# HILA 101: Themes in Latin American History Winter 2010

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OHs: W 3-5pm or by appointment

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We will trace key themes in nineteenth-century Latin American history, with an eye on past and present issues, from a historical actors' perspective, namely, what people who lived in Latin America thought about their contemporary scenarios and what they made out of it. Our main focus will be the Amazon Basin that includes the national histories of nine Latin American countries.

Latin America's nineteenth century history is, essentially, the process of nation-state building amidst struggles for political independence from Spain and Portugal and amidst the build-up of interests on the side of Great Britain and the United States of America. The resulting national divides were a result of how colonial domains were organized, defined and struggled over, no matter what nature and peoples in Amazonia were doing, thought, or felt. Thus, the re-reading of nineteenth century Latin American history from an Amazonian perspective is, at the same time, a re-reading of how power relations are politically, socially, culturally and economically construed, often, in detriment of what would/could/should have been the 'common public good'.

To achieve the stated purpose of this class, I invite you to share some readings with your minds firmly committed to understand what happened in the nineteenth century that explains present-day outcomes, namely, deforestation, global warming, cultural losses, poverty, destruction of biodiversity. Most readings are from a new collection of authors and life stories by Oxford University Press.

## **Required Readings:**

Aguirre, Nathaniel. Juan de La Rosa: *Memoirs of the Last Soldier of the Independence Movement*. Edited by Alba Maria Paz-Soldan and translated by Sergio Gabriel Waisman. New York: Oxford University Press, 1998.

Assis, Joachim Maria de. *Dom Casmurro: A Novel*. Trasnalted by John Gledson. New York: Oxford University Press, 1998.

Bolivar, Simón. *El Libertador: Writings of Simon Bolívar*. Edited by David Bushnell and translated by Fred Fornoff. New York: Oxford University Press, 2003.

Cunha, Euclides da. *The Amazon: Land Without History*. Edited by Lúcia Sá and translated by Ronald Sousa. New York: Oxford University Press, 2006.

Gana, Alberto Blest. *Martín Rivas: A Novel*. Translated by Tess O'Dwyer. New York: Oxford University Press, 2000.

Hunefeldt, Christine. *Paying the Prie of Freedom: Family and Labor Among Lima's Slaves, 1800-1854.* Translated by Alexandra M. Stern. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1995. (Available Electronically)

Sarmiento, Domingo Faustino. *Recollections of a Provincial Past*. Edited by Elizabeth Garrels and translated by Elizabeth Garrels and Asa Zatz. New York: Oxford University Press, 2005.

## Where to Get The Readings:

Required: Available for purchase at Groundwork's, on reserve at Geisel, or electronically (via Roger) where noted.

Optional: On reserve at Geisel, or electronically (via Roger) where noted.

Suggested: On reserve at Geisel.

Reader (Required): A.S. Soft Reserves

#### Course Outline:

## 1. Independence and the Political Mindset

Required: Aguirre and Bolivar.

Optional: Readings from and on Francisco de Miranda, to contrast Bolivar. Suggested: Racine, Karen. *Francisco de Miranda, a Transatlantic life in the Age of Revolution*. Wilmington: Scholarly Resources, 2003.

### 2. Caudillos and Caudillismos

Required: Sarmiento and Assis. Optional: Readings on Clientelism.

Suggested: Roniger, Luis and Ayse Gunes-Ayata, eds. Democracy, Clientelism,

and Civil Society. Boulder: L. Rienner Publishers, 1994.

### 3. Black Slaves and Free Blacks

Required: Hunefeldt, Chapter 1.

#### 4. Women's Lives

Required: Gana.

Optional: Readings on and from women writers.

Suggested: Corvalán, Graciela N. V. *Latin American Women Writers in English Translation: A Bibliography*. Los Angeles: Latin American Studies Center, California State University, 1980.

## 5. Exports and enclaves

Required: Hirschman (Reader #1).

Optional: Readings on an export-oriented economy (coffee in Colombia, guano in Peru, hides and beef in Argentina, sugar in Brazil, etc. to 'test' the developmental scheme proposed by Hirschman.

## 6. Rural Landscapes

Required: Hunt (Reader #2), and Van Young (Reader #3).

Optional: Mintz, Sidney Wilfred. *From Plantations to Peasantries in the Caribbean*. Washington, D.C.: Latin American Program, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, 1984.

Lundahl, Mats and Thommy Svensson, eds. *Agrarian Society in History: Essays in Honour of Magnus Mörner*. London: Routledge, 1990.

## 7. Internal Markets: Organizing Exchange

Required: Roth (Reader #4) and Oberem (Reader #5).

Optional: Readings on indigenous participation in markets.

Suggested: Larson, Brooke and Olivia Harris, Enrique Tandeter, eds. *Ethnicity, Markets, and Migration in the Andes: At the Crossroads of History and Anthropology*. Durham: Duke University Press, 1995.

## **8.** Lands Without History

Required: Cunha and Varese (Reader #6)

Optional: Watch a movie(s) on extractive activities in Amazonia (oil in Ecuador, rubber in Peru and Colombia, iron in Rondonia).

## 9. Migration, Colonization, Globalization

Required: Roosevelt (Reader #7)

Optional: Have a look at monographs describing colonization projects, for example, Germans in Rio Grande do Sul, Pozuzo, Paraguay; or, scientific expeditions to the Amazon (Humboldt, Haenke).

## 10. Europe and the United States in Latin America; Latin America in Europe and the United States

Optional:

Ringrose, David R. *Spain, Europe, and the "Spanish Miracle,"* 1700-1900. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1996. (Available Electronically). Miller, Rory. *Britain and Latin America in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries*. London: Longman, 1993.

Gootenberg, Paul. *Imagining Development: Economic Ideas in Peru's "Fictitious Prosperity" of guano, 1840-1880*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1993. (Available Electronically)

James, Marquis. *Merchant Adventurer: The Story of W.R. Grace*. Wilmington: SR Books, 1993.