RARITAN VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
ACADEMIC COURSE OUTLINE

HIST 239H: Modern Latin American History Honors

I. Basic Course Information

A. Course Number and Title: Hist 239H: Modern Latin American History Honors

B. New or Modified Course: Modified

C. Date of Proposal: Semester: Fall Year: 2022

D. Effective Term: Fall 2023

E. Sponsoring Department: Humanities, Social Science, Social Work, and Education

F. Semester Credit Hours: 3

G. Weekly Contact Hours: 3 Lecture: 3
   Laboratory: 0
   Out of class student work per week: 6

H. ☒ Prerequisite (s): Placement into ENGL111 English Composition I with ENGL070 English Composition I Workshop, or higher, and a minimum GPA of 3.5 or permission of instructor.
   □ Corequisite (s):
   □ Prerequisite (s) and Corequisite (s):

I. Laboratory Fees: 0

J. Name and Telephone Number or E-Mail Address of Department Chair and Divisional Dean at time of approval: Isabel Gutiérrez-Bergman, Isabel.gutierrez@raritanval.edu; Patrice Marks, Patrice.marks@raritanval.edu

II. Catalog Description

Prerequisites: Placement into ENGL111 English Composition I with ENGL070 English Composition I Workshop, or higher, and a minimum GPA of 3.5 or permission of instructor
Modern Latin American History Honors surveys Latin American history from the independence movements of the early nineteenth century until the present. Through an examination of both primary and secondary source material, students in this course will explore political, economic, social, and cultural developments in Latin America including class structures, inequality, and uneven economic development, race, indigeneity, gender, and ethnicity, social movements, imperialism, rebellion, and revolution, authoritarianism and democracy, human rights, globalization, migration, and U.S.-Latin American relations. In addition, this honors course will enable students to explore an aspect of Latin American history by conducting a research project and completing a research paper and presentation. Students will emerge from this course with a deeper understanding and appreciation of Latin America’s connection to the world and the major role that Latin Americans have had in shaping human history. Students in this course will be able to better understand the history of the Americas and to think critically about the historical origins of contemporary issues such as social and political movements in Latin America, U.S.-Latin American relations, and Latin American migration. Students will also be able to ask and answer historical questions about Latin American history through historical research.

III. Statement of Course Need

A. Modern Latin American History is a course that teaches students the interconnected history of the Americas, broadening their sense of American history and exploring connections across region, border, and time period. As more Americans are developing an appreciation for the importance of US-Latin American relations, and as more and more U.S. residents trace their heritage to other parts of the Americas, it becomes increasingly important that we learn our shared history of the western hemisphere. Furthermore, this course is widely offered in history and humanities departments across the nation, it meets the College’s general education goals, contributes to a more diverse and internationally-oriented curriculum, and will transfer to four-year degree programs as a history, general education, or free elective.

B. Please describe the transferability of this course. For example:

1. This course generally transfers as a Humanities, Historical Perspective, and Global and Cultural Awareness general education course.

2. This course generally transfers as a liberal arts program elective.

IV. Place of Course in College Curriculum

A. Free Elective
B. This course serves as a General Education course in Humanities, Historical Perspective, and Global and Cultural Awareness.
C. This course meets program option for Liberal Arts and numerous other programs.
D. To see course transferability: a) for New Jersey schools, go to the NJ Transfer website, www.njtransfer.org; b) for all other colleges and universities, go to the individual websites.
V. Outline of Course Content

A. Colonialism, Revolution, and Independence  
B. Slavery and Abolition  
C. Economic Development, Dependency, and Neocolonialism  
D. Political Development: Caudillos and Populism  
E. Imperialism and Resistance  
F. Mexican Revolution  
G. Cuban Revolution  
H. U.S.-Latin American Relations in the Cold War: Revolution and Counterrevolution  
I. U.S. Economic Policy and Relations with Latin America  
J. Authoritarianism, Democracy, and Human Rights  
K. International Migration  
L. Globalization and Neoliberalism  
M. Contemporary Indigenous and Environmental Movements

VI. A. Course Learning Outcomes

At the completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Identify and locate primary and secondary sources in the course of completing an historical research project. (GE 1, 7, IL, *)

2. Analyze historical evidence in order to evaluate historical events and their connection to the present and to other parts of the world and peoples and present this analysis in a research paper (GE 1, 7, *)

3. Evaluate a particular case or country study and draw conclusions about broader historical processes across borders and time periods. (GE 1, 7, 8, *)

4. Explain and analyze the major changes and regional variations in Latin American history from the early nineteenth century through the present. (GE 1, 7, 8, *)

5. Evaluate the ethical implications of political or economic factors in modern Latin America (GE ER*)

6. Weigh arguments from experts in the field (including guest speakers).

*Embedded critical thinking

B. Assessment Instruments
A. research paper or oral report identifying appropriate resources and using information effectively and effectively (IL and ER)

B. presentations
C. in-class debates on the pragmatic and ethnical impacts of selected policies (ER)
D. essays
E. exams
F. journals
G. response writing

VII. Grade Determinants

A. essays
B. research papers and projects
C. tests
D. presentations
E. response papers
F. in-class discussion and debate
G. reading quizzes

VIII. Texts and Materials


Other possible texts include:


U. Patricia Politzer, Fear in Chile: Lives Under Pinochet


X. Jose Vasconcelos, La Raza Cosmica/The Cosmic Race


(Please Note: The course outline is intended only as a guide to course content and resources. Do not purchase textbooks based on this outline. The RVCC Bookstore is the sole resource for the most up-to-date information about textbooks.)

IX. Resources

Students will use library databases and resources and other online databases to access sources and to conduct research.