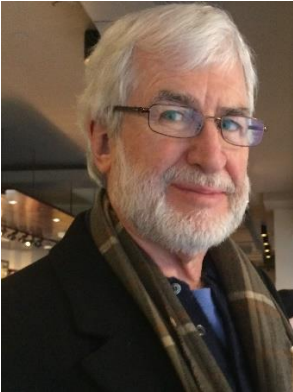


GENERAL INFORMATION

PROFESSOR INFORMATION



Instructor: Professor A. Douglas Kincaid
Phone: (305) 348-4418
Office: SIPA 329 (MMC)
Office Hours: Wednesdays, 1:00 - 2:30 pm or by appointment
E-mail: kincaidd@fiu.edu

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE

As a region, Latin America and the Caribbean encompass an extraordinary diversity of countries, societies, and cultures. This course offers a sociological and anthropological introduction to understanding the region's societies in terms of such issues as race and ethnicity, social power and inequality, religion, gender relations, violence, and the challenges of globalization. It features a historical perspective on the development of various societies and the region as a whole.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Students completing this course will develop a sociological and anthropological understanding of the historical development and principal features of Latin American and Caribbean societies, including:

1. How Latin American and Caribbean societies evolved following the European colonization of the Americas;
2. The main lines of social stratification and inequality in those societies;
3. Their enduring ethnic and racial diversity; and
4. The social dimensions of political conflict and change.

To accomplish those objectives, you will read and discuss a wide range of texts by famed Latin American authors as well as prominent scholars and experts. You will view and discuss films and videos that dramatize or address the issues. You will also work in small groups to advance these discussions and develop a wider perspective encompassing other societies in the region beyond those of the readings.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

POLICIES

Please review the [FIU's Policies](#) webpage. The policies webpage contains essential information regarding guidelines relevant to all courses at FIU, as well as additional information about acceptable netiquette for online courses.

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS & SKILLS

One of the greatest barriers to taking an online course is a lack of basic computer literacy. By computer literacy we mean being able to manage and organize computer files efficiently, and learning to use your computer's operating system and software quickly and easily. Keep in mind that this is not a computer literacy course; but students enrolled in online courses are expected to have moderate proficiency using a computer. Please go to the "[What's Required](#)" webpage to find out more information on this subject.

Please visit our [Technical Requirements](#) webpage for additional information.

ACCESSIBILITY AND ACCOMMODATION

The Disability Resource Center collaborates with students, faculty, staff, and community members to create diverse learning environments that are usable, equitable, inclusive and sustainable. The DRC provides FIU students with disabilities the necessary support to successfully complete their education and participate in activities available to all students. If you have a diagnosed disability and plan to utilize academic accommodations, please contact the Center at 305-348-3532 or visit them at the Graham Center GC 190.

Please visit our [ADA Compliance](#) webpage for information about accessibility involving the tools used in this course.

Please visit [Blackboard's Commitment Accessibility](#) webpage for more information.

For additional assistance please contact FIU's [Disability Resource Center](#).

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT STATEMENT

Florida International University is a community dedicated to generating and imparting knowledge through excellent teaching and research, the rigorous and respectful exchange of ideas and community service. All students should respect the right of others to have an equitable opportunity to learn and honestly to demonstrate the quality of their learning. Therefore, all students are expected to adhere to a standard of academic conduct, which demonstrates respect for themselves, their fellow students, and the educational mission of the University. All students are deemed by the University to understand that if they are found responsible for academic misconduct, they will be subject to the Academic Misconduct procedures and sanctions, as outlined in the Student Handbook.

Academic Misconduct includes: **Cheating** – The unauthorized use of books, notes, aids, electronic sources; or assistance from another person with respect to examinations, course assignments, field service reports, class recitations; or the unauthorized possession of examination papers or course materials, whether originally authorized or not. **Plagiarism** – The use and appropriation of another's work without any indication of the source and the representation of such work as the student's own. Any student who fails to give credit for ideas, expressions or materials taken from another source, including internet sources, is responsible for plagiarism.

Since writing, analytical, and critical thinking skills are part of the learning outcomes of this course, all writing assignments should be prepared by the student. Developing strong competencies in this area will prepare you for a competitive workplace. Therefore, **AI-generated submissions are not permitted** and will be treated as plagiarism.

Learn more about the [academic integrity policies and procedures](#) as well as [student resources](#) that can help you prepare for a successful semester.

BOOKS

***The Buried Mirror: Reflections on Spain and the New World.* Carlos Fuentes. Mariner Books, 1999**

You may purchase your textbook online at the [FIU Bookstore](#).

***Silence on the Mountain: Stories of Terror, Betrayal, and Forgetting in Guatemala.* Daniel Wilkinson. Duke University Press, 2004.**

You may purchase your textbook online at the [FIU Bookstore](#).

***Brewing Justice: Fair Trade Coffee, Sustainability and Survival.* Daniel Jaffee. University of California Press, 2014.**

You may purchase your textbook online at the [FIU Bookstore](#).

ADDITIONAL READINGS AND MATERIALS

The following selections are accessible online and through the library:

The Masters and the Slaves. Gilberto Freyre. Knopf, 1946 [1931]. Chapter 1

The Mansions and the Shanties. Gilberto Freyre. Knopf, 1963 [1936], Chapter 1

Caribbean Transformations. Sidney Mintz. Aldine Transaction, 2007. Part III.

The Modern Caribbean. Franklin Knight and Colin Palmer, eds. University of North Carolina Press, 1989, Chapter 5

Rastafari: The Evolution of a People and their Identity. Charles Price, New York University Press, 2022. Chapter 9.

The videos listed below will be provided in the course:

- **The Mission**. Warner Brothers, 1986. 130 min.
- **Black in Latin America: Haiti and Dominican Republic**. PBS, 2011. 55 min.
- **La Camioneta**. Bullfrog Films, 2015. 72 min.

EXPECTATIONS OF THIS COURSE

This is a hybrid course. Hybrid courses require self-motivation, self-discipline, and technology skills sometimes make these courses more demanding for some students. If you find that you are having difficulty keeping up with the out-of-class work, please make an appointment with or email me.

You are responsible for carefully reading the syllabus and weekly calendar, meeting deadlines as posted, and submitting mature, thoughtful work. The online portion of the class is required and constitutes the online attendance. Please review additional expectations below.

Students are expected to:

- **review the how to get started information** located in the course content;
- **introduce themselves to the class** during the first week by posting a self-introduction in the appropriate discussion forum;
- **take the practice quiz** to ensure that your computer is compatible with Blackboard;
- interact online with instructor and peers;
- log in to the course at least **3 times** per week;
- respond to discussion boards, blogs, and journal postings on a weekly basis;
- respond to **emails** within **3 days**; and
- submit assignments by the corresponding deadline.

The instructor will:

- Log in to the course **5 times** per week.
- Respond to discussion boards, blogs, and journal postings as needed.
- Respond to **emails** within **3 days**.
- Grade assignments within **10 days** of the assignment deadline.

COURSE DETAIL

COURSE COMMUNICATION

Communication in this course will take place via **Canvas messages**.

Visit our [Writing Resources webpage](#) for more information on professional writing and technical communication skills.

DISCUSSION BOARDS

Note: keep in mind that your discussion forum postings will likely be seen by other members of the course. Care should be taken when determining what to post.

Video Discussions

Students will participate in three **(3) online discussions** of assigned videos on topic related to the course themes. Each video discussion is worth a maximum of 30 points **(90 points total)**.

- The video discussions are to be completed in the **Discussion Board** section of the course.
- Each student is expected to post at least four (4) times to each discussion.
- Each discussion will run for several weeks.

Reading Discussions

Students will participate in 3 small group presentations and discussions of assigned topics and readings **(105 possible points)**.

- Each group will make a short presentation of its topic in class.
- Each group will post the summary of its topic to the appropriate **Discussion Board** section of the course.
- Each student is expected to post at least four (4) times to the **Discussion Board**.
- Each discussion will run for approximately 7-10 days.

QUIZZES

- There are twelve **(12) quizzes**, each worth a maximum of 10 points. The two lowest quiz score will be dropped. **(100 points total)**.
- The quizzes consist of multiple choice and short answer questions based on the readings assigned during the week on which the quiz is due.
- There is no time limit to complete the quiz while it is open.
- Each quiz will become **available on Wednesday at 12:00 am ET** and will be **due the following Wednesday by 10:00 am ET**.
- Students will be able to see the quiz results within seven (7) days of the quiz closing date. The results include scores, questions, and correct answers.

In order to mitigate any issues with your computer and online assessments, it is very important that you take the "Practice Quiz" from each computer you will be using to take your graded quizzes and exams. It is your responsibility to make sure your computer meets the minimum [hardware requirements](#).

Assessments in this course are not compatible with mobile devices and should not be taken through a mobile phone or a tablet. If you need further assistance please contact [FIU Online Support Services](#).

FINAL EXAM

The final exam will be held during Exam Week **December 11 from 9:45 to 11:45 am** in our regular classroom. (120 possible points)

- The exam will consist of three short essay questions. Good answers will probably require 2-3 pages of your answer book, depending on your handwriting. Your answers should be as thorough as you can make them, making use of key concepts wherever possible and specific examples from the countries and societies as the question call for.
- A list of six questions will be posted on the website as a study guide. The actual three exam questions will be taken from that list.

- The questions span the assigned reading for the course. You may also find your lecture notes from class and corrected quiz answers useful. Also see “Instructor presentations” and various group presentations on the website. Your answers will be stronger if you incorporate the appropriate ideas and examples in your responses to a particular question.
- Evaluation and grades for exams will be provided by **Dec. 15**.

GENERAL PARTICIPATION

Students will attend class regularly, participate in classroom discussions and activities, be consistent contributors to group activities, and engage fully in all online discussions and projects. **(70 possible points)**.

GRADING

No credit will be given for posts after their deadline without permission. It is important to pay attention to the opening and closing dates for all online discussions.

Evaluation and grades for online discussions will be provided regularly during the semester, normally within a week of a discussion’s closing.

Course Requirements	Number of Items	Points for Each	Total Points	Weight
Quizzes *Lowest two quiz grades will be dropped.	10 (out of 12)	10	100	20%
Group Presentations and Summaries	3	35	105	21%
Video Discussions	3	35	105	21%
General Participation	N/A	N/A	70	14%
Final Exam	1	120	120	24%
Total	17	N/A	500	100%

Letter	Range (%)	Letter	Range (%)	Letter	Range (%)
A	92 - 100	B	82 - 87	C+	78 - 79
A-	90 - 91	B-	80 - 81	D	60 - 69
B+	88 - 89	C	70 - 77	F	< 60

Course Modules

Module 1: The formation of Spanish American societies

XXX

Week 1: Introduction to the Course

Week 2: Conquest and Confrontation

Week 3: The Impact of Empire

Week 4: Emergence of National Societies

Module learning objectives: after completing this module, students will be able to:

Assessments: Quizzes 1-3, Group Discussion Exercise 1, Video Discussion 1

Materials: Course readings, instructor PowerPoint presentations, group discussion summaries, video

Module 2: The Roots of Brazilian Society and Identity

Week 5: The Colonization of Brazil

Week 6: Colonial Brazilian Society

Assessments: Quizzes 4-5, Video Discussion 1

Materials: Course readings, instructor PowerPoint presentations, video

Module 3: Caribbean Island Societies

Week 7: Caribbean Societies: The Case of Haiti

Week 8: Caribbean Societies: The Case of Jamaica

Assessments: Quizzes 6-7, Group Discussion Exercises 2, Video Discussion 2

Materials: Course readings, instructor PowerPoint presentations, group discussion summaries, video

Module 4: Guatemala: Ethnicity and Struggle

Week 9: Ethnicity and Dictatorship

Week 10: Civil War, Uncivil Peace

Week 11: Mayan Globalization

Assessments: Quizzes 8-10, Group Discussion Exercise 3

Materials: Course readings, instructor PowerPoint presentations, group discussion summaries, video

Module 5: Mexico: Coffee, Globalization and Migration

Week 12: Global Markets, Fair Trade and Organic Coffee

Week 13: Coffee and Mexican Small Farmers

Week 14: Globalization and Contemporary Communities in Oaxaca

Assessments: Quizzes 11-12, Video Discussion 3

Materials: Course readings, instructor PowerPoint presentations, video

Module 6: Course Conclusion

Week 15: Course Review

Week 16: Exam Week

Assessments: Final Exam

Materials: Course readings, instructor PowerPoint presentations

COURSE CALENDAR

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Note:

- **Class meeting days are on Wednesdays.**
- **Some assignments will not be due during the week they are assigned. Please make sure to look at the due dates in the course calendar below. All assignments other than quizzes are due by 11:59 pm.**

Week	Class Day	Activities
		<u>Introduction to the Course</u>
		In-Class Session
		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Course introduction• Self-introductions
		Reading
Week 1 August 26—September 1	August 28	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fuentes, Introduction and Part 1
		Online
		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Post self-introduction to Canvas discussions: due Thursday, August 29• Quiz 1: opens Wednesday, August 28 and due Wednesday September 4 at 10:00 am
		<u>Conquest and Confrontation</u>
		In-Class Session
		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Class reading discussion: Spanish and indigenous origins• Group assignments and introductory exercise
		Reading
Week 2 September 2—8	September 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fuentes, Part 2
		Online
		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Quiz 1: due Wednesday, September 4 at 11:00 am• Quiz 2: opens Wednesday, September 4 and due Wednesday September 11 at 11:00 am• Video Discussion 1: opens Monday.

September 2

The Impact of Empire

In-Class Session

- Class reading discussion: Colonial Spanish America
- Group presentations, Reading Discussion 1: Colonial Spanish American cases

Week 3
September 9—15

September 11

Reading

- Fuentes, Part 3

Online

- Quiz 2: due **Wednesday, September 11 at 11:00 am**
- Quiz 3: opens **Wednesday, September 11 and due Wednesday September 18 at 11:00 am**

Emergence of National Societies

In-Class Session

- Class reading discussion: 19th century struggles

Reading

- Fuentes, Part 4

Week 4
September 16—22

September 18

Online

- Reading Discussion 1, Group Summaries: due **Wednesday, September 18**
- Quiz 3: due **Wednesday, September 18 at 11:00 am**
- Quiz 4: opens **Wednesday, September 18 and due Wednesday September 25 at 11:00 am**

The Colonization of Brazil

In-Class Session

- Class reading discussion: Gilberto Freyre, Brazil's first sociologist

Week 5
September 23—29

September 25

Reading

- Freyre, 1946, Chapter 1

Online

- Reading Discussion 1, summaries general

discussion closes **Friday, September 27**

- Quiz 4: due **Wednesday, September 25 at 11:00 am**
- Quiz 5: opens **Wednesday, September 25** and due **Wednesday October 2 at 11:00 am**
- Video Discussion 1: closes **Sunday, September 29 at 11:59 pm**

Colonial Brazil

In-Class Session

- Class reading discussion: the formation of Brazilian identity

Reading

- Freyre, 1963, Prefaces, Ch. 1

Online

- Quiz 5: due **Wednesday October 2 at 11:00 am**
- Quiz 6: opens **Wednesday, October 2** and due **Wednesday October 9 at 11:00 am**
- Video Discussion 2 opens **Monday, September 30**

Week 6
September 30—October 6

October 2

Caribbean Societies: The Case of Haiti

In-Class Session

- Class reading discussion: Roots of Modern Haiti
- Group presentations, Reading Discussion 2: 19th century development topics

Reading

- Mintz, Part III

Online

- Quiz 6: due **Wednesday, October 9 at 11 am**
- Quiz 7: opens **Wednesday, October 9** and due **Wednesday October 16 at 11:00 am**

Week 7
October 7—13

October 9

Caribbean Societies: The Case of Jamaica

In-Class Session

- Class reading discussion: ethnicity and dictatorship

Reading

Week 8
October 14—20

October 16

- Knight and Palmer; Ch. 5; Price, Ch. 9

Online

- Reading Discussion 2, Group Summaries due **Wednesday, October 16**
- Quiz 7: due **Wednesday, October 16 at 11 am**
- Quiz 8: opens **Wednesday, October 16** and due **Wednesday October 23 at 11:00 am**

Guatemala: Ethnicity and Dictatorship

In-Class Session

- Class reading discussion: ethnicity and dictatorship

Reading

- Wilkinson, Parts 1 and 2

Online

- Reading Discussion 2, summaries general discussion closes **Friday, October 25**
- Quiz 7: due **Wednesday, October 23 at 11 am**
- Quiz 8: opens **Wednesday, October 23** and due **Wednesday October 30 at 11:00 am**
- Video Discussion 2 closes **Sunday, October 27**

Week 9
October 21—27

October 23

Guatemala: Civil War, Uncivil Peace

In-Class Session

- Class reading discussion: civil war, uncivil peace

Reading

- Wilkinson, Part 3

Online

- Reading Discussion 2, summaries general discussion closes **Thursday, October 19**
- Quiz 8: due **Wednesday, October 30 at 11 am**
- Quiz 9: opens **Wednesday, October 30** and due **Wednesday November 6 at 11:00 am**

Week 10
October 28—November 3

October 30

Guatemala: Mayan Globalization

In-Class Session

- Class reading discussion: Mayan globalization

Week 11
November 4—10

November 6

- Group presentations, Reading Discussion 3: democracy and authoritarianism topics

Reading

- Wilkinson, Part 4

Online

- Quiz 9: due **Wednesday, November 6 at 11 am**
- Quiz 10: opens **Wednesday, November 6 and due Wednesday November 13 at 11:00 am**
- Video Discussion 3 opens **Monday November 4**

Mexico: Global Coffee Markets, Fair Trade and Organic Coffee

In-Class Session

- Class reading discussion: Global coffee markets; fair trade and organic coffee

Reading

- Jaffee, Introduction and Chs. 1-3

Online

- Group presentations 3 summaries: due **Wednesday, November 13**
- Quiz 10: due **Wednesday November 13 at 11 am**
- Quiz 11: opens **Wednesday, November 13 and due Wednesday November 20 at 11:00 am**

Week 12
November 11—17

November 13

Mexico: Coffee and Mexican Small Farmers

In-Class Session

- Class reading discussion: Coffee and peasants in Mexico

Reading

- Jaffee, Chs. 4-6

Online

- Reading Discussion 3, summaries general discussion closes **Friday, November 22**
- Quiz 11: due **Wednesday, November 20 at 11 am**
- Quiz 12: opens **Wednesday, November 20 and**

Week 13
November 18—24

November 20

due Wednesday November 27 at 11:00 am

Mexico: Globalization and Contemporary Communities in Oaxaca

In-Class Session

- Class reading discussion: globalization and contemporary communities in Oaxaca

Week 14
November 25—December 1

November 27

Reading

- Jaffee, Chs. 7-9 and Conclusion

Online

- Quiz 12: due **Wednesday, November 27 at 11 am**

Course Conclusion

In-Class Session

- Course review

Week 15
December 2—8

December 4

Online

- Video Discussion 3: closes **Wednesday, December 4**

Exam Week

Week 16
December 9—15

December 11

In-Class Session

- **Final exam: 9:45-11:45 am**