

HIS 214
Modern Latin America

Satisfies GLO, SBS [DEC: J]

Instructor: Giovanni Bello
Online Asynchronous

In this class we will explore the history of the Caribbean, Central and South America beginning with the independence era (19th Century) until today. Some of the key concepts through which we will explore Latin American modern history will be revolution, race, gender, state, political culture, and popular culture. Some of the central questions we will try to tackle are: How much influence did colonial structures play in the making of Latin American modern states? What large social changes were introduced by independence? Under what circumstances was the idea of “Latin America” shaped? How did Latin American societies confront the challenges of modernity? What has been the role of popular culture in shaping Latin American identities? In order to enrich our approaches to these and other questions we will analyze books, visual art, music, films and other kinds of texts produced along the Latin American 19th, 20th and 21st centuries. In addition to weekly quizzes related to readings and other sources, students are required to write a final, “integrative essay.” The course will also incorporate a discussion forum on Blackboard and utilize platforms as Padlet and Mural to present group discussions depending on the topics discussed.