

HONR 3023 – Contemporary Cultures of the Western World

Purpose:

This course is an interdisciplinary study of the relationships between cultural forms and their socio-cultural contexts in selected Latin American and European countries. Originally the product of colonial expansion by European powers, the adaptations and mutual influences of European and Latin American cultures defines the modern “western world.” Key ideas, practices, and institutions are examined to illustrate the complex relationships between modern Latin American and European civilizations. The course is designed to support a variety of majors, and to help prepare students for study-abroad opportunities.

Texts:

Chasteen, John Charles. *Born in Blood and Fire: A Concise History of Latin America*. 3rd edition. New York: W.W. Norton, 2011.

Osborne, Roger. *Civilization: A New History of the Western World*. New York: Pegasus Books, 2006.

Additional required readings will be made available electronically at no cost to students.

Requirements and Grading:

The course grade will be determined on the basis of total accumulated points. Students in both sections will take the same examinations and compete the same assignments. There are a total of **450** possible points.

Midterm Exam	80	Scale: 405 - 450 points = A
Final Exam	80	360 – 404 = B
Summaries	40	315 – 359 = C
Group discussions	40	270 – 314 = D
Written project (draft)	50	<270 = F
Written project (final)	50	
Group presentation	100	
Attendance	10	

Points will be derived from the following assessments:

- Exams: There will be two examinations, a midterm and a final. Each exam is worth 80 points.
- Summaries: Each student will submit 4 3-page summaries of assigned readings at the times designated in the schedule. Each summary is worth 10 points.
- Discussions in groups: 3 students per group will meet to discuss specific questions based on the readings/lecture of the day. 4 meetings: 40 points.
- Written Project: Each student will submit a 12-15-page paper analyzing a selected specific topic relevant to the course material. ***The paper will be submitted twice***: once as a draft for review and revision (50 points) and again as a final draft at the end of the semester (50 points). The instructors will provide guidance on appropriate topics, and specific details about this requirement.
- Group Presentation: Students in each section will be divided into groups for the purpose of researching a topic for presentation to the class. Topics may not be the same as those for the written project. Visual presentations (such as PowerPoint or transparency slides) may be used but are not required. Details of appropriate topics and presentation guidelines will be presented in class. The presentation is worth 100 points.
- Attendance: Class attendance is essential. It is expected that all students attend all class sessions except in cases of genuine emergencies. Participation in class discussion is an important part of the experience. Also, students are responsible for all material presented in class. Perfect attendance for all student presentations will be credited 10 points on the final exam score.

Professors Contact & Office Hours:

Dr. Joel Jenswold:

Office: 204 Wes Watkins Center. Phone: 744-7693.

joel.jenswold@okstate.edu. Office hours: _____.

Dr. Lucero “Chelo” Tenorio:

Office: 308B Gundersen. Phone: 744-3569.

lucero.tenorio@okstate.edu. Office hours: MF 2:30-3:30pm TH 3:30-4:00pm