recent decades. The first term focuses on colonial history and the eventual independence of the region; the second and third terms consider post-colonial nation-building. Along the way, a number of themes stand out: tension between elite projects and popular actions; Latin America's unique revolutionary and popular democratic traditions; the quest for nation-building; tensions and positionings over race, religion, gender and indigeneity; land and labour; and the growing economic and military might of the United States.

[Module web page](#)

Module aims

The module provides both excellent grounding for students who wish to specialise in comparative

Americas topics in the future, and an excellent introduction to how the continent fits with and compares to other regions of the world and their histories.

Outline syllabus

This is an indicative module outline only to give an indication of the sort of topics that may be covered. Actual sessions held may differ.

Term 1:

Week 2: Introduction to Latin American History

Week 3: Before 1492: Iberia, Africa and the Americas

Week 4: Early contact in the Caribbean and Brazil

Week 5: The Conquest of the Mainland

Week 6: Reading week

Week 7: Structuring the colonies: Labour, Demography, Administration

Week 8: Colonial society

Week 9: The Eighteenth Century

Week 10: Independence in Latin America

Term 2:

Week 1: Nation-building in the Nineteenth Century

Week 2: Slavery and Emancipation

Week 3: Popular Democracy, Caste Wars, and State Formation

Week 4: The US and Latin America

Week 5: The Mexican Revolution and Latin America

Week 6: Reading Week

Week 7: Modernity in Latin America

Week 8: Mid-twentieth-century Latin America: "Populism", Labour Movements, and Nationalism

Week 9: Revolutionary Latin America

Week 10: The Cold War and the Right in Latin America

Term 3:

Week 1: Democratic Transitions and New Social Movements

Week 2: Latin America Today

Learning outcomes

By the end of the module, students should be able to:

- Gain a broad understanding of key themes related to Latin American History.
- Identify some of the theoretical / conceptual approaches and historiographical debates relating to the field.
- Identify and engage with a range of relevant primary sources.
- Gain interpersonal and communication skills through the delivery of a presentation.
- Devise well-defined essay topics, collect relevant data from a variety of sources and present results in an effective fashion.

Indicative reading list

[Reading lists can be found in Talis](#)

[Specific reading list for the module](#)

Subject specific skills

See learning outcomes.

Transferable skills

See learning outcomes.

Study

Study time

Type	Required
Lectures	20 sessions of 1 hour (7%)
Seminars	20 sessions of 1 hour (7%)
Tutorials	2 sessions of 1 hour (1%)
Private study	258 hours (86%)
Total	300 hours

Private study description

History modules require students to undertake extensive independent research and reading to prepare for seminars and assessments. As a rough guide, students will be expected to read and prepare to comment on three substantial texts (articles or book chapters) for each seminar taking approximately 3 hours. Each assessment requires independent research, reading around 6-10 texts and writing and presenting the outcomes of this preparation in an essay, review, presentation or other related task.

Costs

No further costs have been identified for this module.

Assessment

You do not need to pass all assessment components to pass the module.

Assessment group A5

	Weighting	Study time	Eligible for self-certification
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Assessment component

1000-word piece of introductory writing (essay plan or assignment of tutor's choice)	10%		Yes (extension)
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Reassessment component is the same

Assessment component

Seminar participation/presentation	10%		No
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Reassessment component

1000 word reflective essay in lieu of Seminar Contribution			Yes (extension)
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Assessment component

2000 word essay or equivalent 2000 word essay	30%		Yes (extension)
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Reassessment component is the same

Assessment component

3000-word essay or equivalent	50%		Yes (extension)
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Reassessment component is the same

Feedback on assessment

Written comments and oral feedback will be provided for non-assessed assignments.

Availability

Courses

This module is Core optional for:

- Year 1 of UHIA-V1V5 Undergraduate History and Philosophy
- Year 1 of UHIA-VM11 Undergraduate History and Politics

This module is Optional for:

- Year 1 of UENA-VQ32 Undergraduate English and History
- Year 1 of UHIA-V100 Undergraduate History
- Year 1 of UHIA-Q302 Undergraduate History (Part-Time)
- Year 1 of UHIA-VM11 Undergraduate History and Politics
- Year 1 of UHIA-VL13 Undergraduate History and Sociology

This module is Option list A for:

- Year 1 of UHIA-V1V5 Undergraduate History and Philosophy

This module is Option list G for:

- Year 1 of UPHA-V7ML Undergraduate Philosophy, Politics and Economics