

HIS 153: History of Brazil (1500-2009)  
Syllabus: Spring 2015

MW (2:00-3:15pm)  
MEL, room 224

Professor Molly Ball  
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Office: Rush Rhees, 449, x67184  
Office Hours: M 3:30-5:30

This survey will consider Brazilian history from the arrival of Portugal's Pedro Álvares Cabral in 1500 to the country's selection as the host country for the 2014 World Cup and 2016 Summer Olympics.

This introductory course will highlight major institutions, events and trends as Brazil transitioned from a rural, slave society to a highly urbanized society with one of the world's most promising economies. Divided into three periods, the course first considers how Portuguese, African and indigenous institutions and traditions molded the colonial period, where sugar and then gold dominated Brazil's economy. The second part begins with Brazil's independence from Portugal in 1822 and covers the persistence of slavery, the introduction of railroads, European immigration and the importance of coffee during the Brazilian Empire. The third part of the course shows how samba, Carnival, industrialization, and *futebol* as well as underdevelopment, dictatorships, and *favelas* define modern Brazilian history.

**Required Texts:**

Azevedo, Aluisio. *The Slum*. New York: Oxford UP, 2000.

Chesnut, Andrew R. *Born Again in Brazil: The Pentecostal Boom and the Pathogens of Poverty*. Rutgers, NJ: Rutgers UP, 1997.

Levine, Robert M. and John J. Crocitti, Eds., *The Brazil Reader: History, Culture, Politics*. Durham, NC: Duke UP, 1999.

Staden, Hans. *Hans Staden's True History: An account off Cannibal Captivity in Brazil*. Translated and edited by Neil Whitehead and Michael Harbsmeier. Duke UP, 2008.

Thomas E. Skidmore. *Brazil: Five Centuries of Change*, 2nd ed. New York: Oxford UP, 2010.

**Rubric:**

Map quizzes (5% each) – 10%

2-page writing assignments – 15% total

Midterm (1<sup>st</sup>) – 15%

Participation – 20%

Midterm (2<sup>nd</sup>) – 20%

Final Paper – 20%

**Course Policies:**

Class will begin on time. While you are in class, please turn all cell phones to silent and refrain from texting, posting, etc. Your attention is integral to fostering an enjoyable learning atmosphere.

Cheating and plagiarizing will be not be tolerated under any circumstances. If you have any questions as to the University of Rochester's policies on academic integrity, please see <http://www.rochester.edu/college/honesty/students>

You will be allowed two absences over the course of the semester. Arriving for class more than 15 minutes late will be considered an absence. For each subsequent absence, you will lose 10% of your participation grade. If, for whatever reason, you miss more than two classes, you must provide written documentation (doctor's note, etc.) as an excuse.

I will read introductions, conclusions, thesis statements and review outlines for writing assignments if I receive them in a timely manner. However, I will not read entire drafts. Feel free to come in during office hours or email to make a different appointment. If you wish to dispute a grade, you must make a written appeal to me explaining why you believe you deserve a higher grade. This appeal may not reference another student's work.

### **Email Correspondence:**

When you have a question about the course, please include HIS153 in the subject line. This will keep your email from getting lost in my inbox and will help me to answer you in a timely fashion. Also, keep in mind that as a general rule, I do not check emails between Saturday night and Monday morning. Please try to account for this, especially if you have a question pertaining to Monday's class.

You are responsible for making sure that I am able to open assignments you turn in online, via email or on blackboard. Make sure there are no issues with corrupted files, saving in the wrong format, missing attachments, etc. These will not be valid excuses if something is turned in late.

### **Course Schedule:**

Week 1: Pre-Colonial

1/14 Portuguese *Explorações*

Week 2:

1/21 Portuguese and their Institutions; Factor Endowments of Brazil

Readings: *Early Latin America* (pp. 22-29); Pedro Vaz de Caminha (*Portuguese Voyages*, pp 39-60); *Early Brazil*, pp. 14-26; *Five Centuries*, pp. 1-28

Week 3:

1/26 Indigenous Slavery

Readings: Have Hans Staden, *True History* read pp.XVII-XXII, pp.104-149; *The Brazil Reader*, pp. 20-32; *Five Centuries*, pp. 29-35

Map quiz 1 (Colonial Brazil)

1/28 African Slavery: from dyewood to sugar

Readings: *COG*, doc 1.3, 2.1; *Early Brazil*, pp. 66-82; *Five Centuries*, pp. 36-40

First 2-page writing assignment due on Staden's *True History* at the beginning of class.

Week 4:

2/2 Gold in Brazil

Readings: *COG* 9.11; *The Brazil Reader*, pp. 45-56; Pereira, et. al, "Chica da Silva: Myth and Reality in an Extreme Case of Social Mobility"

2/4 Brazilian Periphery

Readings: selections from *The Bandeirantes*; *The Brazil Reader*, pp. 125-130; *COG* doc 9.3; *Early Latin America*, pp. 253-282; *Early Brazil*, pp. 264-7

Week 5:

2/9 Identity in Colonial Brazil

Readings: Nazarrí "Race in Colonial São Paulo"; *COG* doc 9.5, 8.5, 3.5, 6.3, 4.4

2/11 Pombaline Reforms

Readings: Kenneth Maxwell "Pombal and the Nationalization of the Luso-Brazilian Economy."

Week 6:

2/16 Fleeing Napoleon and Brazilian Independence

Readings: *The Brazil Reader*, pp.56-64; *Five Centuries*, pp. 41-46

2/18 Midterm

Week 7:

2/23 Politics and Life in the Empire

Reading assignment: *The Brazil Reader*, pp. 65-75; *COG*, doc. 6.7, 8.1, 8.2, 8.11; *Five Centuries*, pp. 46-56

2/25 Changing Identities (Malê Revolt, Afro-identity)

Readings: Adèle Toussaint-Samson *A Parisian in Brazil*, parts II and III; *COG* DOC. 5.8, 5.9, 9.14

Week 8:

3/2 King Coffee: Economics and Slavery in the Empire

Readings: *The Brazil Reader*, pp. 76-86; selections from *COG* 8.18, 8.19; *Five Centuries*, pp. 56-61;  
Start reading *The Slum*

3/4 Patronage, the Paraguay War

Readings: *The Brazil Reader*, pp. 87-92; *Five Centuries*, pp. 64-70

Tentative Paper Topics turned in at the beginning of class

Spring Break

Week 9:

3/16 Abolition, the Republic & Immigration

Readings: Have Azevedo *The Slum* finished; *The Brazil Reader*, pp. 143-5; *COG* doc. 10.9, 10.11

3/18 Choo Choo Trains, Rubber & Canudos

Readings: *The Brazil Reader*, pp. 93-103; selections from *Rebellion in the Backlands*; *Five Centuries*, pp. 62-96

2<sup>nd</sup> 2-page response paper due

Week 10:

3/23 Whitening & Hygiene

2<sup>nd</sup> map quiz (Modern Brazil)

Readings: Gilberto Freyre

3/25 Urbanization and Industrialization

Readings: Readings: *Five Centuries*, pp. 97-102; *Brazil Reader*, pp. 354-8

Week 11:

3/30 Modern Art Week

Readings: the “Cannibal Manifesto”; *The Brazil Reader*, pp. 308-316, 327-30, 374-8; *Five Centuries*, pp. 102-108

Thesis, outline and list of primary and secondary sources for paper turned in by the beginning of class.

4/1 Columna Prestes and Revolution

Week 12:

4/6 the Vargas-era

Readings: *The Brazil Reader*, pp. 149-65, 176-81, 206-24, 319-22; *Five Centuries*, pp. 108-135

4/8 Popular Culture and Brazilian identity (Monteiro Lobato & FEB)

Readings: *The Brazil Reader*, pp. 327-30, 359-64, 367-73, 379-81, 474-82; Start reading *Born Again in Brazil*

Week 13:

4/13 From Vargas to military dictatorship

Readings: *Five Centuries*, pp. 136-158; *Brazil Reader*, pp. 238-47

4/15 Religion, samba and futebol

Readings: *Five Centuries*, pp. 158-69; *Brazil Reader*, pp. 254-7, 331-3, 408-10

Week 14:

4/20 Inflation Crisis and Return to Democracy & Stability

Research Papers due

Readings: *Five Centuries*, pp. 169-94

4/22 Stability: Fernando Henrique & Lula

Readings: *Five Centuries*, pp. 194-244; *Brazil Reader*, pp. 277-9, 289-94, 423-9

Week 15:

4/27 Racial identity in modern Brazil

Readings: *Brazil Reader*, pp. 462-7, 483-6; Have *Born Again in Brazil* completed

4/29 Mega-event success and factor endowments revisited

Readings: *Brazil Reader*, pp. 497-504; Engerman and Sokoloff