Syllabus
Anthropology 3200
TR 11:00a – 12:20p
Gateway Center 131
The Anthropology of Latin America
Fall 2016

Instructor: Elisha Oliver
Office Hours: T: 1-3p & R 8a-9a or by Appointment
Phone: 214-282-2774           Email: elishaoliver@my.unt.edu

This course syllabus is a contract issued to the student by the instructor. The instructor has the right to change or modify this course syllabus and any materials associated with it. All changes to this syllabus and/or associated materials will be issued to the student by means of dated, written addenda. The student is responsible for being aware of the information contained in this syllabus, associated course materials, and changes to each. The student is also responsible for being aware of information contained in the UNT Catalog, the Student Handbook, and the semester Class Schedule.

SYLLABUS MODIFICATION STATEMENT

Faculty has the right to change or modify the course syllabus materials during the academic year. Any changes will be shared with students. All changes in the instructor’s policies after the semester has begun must be made in writing as part of a written addendum to the course syllabus; this addendum should be clearly labeled and dated as such.
I. **COURSE DESCRIPTION:** The goal of this course is to provide an anthropological framework for exploring key ideas and concepts of Latin America, specifically, the indigenous, colonial, and mestizo cultures from prehistoric, historic, and contemporary perspectives. In particular, we will critically analyze the dominant culture groups that have comprised this region, and specific issues of conquest and colonialism, neo-colonialism, the role of religion, peasants and social movements, and migration. Through an integrated and thematic study of Latin America, we also examine and address natural resource extractive sites and the ways in which these sites in various regions of Latin America inform and impact race, gender, sexuality, health, social status and, social movements.

II. **SUCCESS PREREQUISITES:** ENGL1310 ANTH1010 ANTH 1100

III. **NEXT COURSE IN SEQUENCE:** None

IV. **COURSE OUTCOMES:** Upon completing the course, the student, as evaluated by the instructor, should be able to:

A. Recognize, recall, and relate the major socio-geographical-political events and figures; major artistic movements, works, and artists; major literary movements, works, and authors; and major philosophical/religious movements and figures in the Latin American cultures studied.

B. Recognize and identify the interrelationship among the various socio-geographical, political, creative, and philosophical developments in those Latin American cultures studied.

C. Examine, recognize and relate basic human concerns and the common humanity that links people of all times.

D. Position course themes and topics within a larger framework of anthropological theory.

E. Critically examine and, using cultural relativism, be able to discuss a range of historical and contemporary issues as they relate to Latin America.

Other Materials: Journal for writing/sketching

VI. Comprehensive Outline of Subject Content: This course will utilize both texts and additional readings will be posted on line. We will tackle the content in sections, as follows:

A. Anthropology, Colonialism, Conquest, and Latin America (Ch. 1-4: Sanabria; Intro-Ch.2: Goldstein): In this section, we will focus on the anthropological frameworks and perspectives as related to Latin America.

B. The Political Economy of the Biopsychosocial and Sexual Individual in Latin America (Ch. 5-8 &12: Sanabria; Ch. 3,4, & 6: Goldstein): In this section, we will examine the various ways in which politics, religion, identity, and sexuality are both fixed and fluid categories. In addition, we will explore the ways in which violence impacts these categories.

C. Two Sides to Every Coin: Cultural Expression and Globalization (Ch. 9-12: Sanabria; Ch. 5 & 7: Goldstein): In this section, we explore the desirable and “undesirable” aspects of Latin America.

VII. Instructional Methods: Students will be exposed to a variety of instructional methods to include, class lecture and discussion, video films, slide presentations, audio samplings, writing, hands-on applications/exercises, and performance. Students will also be required to participate in online activities. This is a large class; however, we will follow the following: Tuesdays: Instructor led-discussion to establish the context and background for the readings and outlines key content, arguments, and ideas in the readings. Thursdays [co-creation of knowledge day]: Partial Instructor led-discussion and a small group of students [co-creators], delegated in advance, will facilitate the discussion or an activity along with the instructor, raising questions, stimulating debate, and integrating ideas from the readings into the collective analysis and critical interrogation of the materials covered for the week.

VIII. Attendance Policy: Students must attend class in a regular and timely manner to gain the full benefit of information presented in this course. The following policy is intended to help students make appropriate decisions regarding their attendance:

For excessive unexcused absences, a student’s final grade for the course will be reduced by one letter grade. (Note: the final grade will not be reduced from a “D”
to an “F” due to lack of attendance.) The number of unexcused absences considered “excessive” is based on the length of the class meeting: In class sections with 75-minute meetings, the fourth unexcused absence is excessive.

Instructors have the authority to excuse absences; however, they are not required to do so. Instructors will consider excusing an absence only if the student seeking to be excused submits written verification that the absence was caused by significant unforeseen circumstances beyond the student’s reasonable control. Instructors will judge the merit of each petition and then decide whether or not to excuse the absence.

**LATE ARRIVALS.** A student who enters the classroom after instruction has begun distracts both the instructor and the other students - such action is discourteous. Students who arrive after attendance is taken must advise their instructor to prevent being marked absent.

**IX. Evaluation Techniques:** Students will take three (3) unit exams throughout the semester, covering information from class lecture, assignments and the text. The exams may include matching, completion, true/false, multiple choice, and essay questions. All essay questions should be addressed with a proper essay response, using full sentences and paragraphs. The exams are worth 100 points each. There will be one (1) paper worth a total of 100 points. There are two (2) preliminary paper requirements. They are: (1) a paper proposal worth 25 points and an outline and annotated bibliography worth 75 points. Students will also complete 10 discussion board posts for a total of 100 points. Student led discussions are worth a total of 100 points. Classroom journal [in-class writing prompts & discussion] are expected to be maintained. The in-class journal writings and discussions are worth 100 points. The maximum number of points a student can earn totals, 800 points. There “may” be opportunities for extra credit.

**X. Academic Integrity:** Academic integrity is a non-negotiable. Academic dishonesty or misconduct is not condoned nor tolerated at institutions within the University of North Texas system. Academic dishonesty is behavior in which a deliberately fraudulent misrepresentation is employed in an attempt to gain undeserved intellectual credit, either for oneself or for another. Academic misconduct is behavior that results in intellectual advantage obtained by violating specific standard, but without deliberate intent or use of fraudulent means.

Academic dishonesty includes submission of essays that have been previously submitted for a grade in another class. This includes high school classes or
previously undertaken college courses. Students should write new essays for this course or risk a plagiarism charge.

**Anthropology Department Undergraduate Plagiarism Policy**

Plagiarism is defined as misrepresenting the work of others (whether published or not) as your own. It may be inadvertent or intentional. You should always provide references for any facts, statistics, quotations, or paraphrasing of information that are not common knowledge. The Department of Anthropology does not tolerate plagiarism or any other form of academic dishonesty. Students suspected of academic dishonesty will be given a hearing in which they are informed of the charges. Clear evidence in support of the charge will merit failure in the course. For more information on the university’s policies regarding academic integrity and dishonesty, see the Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities at: [http://www.unt.edu/csrr/](http://www.unt.edu/csrr/).

XI. **Grading:** Students can earn up to 800 points for the semester. The breakdown is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unit 1 Exam</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit 2 Exam</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit 3 Exam</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student-Led Discussion</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion Board</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paper Proposal</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paper Outline and Bibliography</td>
<td>75</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paper</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-class journal and discussion</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>800pts</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

XII. **Make-up Policy:** If there are extenuating circumstances, the student should contact the instructor in advance; however, each unit has a flexibility built in already, which should allow completion.

XIII. **A.D.A. Policy:** UNT complies with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act. Students with disabilities who seek accommodations must make their request by contacting the Office of Services to Students with Disabilities: [https://disability.unt.edu/](https://disability.unt.edu/) or by calling: 940-565-4323.
XIV. **General Education Goal Statement**: Upon completion of University of North Texas [Anthropology] degree, students will have accomplished the following five outcomes:

#1: **Critical Thinking**: Critical thinking skills include, but are not limited to, the ability to comprehend complex ideas, data, and concepts; to make inferences based on careful observation; to make judgments based on specific and appropriate criteria; to solve problems using specific processes and techniques; to recognize relationships among the arts, culture, and society; to develop new ideas by synthesizing related and/or fragmented information; to apply knowledge and understanding to different contexts, situations, and/or specific endeavors; and to recognize the need to acquire new information.

*All courses will contain assignments that demonstrate critical thinking, but not all courses will include all listed critical thinking elements.*

#2: **Effective Communications**: Effective communication is the ability to develop organized, coherent, unified written or oral presentations for various audiences and situations.

#3: **Computer Proficiency**: Computer proficiency includes a basic knowledge of operating systems, word processing, and Internet research capabilities.

#4: **Civic Responsibility**: Preparation for civic responsibility in the democratic society of the United States includes acquiring knowledge of the social, political, economic, and historical structures of the nation in order to function effectively as citizens in a country that is increasingly diverse and multicultural in its population and more global in its view and functions.

#5: **Global Awareness**: Global awareness includes knowledge of the geography, history, cultures, values, ecologies, languages, and present day issues of different peoples and countries, as well as an understanding of the global economic, political and technological forces which define the interconnectedness and shape the lives of the world’s citizens.

XV. **Electronic Device Policy**: Cell Phones and other electronic devices are disruptive to the class. If a student’s work or family situation requires the student to keep the device turned on during class, the student must turn the phone to a silent or vibrate mode. If a student must receive a call during class, the student will leave the room. A **student may not make a call during class**. Cell phones and all
electronic devices may not be used during an exam unless stipulated by an instructor. Use of a cell phone or electronic device during an exam is considered academic misconduct, and the student will be subject to the appropriate penalties. This policy may be strengthened by the instructor.

XVI. UNATTENDED CHILDREN POLICY: “For personal safety of children and potential problems in supervision, children should not be at any location on campus without adult supervision. No children are permitted in classrooms, laboratories, teaching areas or the Library.”
XVII. **INSTITUTIONAL STATEMENT:** Each student is responsible for being aware of the information contained in the University of North Texas Catalog, Student Handbook, and semester information listed in the Class Schedule.

XVIII. **GLOBAL EDUCATION MISSION:** Global education is an institutional commitment to providing learning environments that provide a cross-cultural global perspective through all facets of the educational process. This institutional commitment to global education shall manifest itself throughout the entire institution, providing support for diversity, international, and inter-cultural educational opportunities. These opportunities will be institutionalized through curricular and co-curricular activities. The institutional commitment to Global Education will assist in preparing students for an increasingly technological and global society.

**APPEALING GRADES**

To appeal grades, students must submit original graded essays and exams reflecting the instructor’s original comments. It is the students’ responsibility to retain graded as well as ungraded assignments both for grade appeal and for study/review.

**GRADE OF “I” (INCOMPLETE)**

The *UNT Office of the Registrar* explains the grade of “I” as follows:

**What is an Incomplete (I) Grade?**
An Incomplete Grade ("I") is a non-punitive grade given only during the last one-fourth of a term/semester and only if a student (1) is passing the course and (2) has a justifiable and documented reason, beyond the control of the student (such as serious illness or military service), for not completing the work on schedule. The student must arrange with the instructor to finish the course at a later date by completing specific requirements. These requirements must be listed on a Request for Grade of Incomplete form signed by the instructor, student, and department chair; and also entered on the grade roster by the instructor. Grades of "I" assigned to an undergraduate course at the end of the Fall 2007 semester and later, will default to "F" unless the instructor has designated a different automatic grade. See also Removal of “I” policy.

**How to Get an Incomplete (I) Grade**
An "I" grade is a non-punitive grade given only during the last one-fourth of a semester and only if a student (1) is passing the course; (2) has justifiable reason why the work cannot be completed on schedule; and (3) arranges with the instructor to finish the
course at a later date by completing specific requirements that the instructor must list on the electronic grade roster. All work in the course must be completed within the specified time (not to exceed one year after taking the course.)

**How to Remove an Incomplete (I) Grade**

A student may remove a grade of “I” within one year by completing the stipulated work. After completion of the stipulated work the instructor of record records the final grade on a UNT Grade Change Form and obtains the department chair’s signature. The instructor’s academic dean completes processing with the Registrar’s Office, where the grade point average is adjusted accordingly. For undergraduate courses taken Fall 2007 or later, if a student does not complete the stipulated work within the time specified, the grade will default to F unless the instructor has designated a different automatic grade. The GPA is adjusted accordingly, and the student will be subject to academic penalty should any exist.

**TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS & RESOURCES FOR TECHNICAL HELP/TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**

http://it.unt.edu/helpdesk

**NEED HELP?**

Contact The UNT IT Helpdesk

Phone: 940-565-2324  
E-Mail: helpdesk@unt.edu  
Location: Sage Hall, Room 130

**WEEKLY CALENDAR (Tentative)**

**Unit One: Anthropology, Colonialism, Conquest, & Latin America**

Week One – Aug. 30 & Sept.2
- Introduction to course
- Introduction to course (if needed); Chapter 1[Sanabria]: Anthropology, Latin America, and the Caribbean
- Read [for 9/6 & 9/8] Introduction [Goldstein]

Week Two – Sep. 6 & 8
- Chapter 1-conclusion [Sanabria]: Anthropology, Latin America, and the Caribbean
- Chapter 2: Introducing Latin America and the Caribbean
• Student-led Discussions
• Read [for 9/13 & 9/15] Chapter 1 [Goldstein]

Week Three – Sep. 13 & 15
• Chapter 2 –conclusion [Sanabria]: Introducing Latin America and the Caribbean
• Chapter 3: Society and Culture Before the Europeans [Sanabria]
• Student-led Discussions

Week Four – Sep. 20 & 22
• Chapter 3 –conclusion [Sanabria] Introducing Latin America and the Caribbean
• Chapter 4 [Sanabria]: Conquest, Colonialism, and Resistance
• Student-led Discussions
• Read [for 9/27 & 9/29] Chapter 2 [Goldstein]

Week Five – Sept. 27 & 29
• Chapter 4-conclusion [Sanabria]: Conquest, Colonialism, and Resistance
• Review

Week Six – Oct. 4 & Oct. 6
• Unit Exam
• Film
• Read [for 10/11 & 10/13] Chapter 3 [Goldstein]

Unit Two: The Political Economy of the Biopsychosocial and Sexual Individual in Latin America

Week Seven – Oct. 11 & 13
• Chapter 5: Culture Politics of Race and Ethnicity
• Chapter 5-conclusion [Sanabria] Culture Politics of Race and Ethnicity
• Student-led Discussions

Week Eight – Oct. 18 & 20
• Chapter 6 [Sanabria]: Cultural Construction of Gender and Sexuality
• Chapter 6 –conclusion [Sanabria]: Cultural Construction of Gender and Sexuality
• Paper Proposals Due
• Read [for 10/27 & 10/29] Chapter 4 [Goldstein]
• Student-led Discussions

Week Nine – Oct. 25 & Oct. 27
• Chapter 7 [Sanabria]: Religion and Everyday Life
• Student-led Discussions
• Read for [11/1 & 11/3] Chapter 6 [Goldstein]

Week Ten – Nov. 1 & 3
• Chapter 8 [Sanabria]: Striving for Health and Coping with Illness
• Student-led Discussions
• Review
• Read for [11/8] Chapter 5 [Goldstein]

**Unit Three: Two Sides to Every Coin: Cultural Expression and Globalization**

Week Eleven – Nov. 8 & 10
• **Unit Two Exam**
• Chapter 9: Food, Cuisine, and Cultural Expression

Week Twelve – Nov. 15 & 17
• Film
• Chapter 10: Perspectives on Globalization
• Read for [11/29] Chapter 7 [Goldstein]
• Student-led Discussions

Week Thirteen – Nov. 22 & (24-holiday)
• Chapter 11 [Sanabria]: Manifestations of Popular Culture
• **Paper Due**

Week Fourteen – Nov. 29 & Dec. 1
• Chapter 12 [Sanabria]: Violence, Memory, and Striving for a Just World
• Student-led Discussions
• **In-Class Journals Due**
• **Review**

Week Fifteen – Dec. 6 & 8
• Extra Credit Due [if assigned]
• Missing Assignments

Week Sixteen – Dec. 13 & 15
• **Unit 3 Exam**
I, ________________________________________________ have received a copy of the course syllabus. I fully understand the requirements and expectations for this course.

___________________________________________  ____________________________
Printed Name                                      Date

___________________________________________
Signature