



**Hist 428: History of Modern Mexico
Fall 2026**



INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: E. Mark Moreno (Dr. M)
Associate Professor, Department of History

Office Location: Ferguson SS 118

Office Hours: MF 8-9 a.m., MWF 2-4 p.m.

Office Phone: 903-886-5216

University Email Address: mark.moreno@tamuc.edu

Preferred Form of Communication: Email

Communication Response Time: Within 24 hours

COURSE INFORMATION

Textbooks Required

Kelly Lytle Hernandez, *Bad Mexicans: Race, Empire, and Revolution at the Borderlands* (2022), ISBN 9781324004370

Paul Gillingham, *Unrevolutionary Mexico: The Birth of a Strange Dictatorship* (2021), ISBN 9780300253122

Carlos Fuentes, *The Good Conscience* (originally 1961), ISBN 97803745073367

Benjamin T. Smith, *The Dope* (2021), 9781324021827

Course Description: *This course examines the development of the Mexican nation-state from the beginnings of independence through the twenty-first century. Themes may include war and conflict, authoritarianism and liberalism, U.S.-Mexico relations, race, gender, revolution, society, and popular culture. Prerequisites: Non-majors may enroll with consent of the department.*

Student Learning Outcome

1. Students will recognize important signifiers of modern Mexican history, including the rise of liberalism and authoritarianism, state formation, and national identity.
2. Students will recognize important concepts, historical arguments, and methodologies in Mexican historiography, and offer effective analyses.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Instructional Methods

Participation and attendance: Regular attendance is expected, as well as regular questions and comments from students. Five points will be deducted for every three unexcused absences. Other lectures, discussions and film/video presentations will relate to class readings. Class time is meant for both lecture and discussion, so participation is important whether class involves interaction or film/video presentations.

Use of cell phones during class is prohibited. The instructor reserves the right to deduct points for violations of that policy.

Plagiarism: Taking work directly from other sources and presenting it as your own is a serious academic offense and will automatically result in a “0” grade for your assignment paper, and possibly for the class. In addition, students will need to meet with the instructor for explanation and will be subject to disciplinary action by the University. Modern (or postmodern) technology has made detection of plagiarism easier than ever before, and faculty members in most cases have adopted a “zero tolerance” policy for such actions. All work produced for this class must come directly from History 428 students, and specific to that class for the Spring 2023 semester. **AI use: Our D2L software also detects use**

of AI for papers – while students use Grammerly (offered at the university) and other tools, keep it a minimum, 50 percent or less – or do not use it at all.

GRADING

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

A = 90%-100%

B = 80%-89%

C = 70%-79%

D = 60%-69%

F = 59% or Below

Assessments

Attendance, Participation = 50 points

Discussions = 100 points (five along with abstracts, up to 20 points each)

Book Reviews (2) = total of 50 points

Exams = 150 points total

Research Paper = 150 points total

Total = 500 points possible

Exams: Two Blue Book exams are assigned for the semester. Students will answer two out of three questions in standard essay form.

Discussions: Students will participate in six discussions based on the books *Bad Mexicans*, *Unrevolutionary Mexico*, *The Good Conscience* and *A Narco History* (with supplements), and a series of academic articles and other materials. Students discuss the books in class, and in teams, also using a worksheet provided by the instructor. Students are expected to participate in the teams and contribute to discussions.

Semester Project

Students will produce a research paper of 10-12 pages, focusing primary documents based on the Tlatelolco Massacre of 1968 (when Mexico hosted the Summer Olympics), the Chinese massacre of 1911, or another of your choice after consultation with the instructor. All of them are available online through the different archival sources. Guidelines and instructions for the paper will be discussed within the first month of class.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

- To fully participate in online courses you will need to use a current Flash enabled internet browser. For PC and Mac users the suggested browser is Mozilla Firefox.
- You will need regular access to a computer with a broadband Internet connection. The minimum computer requirements are:

- 512 MB of RAM, 1 GB or more preferred
 - Broadband connection required courses are heavily video intensive
 - Video display capable of high-color 16-bit display 1024 x 768 or higher resolution
- You must have a:
 - Sound card, which is usually integrated into your desktop or laptop computer
 - Speakers or headphones.
 - *For courses utilizing video-conferencing tools and/or an online proctoring solution, a webcam and microphone are required.
- Both versions of Java (32 bit and 64 bit) must be installed and up to date on your machine. At a minimum Java 7, update 51, is required to support the learning management system. The most current version of Java can be downloaded at: [JAVA web site http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp](http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp)
- Current anti-virus software must be installed and kept up to date.
- Run a browser check through the Pearson LearningStudio Technical Requirements website. [Browser Check http://help.ecollege.com/LS_Tech_Req_WebHelp/en-us/#LS_Technical_Requirements.htm#Browset](http://help.ecollege.com/LS_Tech_Req_WebHelp/en-us/#LS_Technical_Requirements.htm#Browset)

Running the browser check will ensure your internet browser is supported.

Pop-ups are allowed.

JavaScript is enabled.

Cookies are enabled.

- You will need some additional free software (plug-ins) for enhanced web browsing. Ensure that you download the free versions of the following software:
 - [Adobe Reader https://get.adobe.com/reader/](https://get.adobe.com/reader/)
 - [Adobe Flash Player \(version 17 or later\) https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/](https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/)
 - [Adobe Shockwave Player https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/](https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/)
 - [Apple Quick Time http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/](http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/)
- At a minimum, you must have Microsoft Office 2021, 2019, 2013, 2010 or Open Office. Microsoft Office is the standard office productivity software utilized by faculty, students, and staff. Microsoft Word is the standard word processing software, Microsoft Excel is the standard spreadsheet software, and Microsoft PowerPoint is the standard presentation software. Copying and pasting, along with attaching/uploading documents for assignment submission, will also be required. If you do not have Microsoft Office, you can check with the bookstore to see if they have any student copies.

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

This course like all History department courses utilizes the D2L online learning system

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

Note: Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, an East Texas A&M campus open computer lab, etc.

Policy for Reporting Problems with D2L

myLeo Support

Your myLeo email address is required to send and receive all student correspondence. Please email helpdesk@tamuc.edu or call us at 903-468-6000 with any questions about setting up your myLeo email account. You may also access information at [myLeo](https://leo.tamuc.edu). <https://leo.tamuc.edu>

Learner Support

The [One Stop Shop](http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/onestopshop/) was created to serve you by providing as many resources as possible in one location. <http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/onestopshop/>

The [Academic Success Center](http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/academicSuccessCenter/) provides academic resources to help you achieve academic success.

<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/academicSuccessCenter/>

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures/Policies

Attendance/Lateness, Late Work, Missed Exams and Quizzes and Extra Credit

Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

University Specific Procedures

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the [Student Guidebook](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx>

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: [Netiquette](#)

<http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html>

ETAMU Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage and [Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

Academic Integrity

Students at East Texas A&M are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.10](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10GraduateStudentAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

ADA Statement

Students with Disabilities

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a

learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

East Texas A&M University

Gee Library- Room 162

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

Nondiscrimination Notice

East Texas A&M University will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in East Texas A&M buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and East Texas A&M Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all East Texas A&M campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

Statement on Student Grievances

Students who have questions or concerns about the Instructor's course policies or the conduct either of the Instructor or a classmate should first consult with the Instructor. In the event of a lack of resolution or satisfaction on the matter, the student may bring their concerns to the head of the History Department, Sharon Kowalsky (Sharon.Kowalsky@tamuc.edu). If this does not result in a satisfactory conclusion to

the matter, students may bring the issue to the attention of the Associate Dean of Students per procedures outlined on pp. 15-19 of the Student Guidebook. The syllabus/schedule are subject to change. If you decide that you need to drop or withdrawal from this course, it is your responsibility to complete the necessary paperwork. I will not drop you from the course if you stop attending.

LECTURE/ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE
(Readings information announced in class, lecture and assignment schedule subject to change)

Week 1: Introduction

- Mexico Post-Independence
- Federalism and the first Black President

Week 2: The First Authoritarian Republic and Loss of Territory

- The Mexican American War
- The War of the Reform
- The French Intervention

Week 3: The Restored Republic and the Age of Díaz

- The Restored Republic
- President Díaz

Readings: *Bad Mexicans*, Introduction and Parts 1 and 2

Week 4: Order and Progress

- First Discussion
- The Authoritarian Republic
- Rumblings of Revolution

Readings: *Bad Mexicans*, Parts 3 and 4 and Conclusion

Week 5: Revolution

- Francisco Madero's War

Week 6: Civil War

- Second Discussion
- Book Reviews Due (*Bad Mexicans*)
- Villa, Zapata, and a cast of thousands

Readings: Academic articles: Alan Knight, John Mason Hart

Week 6: Reading the Revolution

- General Obregon's Mexico
- The Cristero Rebellion

Week 7:

- **Midterm Exam**

Week 8: The Quieter Revolution

- President Cárdenas and the New Nationalism
- The Rise of Mexican Cinema

Readings: *Unrevolutionary Mexico*, Introduction and Chapters 1-4

Week 9: Post-Revolution: Becoming Modern

- President Ávila Camacho and World War II
- President Alemán and the New Capitalism
- Women and the Right to Vote

Readings: *Unrevolutionary Mexico*, Chapters 5-9 and Conclusion

Week 10: The Good Times Begin

- Fourth Discussion, *Unrevolutionary Mexico*
- 2nd Reviews Due
- The 1950s

Readings: Carlos Fuentes, *The Good Conscience*

Week 11: The 1960s and “The Miracle”

- Fifth Discussion, *The Good Conscience*
- Mexico does the Olympics
- The Tlatelolco Massacre

Readings: *The Dope*, Prologue, Parts 1, 2, 3

Week 12: Darkness Descends on “the Miracle”

- Financial Crisis
- The Rigged Election
- The Zapatista Uprising

Readings, *The Dope*, Parts 4.5, and Epilogue

Week 13: The Last Decade of the PRI

- Last Discussion: *The Dope*
- Narco Wars
- The Election of 2000

Week 14:

- Thanksgiving Week
- Monday Class Review

Week 15:

- Exam Review
- Paper Due

Week 16

- **Final Exam**