

HILA 163/263: History of Chile

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HSS 6008
Email: Use Website
Office Hours: Thurs. 1-3

This course focuses on the development of Chile since 1880 although we will take two quick looks at the era before that date. Each student will be expected to develop a 15 page essay, graduate students 15-20 pages discussing a substantial topic in the nation's development. On the last page of this outline, I suggest some topics for consideration. The major difference in the undergraduate and graduate levels of instruction is that graduate students will be expected to develop readings in Spanish as well as assigned readings in English; everyone will be expected to give an oral presentation in weeks 9-10 and to regularly participate in class discussion and in the discussion topics assigned each week.

All the books in English are on sale at Groundwork Books and on reserve at the library.

DISCUSSION:

This will be an essential part of your grade; three hours is a long time to lecture and I will not do so. You are expected to come prepared to discuss issues in the class and to keep the discussion rolling, I will outline some of the issues to be raised in the next class during the previous one. At times, the discussion can focus on a single book but time periods and topics run through more than one book at a time. I will keep my own notes during the discussion and use those notes in assigning your grade.

Another part of your discussion will be to post on the "Discussion" list of the class website a one or two paragraph response to the topic or issue given each week. In all, you should make nine posts. The post must be made by the end of Monday (12pm) so that I and all class members can read them Wednesday morning in preparation for the class the next day. Answers not posted on time will not count toward your final grade.

GRADE:

Class discussion including oral presentation: 35 %

Proposal of topic on week five: 15 %

Synopsis prior to week nine: 10%

Final paper: 35 %

That is correct, discussion and oral presentations counts as much as the final paper.

BOOKS ASSIGNED IN ENGLISH

All books are on sale at Groundworks and on reserve in the Geisel Library.

Loveman, Brian. Chile: The Legacy of Hispanic Capitalism (Oxford U. Press, 2001 – 3rd ed.) ISBN 0195120205

Vallejo, José Joaquín. Sketches of Life in Chile, 1841-1851 (Oxford U. Press, 2002) ISBN 0195128672

Elizabeth Quay Hutchinson, Labors Appropriate to Their Sex: Gender, Labor, and Politics in Urban Chile, 1900-1950 (Durham: Duke University Press, 2001) ISBN 0-8223-2742-2

Isabel Allende, My Invented Country (A Memoir) (NY: Perennial, 2003) ISBN 0-06054564-X

Haslam, Jonathon. The Nixon Administration and the Death of Allende's Chile: A Case of Assisted Suicide (Verso, 2005) hardcover ISBN 1844670309

Juan Gabriel Valdés, Pinochet's Economists: The Chicago School in Chile (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1995) ISBN 978-0-521-06440-8

Roberto Bolaño, By Night in Chile (NY: New Directions Books, 2000) ISBN -13: 978-0-8112-1547-3

CLASS MEETINGS:

Week I: Introduction
Try to begin reading Loveman

Week II: The Nineteenth Century – the structure of society and the political system
Read Loveman, Chaps. 1-4.

Week III: The Nitrate Boom and the Civil War of 1891
Loveman, Chap. 5-6; Vallejo, entire book. Vallejo will be the initial center of discussion.

Week IV: The 1920s and 1940s
Loveman, Chaps. 7-8; Hutchinson, entire book

Week V: The 1940's to 1970
Finish reading Loveman.
The proposal for your paper is due. This will be discussed in class and is a paper about pages in length focusing on the topic you will to

review for your final paper – undergraduates may treat this as the start of their final paper.

Week VI: A Memoir of Chile before the coup

Read: Isabel Allende, entire book; Haslam, Chaps. 1-3

You might want to read Boloña in the next couple of weeks

Week VII: Allende and the Coup

Read: Haslam, entire book; Valdés, Chaps. 1-3

Week VIII: Pinochet and the Neo-liberal Project

Read: Valdés, entire book; Boloña, entire book

Weeks IX – X: Grouped by Lot

These weeks will be devoted to discussing your final papers. By Monday of Week IX, you are to have posted on the discussion page, a brief synopsis of your topic, stating its central concerns and your major conclusion. The synopsis should not be more than two pages in length, single-spaced with double-spaced margins between paragraphs. Then you will present your topic and conclusions at an oral presentation of 10 minutes in length at the end of the quarter, we will stop every few presentations and discuss the papers and what you might add to your paper. In general I will try to group the papers by topics so the discussion does not go in every direction.

POSSIBLE TOPICS: An essay of fifteen pages, double-spaced, with a bibliography at the end may seem lengthy but its not. Some topics lend themselves to a more open treatment and others are dense and require a close attention to detail, so pick your topic carefully. I have picked most of these topics with a need for synthesis in mind. This is not a research paper, although you may do additional reading to flesh out your topic. You are not limited to these topics and may propose another one to me, either in class or by email through the website.

1. Chile has always depended on exports to drive its economic development but how has such a dependency driven its politics and social evolution?
2. One could argue that Chile's evolution between 1924 and 1973 was an interruption of a larger pattern of liberal and relatively undemocratic economic and political development. Agree or disagree.
3. How do women fit into the general narrative of Chile's development? In most works, they seem written out of history and society rather than acting within them.
4. Karl Marx was right; all of history is the history of class struggle. Agree or disagree.
5. Chile should be seen largely as the colonization of its hinterland by

the city of Santiago. Agree or disagree.

6. Chile should be seen largely as the colony or periphery of larger powers, Great Britain in the nineteenth century and the United States in the twentieth. Agree or disagree.

7. Now that so many years have passed, Allende seems increasingly an odd moment in Chile's history rather than an essential moment. Agree or disagree.