Course Information
Monday & Wednesday 1-3
Instruction in English

Contact Information
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Course Description
The course will provide a brief introduction to the history of gender in Latin America by focusing on the multiple manners in which womanhood has been constructed and experienced from the Conquest up to the twentieth century. Placing a special emphasis on how categories such as race and social class have mediated and defined their experiences, the course will explore some of the differences between women as well as their attempts to bridge these differences. We will examine a variety of issues such as labour and family relations, sexuality, religion, education, and the evolution of political and civil rights in order to demonstrate that women have actively participated in and shaped their own historical destinies. By using a variety of primary sources the course will seek to explore and understand some of the challenges that women have faced over time and the manners in which they have actively contributed to shape Latin American history.

Course Requirements
Each class will consist of two sections. During the first, the instructor will provide a brief historical background of the weekly topics. During the second, students will engage in active participation by discussing and evaluating the weekly readings. In addition, each week a small group of students will prepare a short oral presentation and a brief written summary on one of the recommended readings. The requirements also include a midterm and final exam, as well as class attendance.

Grading Policy
Participation: 10%
Oral presentation: 30%
Mid-term essay: 40%
Final exam: 20%
Required Textbooks and Materials
Patricia Anderson (ed.), *Course Reader and Primary Sources for Gender History*

Class schedule

**Week 1 (14-16 March)**
**Introduction.** Gender history in Latin America. Objectives, subjects, and relevance.
Joan Scott, “Gender, a useful category of analysis.”
Susan Socolow, Introduction.

**Week 2 (21-23 March)**
**Contact.** The conquest. Mestizaje or race mixture. The racialization of gender.
**Required readings:**
Laura A. Lewis, “The ‘Weakness’ of Women and the feminization of the Indian in colonial Mexico.”
Isabel Guevara, “The men became so weak that all the tasks fell on the poor women.”
Ruy Diaz de Guzman, *Women Captives*.

**Week 3 (28-30 March)**
**Religion.** Catholicism, acculturation, and alternative religious practices. Convents and the religious life. The Inquisition in the Americas.
**Required readings:**
Ricardo Fernandez Guardia, *Brotherhood of the Virgin*.
Olga Portuondo Zuñiga, *The Virgin of Cobre, Cuba’s Patron Saint*.
Juana Ines de la Cruz, *On Men’s Hypocrisy*.
**Recommended readings:**
Burns, Kathryn, “Nuns, kurakas, and credit: The spiritual economy of seventeenth-century Cuzco.”

**Week 4 (4-6 April)**
**Women and Patriarchy.** Family structure. Marriage and motherhood. Civil and political rights during colonial times.
**Required readings**
Twinam, Ann, *Precedents and Mothers: Pregnant virgins, abandoned women and the public and private price of sexuality*.
Flora Tristan, *Women of Lima*.
Juana Manuela Gorriti, *Women in the Fatherland*.
Mariquita Sanchez de Thompson, *The First British Invasion*.
**Recommended readings:**
Week 5 (11-13 April)
**Slavery.** Women’s differing worlds: slaves, servants, and elite women. Challenges and resistance.
**Required readings:**
Maria Eugenia Chaves, *Slave Women Strategies for Freedom in the Late Spanish Colonial State* in *Hidden histories of gender.*
Frances Calderon de la Barca, *Life in Mexico.*
Biography of a runaway slave
**Recommended readings:**
Frank Trey Proctor, *Gender and the Manumission of Slaves in New Spain*

Week 6 (18-20 April)
**Private and public spheres.** The family home and the streets. Urban and rural life. Entertainment. Female labour during colonial times.
**Required readings:**
Susan Socolow, *Women and social deviance: crime, witchcraft and rebellion*
Frances Calderon de la Barca, *Women and War in Mexico.*
Mary Weismantel, *Cities of Women.*
Evelyn M. Cherpak, “Reminiscences of Brazilian Life, 1834-1848, Selections from the Diary of Mary Robinson Hunter.”
**Recommended readings:**
Erica Windler, *Madame Durocher’s performance: Cross-dressing, Midwifery, and Authority*

Week 7 (25-27 April)
**Mid term essay due**

**Required readings:**
Sarah Chambers, *Republican Friendship: Manuela Saenz writes women into the Nation 1835-1856*
Dorothea Scott Whitten, *Arts of Amazonian and Andean Women*
Juana Manuela Gorriti, *Cookbook excerpt.*
**Recommended readings:**
Donna Guy, *Gabriela and Emilio Coni.*

Week 8 (2-4 May)
**Sexualities.** The body in the medical discourse. Deviancy: prostitution, homosexuality.
**Required readings:**
Pablo Ben, *Plebeian masculinity and sexual comedy in Buenos Aires Cartoons*
Enrique Santos Discépolo, *Esta noche me emborracho (tango)*
**Recommended readings:**

(PALAS 380) Gender History in Latin America
Katherine Bliss, The science of redemption, Syphilis, Sexual Promiscuity and Reformism in Revolutionary Mexico City.

**Week 9 (9-11 May)**

**Politics, Suffrage and Feminisms.** Women organize: Social motherhood and feminist militancy. The evolution of female political rights and suffrage in the 20th century.

*Required readings:*
Buck, Sarah A. “New Perspectives on Female Suffrage.”
Alfonsina Storni, Modern Women.
Carolina Freyre de Jaimes and Violetas del Anahuac, Women’s reform issues in late 19th century Peru and Mexico Reform.
Eva Peron, My mission in life

*Recommended readings:*
Plotkin, Mariano, The peronization of women and youth

**Week 10 (16-18 May)**

**Class in the 20th century:** Class composition. Emergence of the working class.

*Required readings:*
Eduardo Archetti, Playing styles and masculine virtues in Argentine football

*Recommended readings:*
Natalia Milanesio, “A man like you: Juan Domingo Peron and the Politics of Attraction”

**Week 11 (23 May)**

Challenging Patriarchy. Women and political, social, and military activism. The Mexican and Cuban revolutions.

*Required readings:*
Maxine Molyneux, State, Gender and Institutional Change: The Federacion De Mujeres Cubanas
Margaret Randall, The family code
Oscar Lewis, The Literacy Campaign.
Oscar Lewis, The “Rehabilitation” of prostitutes.

*Recommended readings:*
Gabriela Cano, Amelio Robles Transgender Masculinity in the Mexican Revolution

**Week 12 (30-1 June)**

**Silent revolutions.** Female organizations and silent resistance. The Mothers of Plaza de Mayo.

*Required readings:*
Marguerite Bouvard, Introduction and chapter 3.

*Recommended readings:*
Isabella Cosse, Infidelities, Morality, Revolution and Sexuality in Left-wing Guerrilla Organziations

**Week 13 (6-8 June)**
Ethnicity and violence. Civil wars and the gendered consequence of violence.

Required readings:
Maria Teresa Tula, *Hear my Testimony.*
Guatemala: Women in the Revolution.

Recommended readings:
Julia Shayne, “Gendered Revolutionary Bridges.”

Week 14 (13-15 June)
**Contemporary Activism.** Neoliberalism: The Zapatista movement, the maquiladoras. Resistances.

Required readings:
Karen Kampenwirth, *Also a women’s rebellion.*
The Declaration of the Lacandon Jungle.
EZLN Women’s Revolutionary Law.

Recommended Readings:
Kate Hardy, *Incorporating Sex Workers into the Argentine Labour Movement.*

Week 15 (22 June)
Challenges and Conclusion

Final exam

*Note:* “Students holding a tourist visa will NOT be allowed to take final exams, they have to go to the 17 Floor to clear the hold”*

Bibliography

**Required Readings: Course Reader**

Buck, Sarah A. “New Perspectives on Female Suffrage,” *History Compass*, 3 (June 2005)
Eduardo Archetti, Playing styles and masculine virtues in Argentine football, in Marit and Melhius (eds.), Machos Mistresses and Madonnas (Verso, 1996)
Maria Teresa Tula, Hear my Testimony, (1994)
Karen Kampenwirth, Also a women’s rebellion, in *Women and Guerrilla Movements* (2006)
Kate Hardy, “Incorporating Sex Workers into the Argentine Labour Movement,” *International Labor and Working Class History* 77:1 (2010)

**Required Readings II: Primary sources**
Catalina de Erauso: The Nun Ensign
Isabel Guevara: The men became so weak that all the tasks fell on the poor women
Ruy Diaz de Guzman: Women Captives
Ricardo Fernandez Guardia: Brotherhood of the Virgin
Oiga Portuondo Zuñiga: The Virgin of Cobre, Cuba’s Patron Saint
Juanita Ines de la Cruz, On Men’s Hypocrisy
Flora Tristan, Women of Lima
Juanita Manuela Gorriti, Women in the Fatherland
Mariquita Sanchez de Thompson, The First British Invasion
Flora Tristan, Women of Lima
Juanita Manuela Gorriti, Women in the Fatherland
Frances Calderon de la Barca, Women and War in Mexico
Mary Weismantel, Cities of Women
Frances Calderon de la Barca, Letter 19
Robert Walsh, Life on a Slave Ship
Biography of a Runaway Slave
Evelyn Cherpak, Reminiscences of Brazilian Life
Dorothea Scott Whitten, Arts of Amazonian and Andean Women
Alfonsina Storni, Modern Women
Juanita Manuela Gorriti, Cookbook excerpt.
Cartoons
Enrique Santos Discepolo, Esta noche me emborracho
Carolina Freyre de Jaimes and Violetas del Anahuac, Women’s reform issues in late 19th century Peru and Mexico Reform
Eva Peron, My Mission in Life
Daniel James, Doña María’s Story
Margaret Randall, The Family Code

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Oscar Lewis, The Literacy Campaign
Oscar Lewis, The “Rehabilitation” of prostitutes
Hebe de Bonafini and Matilde Sanchez, The Madwomen at the Plaza de Mayo
Guatemala: women in the Revolution
EZLN: The Declaration of the Lacandon Jungle
EZLN: Women’s Revolutionary Law

Recommended Readings
Erica Windler, Madame Durocher’s performance: Cross-dressing, Midwifery, and Authority,” in Gender, Sexuality and Power in Latin America (2007)
Donna Guy, Gabriela and Emilio Coni, in J. Ewell & W. Beezley (eds.) The Human Tradition in Latin America (1989)
Katherine Bliss, The science of redemption, Syphilis, sexual promiscuity and Reformism in Revolutionary Mexico City,” The Hispanic American Historical Review, 79: 1 (Feb., 1999)
Natalia Milanesio, “A man like you: Juan Domingo Peron and the Politics of Attraction” Gender and History 26:1 (2014)
Mariano Plotkin, The peronization of women and youth, in Mañana es San Peron (2000)
Julia Shayne, “Gendered Revolutionary Bridges,” Latin American Perspectives, 26: 3 (May 1999)
Kate Hardy, Incorporating Sex Workers into the Argentine Labour Movement, International and Working Class History 77 (Spring 2010)