GROSSMONT COLLEGE

COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD

Curriculum Committee Approval: 05/18/2021

GCCCD Governing Board Approval: 06/15/2021

# HISTORY 126 – HISTORY OF MEXICO

1. Course Number Course Title Semester Units

HIST 126 History of Mexico 3

Semester Hours

3 hours lecture 48-54 total hours 96-108 outside-of-class hours 144-162 total hours

2. Course Prerequisites

None

Corequisite

None

Recommended Preparation

None

3. Catalog Description

A general survey of the history of Mexico from its pre-conquest origins to the twenty-first century. Emphasis on the Toltec, the Maya, the Aztec and other native societies; the conquest; the interactions among Native, Spanish and African cultures; colonial society; independence; the Mexican Revolution; industrialization; urbanization; globalization; and the development of modern Mexico. Particular attention will be given to the social, political, economic and cultural transformation of Mexico across five centuries.

4. Course Objectives

The student will:

1. Analyze historical sources to formulate a purposeful historical thesis.
2. Explain relationships between causes of historical events and their effects.
3. Evaluate current events relevant to Mexico, connecting common ideas and problems from the present to past periods of Mexican history.
4. Describe and differentiate Mexico’s diverse geography, topography, ecology and climate.
5. Demonstrate command of significant historical events in the historical development of the Mexico from

its pre-conquest origins to the present.

1. Describe and differentiate the numerous and diverse native peoples in Mexico.
2. Analyze the role of the Conquest and its consequences for Mexico.
3. Analyze the demographic shifts in Mexico, including European migration and forced African labor to Mexico.
4. Analyze the Native, European, and African contributions to the social formation of Mexico.
5. Analyze the economic transformations of Mexico from the Colonial era through the modern era.
6. Analyze the challenges Mexico faced as a new nation in the 19th century, including the loss of half of its territory to the United States.
7. Describe the causes of the Mexican Revolution and its consequences for modern Mexico.
8. Examine the development and evolution of Mexico’s political system in the post-revolutionary era.
9. Analyze Mexico’s opening of its economy to world flows of trade and investment in the late 20th and 21st centuries.
10. Examine Mexico’s demographic shifts in the age of globalization, including successive waves of migration to the United States.
11. Examine the impact that foreign capital and investment have had on Mexico historically.
12. Analyze the drug trade and the impact that that has had on Mexico in the modern era.
13. Assess economic change, social change, cultural change, intellectual movements and the importance of science and technology in Mexico’s history.
14. Examine the role of race, ethnicity, social class and gender in Mexico’s historical events.

t. Compile list of books, articles, and non-print resources on relevant historical topics in order to write

research papers.

u. Critique scholarly readings about Mexican history.

v. Identify and evaluate historical sources and their importance in reaching conclusions about the history of Mexico.

w. Evaluate the literature, art, and cultural traditions of Mexico.

x. Analyze the economic, social, cultural, and political impact that successive waves of globalization have had and continue to have on Mexico.

5. Instructional Facilities

Standard Classroom

6. Special Materials Required of Student

None

7. Course Content

a. Historiography of Mexico. Evaluating historical sources.

b. Geography and Historical Geography.

c. Toltec, Maya, Aztec and other Native Societies before the Conquest.

d. The Conquest.

e. The Native, European and African contributions to the social formation of Mexico.

f. Colonial Mexican Economy and Society.

g. Mexican Independence, civil wars and the building of the Mexican republic.

h. The loss of Texas and war with the United States.

i. The Industrial Revolution and the formation of modern Mexico.

j. The Mexican Revolution.

k. The Consolidation of the New State, the 1920s and 1930s.

l. Society and culture in modern Mexico.

m. The Drive for Urban and Industrial Mexico, 1940-60.

n. The crisis of 1968 and the State’s response of the 1970s.

o. Economic Crisis of 1982 and the Lost Decade.

p. Restructuring the Revolution, the 1980s and 1990s.

q. Mexico and the world in the modern era.

r. NAFTA, globalization and the reshaping of North America.

s. Migration, transnational flows, and the Mexican diaspora.

t. The international drug trade and its impact on Mexico.

u. The shifting political landscape in the twenty-first century.

8. Method of Instruction

Methods of instruction may include, but are not limited to

1. Lecture
2. Discussion and interpretation of primary documents and/or historical topics

# c. Study guides or examination reviews

# d. Multi-media presentations

# e. Visual aids, such as PowerPoint slides, transparencies, video/DVDs, etc.

f. Internet websites

# g. Guest speakers

h. Collaborative projects

i. Library resources: books, periodicals, databases, reference works, and internet resources

pertaining to the History of Mexico

9. Methods of Evaluating Student Performance

a. Objective tests involving true or false questions, multiple choice, or multiple answer, mapping, or sequencing, which build on knowledge over modules.

b. Quizzes that assess module mastery and SLOs via multiple choice, multiple answer, t/f, sequencing, mapping, or short lists.

c. Oral and written reports on course material involving the use of primary and secondary source material to analyze topics, discuss cause and consequences, and demonstrate course level knowledge of relevant events and people.

d. Written essays based on prompts requirement students to discuss historical events in context, with reference to relevant individuals and case and consequences.

e. Group/Discussion activities involving the analysis of primary and secondary sources related to course material with an eye towards recognizing bias and presentism.

f. Research papers (6-8 pages minimum, 600 word minimum) on significant events, people, concepts, or socio-cultural developments understood within their historical context and demonstrating knowledge of changes over time and consequences.

g. Midterm and final exam with a strong writing (essay) component to assess students’ critical thinking skills as well as the course content. Other types of questions might include multiple choice, multiple answer, listing, defining, mapping, sequences, true/false, and short answer.

10. Outside Class Assignments

a. Prepare an out of class essay of approximately 600 words on the Mexican Revolution by creating answers to sample essay questions, one of which will be asked in class. Preparation will involve reviewing evidence from lectures, discussions, readings and any supplemental materials to formulate a thesis in answer to the questions.

b. Conduct focused and independent research and write a 6-8 page research paper (minimum 600 words) on a Mexican history topic of the student’s individual choice. The paper must demonstrate how their subjects relate to larger questions or events in Mexican history.

c. Analyze in writing two primary source documents utilizing course materials and independent research. Students will demonstrate how their documents relate to larger questions or events in Mexican history.

d. Library and internet research with multiple sources and websites.

e. Take-home exams.

11. Representative Texts

a. Representative Text(s):

1. Meyer, Michael C., William I. Sherman and Susan Deeds. *The Course of Mexican History*. 11th ed. New York, NY: Oxford University Press, 2018.
2. Joseph, Gilbert M, and Timothy J. Henderson, eds. *The Mexico Reader: History, Culture, Politics*. Durham: Duke University Press, 2002.
3. Preston, Julia, and Samuel Dillon. *Opening Mexico: The Making of a Democracy*. New York: Farrar, Stratus, and Giroux, 2004.
4. Beezley, William H. *Judas at the Jockey Club and Other Episodes of Porfirian Mexico*. 3rd ed. Omaha, NB: University of Nebraska Press, 2018.
5. Edmonds-Poli, Emily, and David A. Shirk*. Contemporary Mexican Politics*. 4th ed. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield, 2020.
6. Contreras, Joseph. In the Shadow of the Giant: the Americanization of Modern Mexico. New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 2009.
7. Grillo, Ioan. *El Narco: The Bloody Rise of Mexican Drug Cartels*. London: Bloomsbury Press, 2017.
8. Beezley, William H. Monica A. Rankin. Problems in Modern Mexican History: Sources and Interpretations (Latin American Silhouettes). Lanham, Maryland: Rowman and Littlefield, 2017.
9. *Merriam- Webster Advanced Learner’s English Dictionary*. 9th Ed. 2016.

b. Supplementary texts and workbooks:

None

Addendum: Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, our students will be able to do the following:

* 1. Analyze primary and secondary sources and explain how they support a thesis statement.
  2. Explain relationships between the causes of historical events and their effects.

c. Describe a relevant individual involved in an historical event and explain his/her significance in this event.