

LINFIELD COLLEGE

HISTORY 316

Spring Term 2007

INSTRUCTOR: John Ritter

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REQUIRED TEXTS: *the Mexico Reader* by Joseph and Henderson et.al.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course will cover the comprehensive history of the Mexican State.

From ancient to modern times. We will study from the history of Mexico, its people and culture, from pre-Columbian through modern times.

PREREQUISITE: None

COURSE OBJECTIVES: By the end of the course the students will:

-have a basic understanding of the complex history of the Mexican people.

-be able to discuss the major themes of Mexican history.

-realize how complex and diverse Mexico is and how its varied population contributed to its development.

-develop an appreciation for the land and people of Mexico.

-learn how the geography of Mexico has contributed to its development.

-know the colonizers of Mexico and the foreign influences that have shaped its history.

INSTRUCTOR BIOGRAPHY: History is my passion as well as my vocation. I began studying history when I was seven years old, and learned to read at four years of age. I live outside of Salem, with many animals, married and two grown children who are gone. I have graduate degrees in history, am bi-lingual and have traveled extensively in Africa, Europe and of course Mexico. I am a retired administrator for the Oregon Department of Education and have taught history classes for colleges for 26 years.

METHODS OF EVALUATION

Course grade The final course grade will be determined by the following:

Oral Report	20%
Assignments	40%
Class participation	40%
Total	100%

Class participation: This is very important. I teach a very interactive class, one in which you will be required to participate in, and act in a collegial manner.

Assignments will be both written and oral.

Grading scale:

A= 90-100% of completion of all assignments in an exemplary style.

B= 80-90% of completion of all assigned work in a superior manner.

C=below 80%, completion of all tasks in an average manner.

COURSE POLICIES

Attendance Your complete attendance in all classes will be required.

Late work: Accepted with consultation of the teacher.

Incompletes A grade of Incomplete (I) is given only in emergency situations. The student must request an Incomplete in writing and must obtain my permission. All uncompleted work must be completed within the time limits I set. If you simply don't turn in the final assignments or the final exam, your course grade will be calculated with the missed portion counting for 0 points.

Academic honesty Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated. Any student found to be engaging in either of these activities at any point in the course will receive a failing grade for the assignment and/or entire course and may be subject to further college sanctions.

Rules of Discussion The classroom should be a safe haven within which individuals can discuss the widest possible range of topics without fearing retribution, ridicule, or attack. In order for this to happen, we must assume that we are all persons of intelligence and good will who may ultimately disagree, sometimes to a profound degree, with one another but whose characters are not impugned or intelligence disparaged because of this disagreement. The classroom is not a forum for proselytizing, nor is it a soapbox for diatribes by either students or faculty. For the academic endeavor to succeed, we must treat each other with civility, courtesy, and respect. All perspectives and questions are welcome, as long as they are impelled by a genuine desire for knowledge, can be articulated thoughtfully, and supported by sound reasoning.

Difficulties Problems, questions...SEE THE INSTRUCTOR IMMEDIATELY.

Students with disabilities This statement is required Students with documented disabilities that may need accommodations, which have any emergency medical information the instructor should know of, or who need special arrangements in the event of evacuation, should make an appointment with the instructor as early as possible, no later than the first week of the term.

CLASS OUTLINE AND ASSIGNMENTS

This is subject to change.

Classes will meet Tuesday evenings Feb.20th. ---May 8th...

We will meet for twelve evenings, and cover approximately one chapter per meeting. There is a great deal of reading and discussion material. You will be required to read, take notes and discuss each section of each chapter.

Class Report: To be done in class, approx. 10-15 minutes oral, mixed media etc..Presentation. Further details will be discussed in class at our first meeting. This topic is open for discussion, almost anything goes....be creative....make it fun...

