

J. Pablo Silva

Fall Semester 2020

History 100-04

Guns, Germs, Steel, and the Spanish Conquest: Syllabus of Readings

Week 1. Introduction and Overview

Thursday, 29 October

What Factors Explain European Predominance?

Diamond, *Guns, Germs, and Steel*, “Prologue” and “Chapter 1.”

Friday, 30 October

What were the Advantages Behind European Predominance?

Diamond, *Guns, Germs, and Steel*, “Chapter 2” through “Chapter 4”

Monday, 2 November

How did Geography determine Differences in Food Production?

Diamond, *Guns, Germs, and Steel*, “Chapter 5” through “Chapter 9.”

Tuesday, 3 November

How did Differences in Food Production create Differences in Disease and Writing?

Diamond, *Guns, Germs, and Steel*, “Chapter 10” through “Chapter 12.”

Wednesday, 4 November

How did Differences in Food Production create Differences in Technology and Social Organization?

Diamond, *Guns, Germs, and Steel*, “Chapter 13” and “Chapter 14.”

Thursday, 5 November

According to Diamond, how did these Differences play out historically?

Diamond, *Guns, Germs, and Steel*, “Chapter 15” and “Chapter 16.”

Friday, 6 November

According to Diamond, how did these Differences play out historically?

Diamond, *Guns, Germs, and Steel*, “Chapter 17” and “Chapter 18.”

Sunday, 8 November

First Paper Assignment: Due at noon.

Week 2. The Initial Phase in the Caribbean

Monday, 9 November

Columbus in Context: Why Go to America?

1. The Santa Fe Capitulations, 1492.
2. The Granada Capitulations, 1492.
3. The Columbus' Letter, 1492.
4. Columbus' Warrant for a Second Voyage, 1493. All in one PDF on Blackboard

Tuesday, 10 November

How Did the Encounter Proceed at the Local Level?

1. Instructions to Columbus, 1497.
2. The Instructions of the Government of the Indies, 1501.
3. The Decree on Indian Labor, 1503.
4. The Advent Sermons of Antonio Montesinos, 1511. All in one PDF on Blackboard

Wednesday, 11 November

How did the Spanish Government Respond?

1. The Royal Response to the Sermons of Antonio Montesinos, 1512.
2. Palacios Rubios, "The Requirement," 1512.
3. The Laws of Burgos, 1512-13.

Thursday, 12 November

How do Historians regard these Events?

Cook, "In the Path of the Hurricane," on e-reserve.

Friday, 13 November

What is Another View?

Anderson-Córdova, "The Spanish Conquest and Colonization of Hispaniola," (Read pages 29-42).

Sunday, 15 November

Week 2 Writing Assignment: Revise Your First Writing Assignment After Meeting with me. Due at noon.

Week 3. How Historians Do History

Monday, 16 November

What makes History a Discipline?

Arnold, *History*, Chapters 1-3.

Tuesday, 17 November

Which Sources? Which Approaches?

Arnold, *History*, Chapters 4-5.

Wednesday, 18 November

How Do Historians Read Sources?

Arnold, *History*, Chapters 6-7.

Start thinking about assignment for Sunday.

Thursday, 19 November

Who were the Players in Mexico?

Victors and Vanquished, 29-78.

The Veracruz Petition. Skim the PDF from 63-101, but read 102-106 closely.

Friday, 20 November

How did Cortez Proceed?

Victors and Vanquished, 79-126.

Sunday, 22 November

Week 3 Writing Assignment: Arnold Paper. Due at noon.

Week 4. The Conquest of Mexico

Monday, 23 November

Why was the Conquest of Mexico so Hard?

Victors and Vanquished, 127-181.

Tuesday, 24 November

How Did Cortez Finally Win? What were the Consequences

Victors and Vanquished, 182-243.

Wednesday, 25 November

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Thursday, 24 November

THANKSGIVING

Friday, 25 November

THE DAY AFTER THANKSGIVING

Sunday, 29 November

No Paper Assignment this Weekend. But you should look ahead to Next Week.

Week 5. The Conquest in the Andes

Monday, 30 November

What do Historians debate about the Conquest of Mexico?

Carrasco, "Quetzalcoatl's Revenge."

Tuesday, 1 December

What do Historians debate about the Conquest of Mexico? II

Brooks, "Motecuzoma Xocoyotl, Hernán Cortés, and Bernal Díaz."

Wednesday, 2 December

What Happened in Peru?

MacQuarrie, *Last Days of the Incas*, 15-85.

Thursday, 3 December

What Happened in Peru?

MacQuarrie, *Last Days of the Incas*, 86-137.

Friday, 4 December

What Happened in Peru?

MacQuarrie, *Last Days of the Incas*, 138-192.

Sunday, 6 December

Draft Annotated Book Report. But also read the Annotated Bibliography Assignment.

Due at noon.

Week 6. The Conquest in the Andes

Monday, 7 December

What Happened in Peru?

MacQuarrie, *Last Days of the Incas*, 193-258.

Tuesday, 8 December

What Happened in Peru?

MacQuarrie, *Last Days of the Incas*, 259-304.

Wednesday, 9 December

What Happened in Peru?

MacQuarrie, *Last Days of the Incas*, 305-378.

Thursday, 10 December

How Do Scholars Understand This?

Guilmartin, "The Cutting Edge," on e-reserve.

Friday, 11 December

What is a Different View?

Lamana, "Civilizing Deeds and Snags."

Sunday, 13 December

Draft Annotated Bibliography: Due at noon.

Week 7. So How Should We Understand the Conquest?

Monday, 14 December

How Do Historians Understand the Conquest?

Restall, up through 63.

Tuesday, 15 December

How Do Historians Understand the Conquest?

Restall, 64-99.

Wednesday, 16 December

How Do Historians Understand the Conquest?

Restall, 100-157.

Thursday, 17 December

So Was It Guns, Germs, and Steel?

TBA

Monday, 21 December

Final Exam at 1 p.m.

Your Annotated Bibliography is due on 22 December. Remember to include a title page.

Last Modified: December 14, 2020