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NAS 368H.01: Latin American Art

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ART 368H.01

*Latin American Art (NAS 368H.01), 3 credits, pre-requisites: Art 150H or 151H
or consent of instructor
Fall 2007*

PROFESSOR INFORMATION: Professor H. Rafael Chacón. Office Hours: Tues. 9-11 AM and Wed. 2-4 PM (Room 202, x.2735, hrafael.chacon@umontana.edu). Messages may also be left in my box in the Art Department Office (FA 305)

CLASS MEETINGS: 2:10-3:30 PM, Tues. and Thurs., Fine Arts, Room 302

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course is an exploration of the development of Latin American art from 1492 to the present.

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND FORMAT: I teach this course in a lecture format, but I encourage open, frank, and fair discussion in the classroom. The syllabus below is arranged thematically and on a weekly basis. Discussions and debates often develop lives of their own and sometimes unfinished work spills over into the next session.

REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING POLICIES:

Good performance in this class and in art history in general rests on the ability to grasp hundreds of images representing the creative output of a particular people during a specific period of time and to analyze texts that illuminate their creative process. You will be expected to engage the ideas that motivated and/or shaped their artistic endeavors, to stay abreast of the readings, to share your thoughts and ideas with the class, and participate fully in all class activities.

Texts and Readings: There will be two textbooks: John Charles Chasteen's *Born in Blood and Fire* and Edward Lucie-Smith's *Latin American Art of the Twentieth Century* for the second half of the course. Copies of both, plus additional readings, will be available on two-hour reserve at the Mansfield Library. Optional readings are denoted by an asterisk in the syllabus below. I shall always let you know where we are on the syllabus, but stay abreast of the readings because you will be called upon in class and the texts will inevitably show up in quizzes. Good class participation depends on your ability to prepare in advance of the discussions.

Participation: 30 % of your grade is determined by attendance and participation in class discussion. I expect at least 85 % attendance and occasional participation to earn a "C" and 95-100 % participation with consistent and thoughtful contribution to class discussion for an "A". Participation may count for more of the final grade if it has been exceptionally good or less if exceedingly poor. Improvement over the course of the quarter will be registered in the final grade.

Quizzes: There will be two quizzes during the semester covering class discussions and readings. The quizzes are worth 20 % of your grade.

Midsemester Papers and Project: This class takes an active role in Missoula's Festival of the Dead in early November and you are expected to participate fully in the events. In the weeks prior to the holiday, you will work in small teams (4-6 people) in researching a topic related to the Day of the Dead. A paper from each individual and a presentation to the class on the results of the research will be required from each team by midsemester. Papers will be revised and resubmitted for the final grade. Please be advised that **I DO NOT ACCEPT LATE PAPERS**. The paper and project combined are worth 50 % of your grade.

Grades:	Participation	30 %	300 points
	Quizzes (2)	20 %	200 pts.
	Midsemester Paper & Project	50 %	500 pts.

Total

100%

1000 pts.

Access/Special Needs/Disabilities:

If you have any access concerns, special needs, and/or learning disabilities, medical conditions, and/or physical impairments that may impede the successful completion of this course, please contact the office of Disability Services for Students (DSS) at x. 2243(Lommasson Center 154) and speak with me as soon as possible.

Academic Misconduct and the Student Conduct Code: All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at www.umd.edu/SA/VP/SA/Index.cfm/page/1321.

Syllabus

This syllabus is available only electronically and on Blackboard. It is subject to change, so please check Blackboard regularly for announcements and assignments.

Week 1 Aug. 28 & 31

1492: Demise of the Ancient World, Spanish Exploration and Conquest

Readings:

Chasteen, 15-34, 44-57.

- *"The Encounter of Europeans and Americans" readings from *The Broken Spears: Aztec Accounts of the Conquest of Mexico*, ed. Miguel León-Portilla and Bernal Díaz del Castillo, *The Discovery and Conquest of Mexico, 1517-1521*
- *Bartolomé de las Casas, *A Short Account of the History of the Indies* (1542)
- *Elliott, *The Old World and the New, 1492-1650*, 1-53.
- *Lovell, George W., "Heavy Shadows and Black Night: Disease and Depopulation in Colonial Spanish America," *Annals of Assoc. of American Geographers* (Sept. 1992), 426-43.

Week 2 Sept. 4 & 6

Architecture and Urbanism in the Spanish Colonies

Chasteen, 58-78, 82-89.

- Manrique, Jorge Alberto, "The Progress of Art in New Spain" from *Mexico: Splendors of Thirty Centuries*, 237-42.
- *Pierce, Donna, "The Mission: Evangelical Utopianism in the New World," from *Mexico: Splendors of Thirty Centuries*, 243-49.
- *Prem, Hans J., "Spanish Colonization and Indian Property in Central Mexico, 1521-1620," *Annals of Assoc. of American Geographers* (Sept. 1992), 444-59.

Week 3 Sept. 11 & 13

La Leyenda Negra

Sánchez, Joseph, "The Spanish Black Legend: Origins of Anti-Spanish Stereotypes," *Columbus* 92, 16-21.

- *Kirsner, "North American Views of Spain" *Columbus* 92, 44-46.
- *Montaigne, Michel de, "On Cannibals," *Essays* (1580), 207-17

Week 4 Sept. 18 & 20

Tuesday, September 18, NO CLASS, BFA Portfolio

Thursday, September 20, Quiz #1

Week 5 Sept. 25 & 27

The "Other" Arts: Indigenous and Folk Traditions

Carmichael, Elizabeth and Chloe Sayer, *The Skeleton at the Feast: The Day of the Dead in Mexico*, 14-24.

Thursday, September 27, PAPER AND PROJECT will be assigned.

The Baroque in America: Colonial Mexico

Hecht, Johanna, "The Emergence of a National Style," from *Mexico: Splendors of Thirty Centuries*, 315-323.
*Leonard, *Baroque Times in Old Mexico*, 1-52.
*Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz, *Loa for the Auto Sacramental "The Divine Narcissus"* (ca. 1670)

Week 6 Oct. 2 & 4

Goddesses, Virgins, and Nuns: Female Piety

Peterson, Jeanette Favrot, "The Virgin of Guadalupe: Symbol of Conquest or Liberation?" *Art Journal* (Winter 1992), 39-47.
Chasteen, 110-112, 139-143, 162-166, 199-202.
*Valdés, Nelson P. and Nan Elsasser, "La Cachita y el Che: Patron Saints of Revolutionary Cuba," *Columbus* 92, 30-34.
*Leonard, *Baroque Times in Old Mexico*, 172-92

Week 7 Oct. 9 & 11 **MIDSEMESTER**

Tuesday, October 9, NO CLASS

Thursday, October 11

Africa in Latin America

Chasteen, 39-44, 118.
Mosquera, Gerardo, "Africa in the Art of Latin America" *Art Journal* (Winter 1992), 30-38.
*Bettleheim, Judith, John Nunley and Barbara Bridges, *Caribbean Festival Arts*, 31-37.

Week 8 Oct. 16 & 18

The Baroque in the Andes

Tord, Luis Enrique, "The Viceroyalty of Peru, 1532-1825," in *Gloria in Excelsis*, 6-21.
*Kelemen, Pal, *Peruvian Colonial Painting*, 1-12.
*Gade, Daniel W., "Landscape, System, and Identity in the Post-Conquest Andes," *Annals of Assoc. of American Geographers* (Sept. 1992), 460-77.

Week 9 Oct. 23 & 25

Revolution, Nationalism, and Academism

Chasteen, 90-130, 134-147.
Ramírez, Fausto, "The Nineteenth Century" from *Mexico: Splendors of Thirty Centuries*, 499-510.
*Burke, "The Academy, Neoclassicism, and Independence," from *Mexico: Splendors of Thirty Centuries*, 487-95.
*Bolívar, Simón, "The Cartagena Manifesto" (1812) and "The Jamaica Letter" (1815)
*Martí, José, "Our America."
*Darío, Rubén, "To Columbus" and "To Roosevelt" (1892).

Week 10 Oct. 30 & Nov. 1

NO FORMAL CLASS MEETINGS THIS WEEK—work on projects.

Friday, November 2, FESTIVAL OF THE DEAD

Week 11 Nov. 6 & 8

Modernism: Nativism, Indigenismo, the Mexican Revolution, and Muralism

Chasteen, 148-158, 193-196, 216-219, 221-225, 236-240.
Readings from Edward Lucie-Smith, Introduction, Chapters 1-3.
*"The Mexican Mural Movement, Cultural Nationalisms and Socially Concerned Latin American Art," 3-14.

Tuesday, November 6, Research papers due at the start of class. NO LATE

Week 12 Nov. 13 & 15

Surrealism, Magic Realism, and Fantasy

Lucie-Smith, Chapter 6.
*Breton, André, "Memory of Mexico" (1938), reprinted in *Review: Latin American Literature and Arts* (Fall 1995), 9-16.
*Ilona Katzew, "Proselytizing Surrealism: André Breton and

Mexico,"in *Review: Latin American Literature and Arts* (Fall 1995), 22-33.
*Ramírez, Mari Carmen, "Beyond the *Fantastic*, Framing Identity in U. S. Exhibitions of Latin American Art" *Art Journal* (Winter 1992), 60-68.

Week 13 Nov. 20

The Avant Garde Cuba

Chasteen, 180-192, 202-214, 243-284, 289-305.

Lucie-Smith, Chapters 4 & 5.

*Blanc, Giulio V., "Cuban Modernism: the Search for a National Ethos" from *Wifredo Lam and his Contemporaries*, 52-69.

Tuesday, November 20, Revised Papers are due in class. NO LATE PAPERS WILL BE ACCEPTED.

Thursday, November 22, Thanksgiving, NO CLASS.

Week 14 Nov. 27 & 29

Modernism in S. America: Brazil

Chasteen, 34-39, 79-82, 130-134, 170-178, 219-221, 229-236, 284-289.

Lucie-Smith, Chapter 8.

*Sullivan, Edward J., *Brazil: Body and Soul*, (New York, Guggenheim Museum, 2001), 2-33.

Week 15 Dec. 4 & 6

Contemporary Issues in Latin American Art in the U.S.

Chasteen, 310-329.

Lucie-Smith, Chapters 7, 9, 10, 11, & 12.

*Torruella Leval, Susana, "Recapturing History: The Unofficial Story in Contemporary Latin American Art," *Art Journal* (Winter 1992), 69-80.

*Sánchez, Joseph P., "The Ambiguity of Legitimacy: Entitlement and the Legacy of Colonialism," *Columbus* 92, 24-29, 50.

*León-Portilla, Miguel, "The Encounter of Cultures" from *The Ancient Americas: Art from Sacred Landscapes*, 15-21.

*Cembalest, Robin, "Goodbye Columbus?" *ARTnews* (Oct. 1991), 104-109.

Thursday, December 6, Quiz #2.

Finals Week, Monday, December 10, 3:20-5:20 PM