

IP97063 Mexican and Latin American Civilizations and Culture

Requirements: Native English speaker, or 550 TOEFL score

Equivalence: IP97-062 Mexican and Latin American Civilizations and Culture

General Objective: To understand the formation of Latin American identity through a socio-historical analysis.

Topics and Subtopics

Unit 1: Basic Concepts

- Concept of "culture"
- Statistical overview of Latin America
- Demographics of Latin America
- What is "Latin America?"

Unit 2: History of the Region

- Precolombian America
- Colonial America
- Independent Latin America

Unit 3: Social revolutions and movements of the Twentieth Century

- Mexican Revolution, reasons for, development, and consequences
- Cuban Revolution, Marxism in America
- Central America, guerilla movements
- Dictatorship and militaryism in the southern hemisphere

Unit 4: Indicators of Social well-being

- Education, health and wealth distribution
- Latin American artistic expression
- Racial and ethnic diversity and interaction

Unit 5: The problem of cyclical economic crisis

- Economic models
- Agriculture and oil export based economic models
- External debt crisis of the 1970s
- The 80s, the lost decade

Unit 6: Interdependence and Economic Development

- Maquiladora industry and the border problem
- Sustainable growth, the alternative for Latin America
- Service industry

Unit 7: Towards a projection of the Hispanic identity

- Unity and diversity in Latin America
- The expression of a regional identity

Specific Objectives by Unit**Unit 1**

- Gain an overview of the region via empirical data

Unit 2

- Understand the common history and the consequences of major events in modern Latin American society
- Comprehend the individual experiences of key nations and the forging of separate identities within the region

Unit 3

- Analyze the social and political conflicts of 20th century Latin America
 - a) reasons why
 - b) key players
 - c) consequences

Unit 4

- Understand and distinguish different social aspects that create a Latin American identity

Unit 5

- Distinguish the various economic models used throughout Latin America's history.

Unit 6

- Analyze different economic options to pursue

Unit 7

- Recognize Latin American cultural elements and concepts of Latin American identity

Teaching Methodology and Learning Activities**Teaching-learning strategies**

- Brainstorming
- Group discussions
- Case studies
- Analysis
- Lectures
- Field trips

Learning Activities

- Analysis and discussion of reading assignments
- Group discussions with guest speakers
- Analysis and discussion of video and movies
- Student self-evaluation
- Student peer evaluations
- Written presentations
- Oral presentations

Estimated duration of Topics

Unit 1: 3.0 hrs

Unit 2: 10.0 hrs

Unit 3: 10.0 hrs

Unit 4: 7.0 hrs

Unit 5: 5.5 hrs.

Unit 6: 8.0 hrs

TOTAL: 43.5 hrs + 5 hrs evaluation = 48 hrs

Evaluation policies:

Homework: 40%

Partial 1: 10%

Partial 2: 10%

Partial 3: 10%

Final Exam: 30%

Bibliography

Bernal, Blanquel, González, Meyer, Toscano, and Villegas. A Compact History of Mexico.
El Colegio de Mexico: Mexico 2000

Thomas Skidmore and Peter Smith. Modern Latin America, Third Edition, Oxford
University Press, 1992

Additional Material

Powerpoint presentations

www.inegi.gob.mx

<http://www.oberlin.edu/~svolk/latinam.htm#Colonial%20Latin%20America>

<http://www.rose-hulman.edu/~delacova/home.html>