



**COURSE SYLLABUS
COLLEGE OF ARTS AND
SCIENCES**

**HIST 3356: Mexico
Spring 2024
CRN 24266 Sec 901**

Instructor: Sandra E. Lara, Ph.D.

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Office Hours: Monday/Wednesday 11-12:30 PM & Tuesday 11-12:30 P.M. Other times are available by appointment.

Phone: (210) 784-2809

Class Meeting: T 12:30-1:45pm, Hall 305

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Political, economic and social history of Mexico from pre-Columbian times to the present.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

At the end of this course, the student will be able to:

- 1) Identify and understand the key institutions, agents, and concepts that shaped the history of Mexico from the Spanish conquest to the present.
- 2) Interpret the role of class, race/ethnicity, and gender .
- 3) Analyze, interpret, and synthesize both primary and secondary sources related to the study of Mexico's history.

MEANS OF ASSESSMENT:

	Outcome to be Assessed	Percentage of Grade
Field Trip	ALL	15 %
Attendance	All	10%
Classroom Participation	All	15%
Mid-Term Exam (3/5)	1, 2, and 3	20%
Book Review (4/7)	All	20%
Exam 2	1, 2, and 3	20%

Grade Scale: A (90%-up); B (80-89%); C (70-79%); D (60-69%); F (0-59%)

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

Susan Deeds, Michael Meyer and William Sherman, *The Course of Mexican History* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2018)

Supplemental reading and multimedia materials, via Blackboard (Bb)

ASSIGNMENTS:

Field Trips (15%)

We will have three field trips: SAMA (1/20), Spanish Mission (2/3), McNay (3/3) . Students will work on a group presentation based on these trips focused on a central public history topic.

ATTENDANCE POLICY (10%):

Students are expected to attend classes each week (see Course Calendar below). If you know in advance that you will miss a scheduled class meeting, please notify me immediately so that you will not be marked absent. Two **unexcused absences** from class meetings may result in a **drop of one letter grade**, and so forth from your overall final grade for the course, or an “F” for more than four unexcused absences.

CLASSROOM PARTICIPATION (30%):

There will be written assignments, discussion board forums, primary and secondary source analysis throughout the semester related to the various readings, which may also include current events, films, etc. You will be graded on the quality of your contributions to the class and your ability to analyze and discuss course concepts in the classroom. Along with discussion of assigned readings, students may take quizzes that will also determine their participation grade. Remember to be respectful and courteous of your peers in the classroom. And please turn off cell phones or set in silent mode. By definition, etiquette or common courtesy is “the customary code of polite behavior in society or among members of a particular profession or group.” In cyberspace, netiquette is “the acceptable way of communicating and behaving on the Internet.” Online civility or common courtesy thus dictates professionalism, being respectful and courteous of your peers.

BOOK REVIEW (20%):

I will provide you with a guide to writing the Book Review. Format will be **two-pages in length (or 500 words), typed, double-spaced, and 12-point font**. For this review, you will read a book of your choosing from a list that I will provide the class by the second week of the semester. Your Book Review is to be submitted through **Turnitin** on Blackboard, which checks for plagiarism (see Academic Dishonesty below). The **due date** for the Book Review is **Sunday, 4/7 (by Midnight)**.

EXAMS (40%):

Format for the Mid-Term Exam and Final Exam will be a short answer section and a long essay section. I will provide you with a guide for each exam one week prior to the due date. See Course Calendar below, pp. 7-9, for exam dates.

STUDENT MISCONDUCT:

Appropriate conduct is essential to the effective functioning of the University. University policy defines unacceptable conduct, both academic and non-academic misconduct, and penalties for such behavior in The Student Handbook and The Student Code of Conduct.

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT POLICY:

Students at Texas A&M University-San Antonio are expected to adhere to the highest standards of academic honesty and integrity. Academic Dishonesty for which a student is subject to

penalty includes cheating, plagiarism, fabrication, multiple submission, misrepresentation of academic records, facilitating academic dishonesty, unfair advantage, violating known safety requirements and ethical misconduct. All students are responsible for being familiar with the Academic Dishonesty Policy, which may be found in the Texas A&M University-San Antonio Student Handbook (<http://www.tamusa.tamus.edu/studenthandbook.html>).

University policy prescribes serious **consequences** for acts of academic misconduct including, but not limited to, a grade of 'F' on the particular paper or assignment or a failing grade in the course. Also, a referral may be issued to the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities where the sanctions can vary up to possible expulsion from the University. Considering the potential consequences of academic misconduct, it is obviously in students' best interests to avoid even the appearance of such behavior. If you are ever unclear whether a specific act might constitute academic misconduct, please contact your instructor for an assessment of the situation.

All student term papers and other written assignments are subject to analysis by anti-plagiarism software.

UNIVERSITY EMAIL POLICY AND COURSE COMMUNICATIONS:

All correspondence between professors and students must occur via University email accounts. You must have Jaguar email account ready and working. If it is not working, contact the help desk at sahelp@tamusa.edu or at 210-784-4357.

DISABILITY SUPPORT SERVICES (DSS):

Texas A&M University-San Antonio is committed to providing equitable access to students with disabilities through reasonable accommodation in accordance with The Americans with Disabilities Act, as amended, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. If you have a disability that may require accommodations, please contact **Disability Support Services (DSS)** for the coordination of services. Disability Support Services (DSS) is currently offering phone and virtual appointments as well as in-person meetings as necessary, by appointment only. For the safety of the entire campus community, we are not open for walk-in inquiries. To schedule a phone, virtual or in-person appointment, call DSS at 210-784-1335 or email us at dss@tamusa.edu.

ACADEMIC LEARNING CENTER:

The **Academic Learning Center** provides tutoring and supplemental instruction assistance to undergraduate students in all three colleges at Texas A&M University-San Antonio Center. The Center is located in Modular C. This fall semester, the ALC services are offered virtually. They can be reached by emailing tutoring@tamusa.edu or calling **(210) 784-1332**. Appointments can also be made through JagWire by clicking on the EAB-Student Success Collaborative link.

COUNSELING RESOURCES:

As a college student, there may be a time when personal stressors interfere with your academic performance and/or negatively impact your daily functioning. If you or someone you know is experiencing life stressors, emotional difficulties, or mental health concerns at A&M-SA, please contact the Office of Student Counseling & Wellness Services (SC&WS) located in Modular C Room 166 (Rear entrance) or call 210-784-1331 between the hours of 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM.

All mental health services provided by SC&WS are free, confidential (as the law allows), and are not part of a student's academic or university record. SC&WS provides brief individual, couples, and group therapy, crisis intervention, consultation, case management, and prevention services. For more information, please visit www.tamusa.edu/studentcounseling

In order to reduce the spread of COVID-19, the Student Counseling & Wellness Services (SC&WS) office will primarily offer services via phone and/or Webex. Any students interested in scheduling an appointment should call (210) 784-1331 Monday through Friday, 8:00AM – 5:00PM. After hours, please contact UPD at 911 or text “HOME” to 741-741 24/7/365 to connect with a trained crisis counselor. The National Suicide Prevention hotline also offers a 24/7/365 hotline at 1-800-273-8255.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS:

JagE Alert is Texas A&M University-San Antonio's mass notification. In the event of an emergency, such as inclement weather, students, staff and faculty, who are registered, will have the option to receive a text message, email and/or phone call with instructions and updates. To register or update your information visit: <https://tamusa.bbcportal.com/>.

More information about Emergency Preparedness and the Emergency Response Guide can be found here: <http://www.tamusa.edu/riskmanagement/index.html>.

Financial Aid and Verification of Attendance:

According to the following federal regulation, 34 CFR 668.21: U.S. Department of Education (DoE) Title IV regulation, a student can only receive Title IV funds based on Title IV eligibility criteria which include class attendance. If Title IV funds are disbursed to ineligible students (including students who fail to begin attendance), the institution must return these funds to the U.S. DoE within 30 days of becoming aware that the student will not or has not begun attendance. Faculty will provide the Office of Financial Aid with an electronic notification if a student has not attended the first week of class. Any student receiving federal financial aid who does not attend the first week of class will have their aid terminated and returned to the DoE. Please note that any student who stops attending at any time during the semester may also need to return a portion of their federal aid.

STUDENT ACADEMIC SUCCESS CENTER:

The **Student Academic Success Center** takes a developmental approach to help students complete their academic goals from orientation through graduation. The Center offers academic and skills workshops, one-on-one appointments, and online resources to help retention efforts at Texas A&M University-San Antonio. The goal of the Center is to help students discover, self-reflect, and become independent learners. Student Academic Success is located in Modular C. Their services are currently offered virtually or by phone. To contact the Center, please call **210-784-1307** or email at Student.Success@tamusa.edu.

JAGUAR WRITING CENTER:

The **Jaguar Writing Center** provides writing support to graduate and undergraduate students in all three colleges. Writing tutors work with students to develop reading skills, prepare oral presentations, and plan, draft, and revise their written assignments. The Writing Center is currently holding all appointments digitally. Students can schedule appointments with the

Writing Center in JagWire under the student services tab. Students wanting to work in realtime with a tutor can schedule an “Online Appointment.” Students wishing to receive asynchronous, written feedback from a tutor can schedule an “eTutoring” appointment. More information about what services we offer, how to make an appointment, and how to access your appointment can be found on our website at www.tamusa.edu/Writing-Center. The Writing Center can also be reached by emailing writingcenter@tamusa.edu.

MEETING BASIC NEEDS:

Any student who has difficulty affording groceries or accessing sufficient food to eat every day, or who lacks a safe and stable place to live, and believes this may affect their performance in the course, is urged to contact the Dean of Students (DOS@tamusa.edu) for support. Furthermore, please notify the professor if you are comfortable in doing so. This will enable them to provide any resources they may possess.

MILITARY AFFAIRS:

Veterans and active-duty military personnel are welcomed and encouraged to communicate, in advance if possible, and special circumstances (e.g., upcoming deployment, drill requirements, disability accommodations). You are also encouraged to visit the Patriots’ Casa in-person room 202, or to contact the Office of Military Affairs with any questions at military@tamusa.edu or (210) 784-1397.

RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCES:

Texas A&M University-San Antonio recognizes the diversity of faiths represented among the campus community and protects the rights of students, faculty, and staff to observe religious holidays according to their tradition. Under the policy, students are provided an opportunity to make up any examination, study, or work requirements that may be missed due to a religious observance provided they notify their instructors before the end of the second week of classes for regular session classes.

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- Use this opportunity together to discuss ways in which we can create an inclusive environment in this course and across the A&M-San Antonio community.

THE SIX-DROP RULE:

Students are subject to the requirements of Senate Bill (SB) 1231 passed by the Texas Legislature in 2007. SB 1231 limits students to a maximum of six (6) non-punitive course drops (i.e., courses a student chooses to drop) during their undergraduate careers. A non-punitive drop does not affect the student’s GPA. However, course drops that exceed the maximum allowed by SB 1231 will be treated as “F” grades and will impact the student’s GPA.

STATEMENT OF HARASSMENT AND DISCRIMINATION:

Texas A&M University-San Antonio is committed to the fundamental principles of academic freedom, equality of opportunity and human dignity. To fulfill its multiple missions as an institution of higher learning, A&M-San Antonio encourages a climate that values and nurtures collegiality, diversity, pluralism and the uniqueness of the individual within our state, nation, and world. All decisions and actions involving students and employees should be based on applicable law and individual merit. Texas A&M University-San Antonio, in accordance with applicable federal and state law, prohibits discrimination, including harassment, on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin, religion, sex, disability, age, sexual orientation, or veteran status. Individuals who believe they have experienced harassment or discrimination prohibited by this statement are encouraged to contact the appropriate offices within their respective units.

STUDENTS’ RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

The following statement of students’ rights and responsibilities is intended to reflect the philosophical base upon which University Student Rules are built. This philosophy acknowledges the existence of both rights and responsibilities, which is inherent to an individual not only as a student at Texas A&M University-San Antonio but also as a citizen of this country.

Students’ Rights

1. A student shall have the right to participate in a free exchange of ideas, and there shall be no University rule or administrative rule that in any way abridges the rights of freedom of speech, expression, petition and peaceful assembly as set forth in the U.S. Constitution.
2. Each student shall have the right to participate in all areas and activities of the University, free from any form of discrimination, including harassment, on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin, religion, sex, disability, age, sexual orientation, or veteran status in accordance with applicable federal and state laws.
3. A student has the right to personal privacy except as otherwise provided by law, and this will be observed by students and University authorities alike.
4. Each student subject to disciplinary action arising from violations of University Student Rules shall be assured a fundamentally fair process.

Students’ Responsibilities

1. A student has the responsibility to respect the rights and property of others, including other students, the faculty and University officials.
2. A student has the responsibility to be fully acquainted with the published University Student Rules and to comply with them, as well as federal, state, and local laws.

3. A student has the responsibility to recognize that student actions reflect upon the individuals involved and upon the entire University community.
4. A student has the responsibility to maintain a level of behavior that is consistent in supporting the learning environment of the institution and to recognize the University's obligation to provide an environment for learning.



**TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
SAN ANTONIO**

COURSE CALENDAR

(Tentative)

WEEK ONE (1/16):

Topic: Syllabus, Course Overview

Read: Syllabus, via Blackboard (Bb)

Read: Ch 1 The course of Mexican History

Watch 5 Suns: A Sacred History of Mexico <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ITstgdnmp6Y>

***Field Trip 1/20 SAMA**

WEEK TWO (1/23):

Topic: Pre-hispanic Civilizations

Read: Ch 4 The Rise of the Aztecs; Ch 5 Aztec Society and Culture

Primary Source: Anonymous, "The Origins of the Aztecs," in *The Mexico Reader*, pp. 57-60.

Read: Octavio Paz, "The Sons of Malinche," in *The Mexico Reader*, pp. 20-27.

WEEK THREE (1/30) :

Topic: The Spanish Conquest and Its Aftermath, 1519-1630 (Class Notes)

Read: Ch 6 The Spanish Invasion & Ch 7

Primary Source: Francisco Cervantes de Salazar, *Chronicle of New Spain*, in John Charles Chasteen, ed., *Born in Blood & Fire: Latin American Voices: A Reader*, pp. 21-23 (Bb).

Primary Source: Alonso de Zorita, "Why the Indians are Dying," in *The Mexico Reader*, pp. 122-130.

WEEK FOUR (2/6) :

Topic: A Colony in Transition, 1630-1810 (Class Notes)

READ: Ch 8-10 WATCH: SorJuana *Field Trip to Spanish Mission

WEEK FIVE (2/13) :

Topic: A Colony in Transition, 1630-1810 (Class Notes) READ: Ch 11-12

Read: Enrique Florescano, "The Colonial Latifundio," in *The Mexico Reader*, pp. 131-140.

WEEK SIX (2/20):

Topic: Reforms

Read: Ch 13-14

WEEK SEVEN (2/27) –

Topic: Mexico's Independence Struggle against Spain, 1810-1821

Read: Ch 15-16

Primary Source: José María Morelos, "Sentiments of the Nation," in *The Mexico Reader*, pp. 189-191.

Field Trip: 3/3 McNay

WEEK EIGHT (3/5):

Topic: The Search for Stability and Santa Anna, 1821-1854

Mid-Term Exam

READ: Ch 17-19

Read: Christian Archer, "Independence and the Generation of Generals, 1810-1848," in William Beezley and Monica Rankin, eds., *Problems in Modern Mexican History*, pp. 26-35 (Bb).

Primary Source: "The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, 1848," in Robert Holden and Eric Zolov, eds., *Latin American and the United States: A Documentary History*, pp. 33-35 (Bb).

WEEK NINE (3/12):

Spring Break

WEEK TEN (3/19):

Topic: Reform, Civil War, and French Intervention, 1854-1867

Read: Ch 20-21

Read: "Pope Pius IX Rejects the Constitution of 1857," in Beezley and Rankin, *Problems in Modern Mexican History*, pp. 64-65 (Bb).

Read: "Benito Juárez orders the arrest of a Priest who refused Last Rites to a dead Mayor," in Beezley and Rankin, *Problems in Modern Mexican History*, pp. 65-66 (Bb).

Read: Junta of Conservative Notables, "Offer of the Crown to Maximilian," in *The Mexico Reader*, pp. 263-264.

Read: Empress Carlotta, "A Letter from Mexico" in *The Mexico Reader*, pp. 265-269.

WEEK ELEVEN (3/26):

Topic: Modernization under President Juárez & the "Porfiriato," 1867-1910

Read: Ch 23-25

Read: B. Traven, "Scenes from a Lumber Camp," in *The Mexico Reader*, pp. 279-284.

Read: Anonymous, "Gift of the Skeleton," in *The Mexico Reader*, pp. pp. 292-293.

WEEK TWELVE (4/2):

Topic: The Mexican Revolution, 1910-1920

Read: Ch 26-29 READ: *The Underdogs*

Book Review is due by Sunday, 4/7 (Midnight) via Turnitin in Bb.

WEEK THIRTEEN (4/9):

Topic: Consolidation of the Mexican Revolution & Cardenas Era, 1920-1946

Read: Ch 30-32

Read: José Vasconcelos, “The Cosmic Race,” in The Mexico Reader, pp. 15-19.

Watch: Frieda Kahlo

WEEK FOURTEEN (4/16):

Topic: Topic: The Heyday of the PRI and the “Mexican Miracle,” 1946-1968

Read: Ch. 33-36

Read: Elena Poniatowska, “The Student Movement of 1968,” pp. 555-569.

Watch: Documentary Student Movements

WEEK FIFTEEN (4/23):

Topic: Crisis of the Postrevolutionary Model and Transition, 1968-Present

Read: Ch 37-40

Read: William Langewiesche, “The Maquiladoras,” in The Mexico Reader, pp. 698-707. Read: Pat Mora and Gina Valdés, “Two Poems about Immigrant Life,” in The Mexico Reader, pp. 731-733.

Read: Salomé Gutiérrez & Paulino Vargas, “Two Songs about Drug Smuggling,” in The Mexico Reader, pp. 747-749.

Read: Guillermo Gómez-Peña, “The New World Border,” in The Mexico Reader, pp. 750-755.

WEEK SIXTEEN : Final Exam TBA