

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN  
Department of History  
Spring 1986

History 730

Florencia E. Mallon

Transition to Capitalism, Nationalism, and State  
Formation in Nineteenth-Century Latin America

Description

In the last five years, the nineteenth century in Latin America has received an unusually large and creative amount of attention from historians. Considered before to be one of the "backwaters" of historical research, where traditional political and military history reigned supreme, the nineteenth century is now emerging as one of the periods in Latin American history with the greatest potential for theoretical and methodological innovation. This course will attempt an assessment of this potential, both for Latin America and in comparative perspective, by examining some of the recent literature in the context of broad historical and theoretical questions.

Requirements

- 1) Each student will pick a topic and week from the syllabus according to his/her research interests. She/he will be responsible for elaborating questions for discussion for that week, to be typed and copied by the Monday before the session and available to the rest of the class.
- 2) By the end of each unit, the students responsible for the weeks of that unit will prepare, in consultation with the professor, additional bibliographies (of about eight to ten additional titles) on their topics. These will serve two purposes: first, as the basis for a 15-20-page historiographical essay, due at the end of the semester; and second, they will go into the elaboration of a longer bibliography on nineteenth-century history and related issues that will be available to everyone in the course by the end of the semester.
- 3) In weeks 14 and 15 of the semester, we will schedule three (rather than two) sessions to discuss rough drafts of the historiographical essays, as a "state-of-the-literature" review and critique of each others' papers.
- 4) Grading: Class participation: 50%  
Historiographical Essay: 50%

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS AND READINGS:

Week 1- January 22- Introduction.

## SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS AND READINGS cont.

- Week 2- January 29- The Formation of a Revisionist Perspective.  
Reading: E. Bradford Burns, The Poverty of Progress.
- Frederick S. Weaver, "Capitalist Development, Empire, and Latin American Underdevelopment: An Interpretive Essay on Historical Change," Latin American Perspectives, III:4 (Fall 1976).
- Florencia E. Mallon, "Editor's Introduction," Latin American Perspectives, Special Issue on the Nineteenth Century, Spring 1986.

UNIT I-THE TRANSITION TO CAPITALISM:

- Week 3- February 5- William Roseberry, Coffee and Capitalism in the Venezuelan Andes.
- Week 4- February 12- Florencia E. Mallon, The Defense of Community in Peru's Central Highlands: Peasant Struggle and Capitalist Transition, 1860-1940.
- Week 5- February 19- Barbara S. Weinstein, The Amazon Rubber Boom, 1850-1920.
- Week 6- February 26- Walter Rodney, A History of the Guyanese Working People, 1881-1905.

UNIT II-THE TRANSITION FROM SLAVERY TO FREE LABOR:

- Week 7- March 5- Stanley J. Stein, Vassouras, a Brazilian Coffee County, 1850-1890.

## \*\*\*\*BIBLIOGRAPHIES FROM UNIT I DUE\*\*\*\*

- Week 8- March 12- Laird Bergad, Coffee and the Growth of Agrarian Capitalism in Nineteenth-Century Puerto Rico.
- Week 9- March 19- Rebecca Scott, Slave Emancipation in Cuba: The Transition to Free Labor, 1860-1899.

UNIT III-RACE, ETHNICITY, AND NATION FORMATION:

- Week 10- April 2- George Reid Andrews, The Afro-Argentines of Buenos Aires, 1800-1900.

## \*\*\*\*BIBLIOGRAPHIES FROM UNIT II DUE\*\*\*\*

- Week 11- April 9- Evelyn Hu-DeHart, Yaqui Resistance and Survival: The Struggle for Land and Autonomy, 1821-1910.

Week 11- April 9- cont.

\*\*\*\*BIBLIOGRAPHIES FROM UNIT III DUE\*\*\*\*

Week 12- April 16- Maurice Zeitlin, The Civil Wars in Chile (or the bourgeois revolutions that never were).

Week 13- April 23- Heraclio Bonilla, "The War of the Pacific and the National and Colonial Problems in Peru," Past and Present, #8 (1978), pp. 92-118.

Florencia E. Mallon, "Nationalist and Anti-State Coalitions in the War of the Pacific: Junín and Cajamarca, in Steve J. Stern (ed.), Resistance, Rebellion and Consciousness in the Andean World, 18th to 20th Centuries.

Heraclio Bonilla, "The Indian Peasantry and 'Peru' during the War with Chile," in Stern (ed.), Resistance, Rebellion and Consciousness...

Weeks 14 and 15- 30 April- 7 May- Discussion/Critique of Historiographical Essays; Additional Section to be Arranged.

ESSAYS DUE IN FINAL FORM: FRIDAY, MAY 16th.