

**Department:** HIST

**Course No.:** 3635 [280]

**Title:** Mexico in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries

**Credits:** 3

**Contact:** Nancy Shoemaker

**Content Area:** CA 1 Humanities and CA 4 Diversity and Multiculturalism - International

**Current Catalog Copy:** -HIST 3635 [280]. Mexico in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries Three credits. Recommended preparation: HIST 281. The emergence of modern Mexico from independence to the present with emphasis on the Revolution of 1910.

**Meets Goals of Gen Ed:** -The course, Mexico in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries, integrates, to varying degrees, all of the basic purposes of general education as stated in the UConn General Education Guidelines. 1. Become articulate. In addition to several small- (2 page) and medium-sized (5-10 page) writing assignments, regular individual and group presentations will foster careful articulation by the students in both oral and written formats. Moreover, structured daily class discussion will challenge students to articulate their ideas in a more extemporaneous context. 2. Acquire intellectual breadth and versatility. The transnational subject matter and multidisciplinary source material for this course will require the students to expand their intellectual and analytical frameworks. Furthermore, examining how historical questions have been approached differently across time, geographic location, and by individuals with different backgrounds (gender, racial/ethnic, generational, etc) will encourage students to inspect their own notions of the production of knowledge. 3. - 5. Acquire critical judgment; Acquire moral sensitivity; Acquire awareness of their era and society. This course simultaneously addresses basic purposes 3, 4, and 5 by requiring students to critically examine the history of the United States' relations with Mexico from the 19th century to the present. Encouraged to develop an empathetic and moral sensitivity to the historical experiences and actions of both elites and commoners, students will be asked to construct their own judgments of the political dimensions of Mexico's long history with the United States. Historical issues treated in this course that demands these types of analysis include, colonialism, cultural and economic imperialism, racism, migration, and citizenship. In one of their final assignments, students will discuss how this historical relationship has progressed during their lifetimes. 6. Acquire consciousness of the diversity of human culture and experience. This course explores a wide range of human culture and experience, from an ethnographic study of state officials to the role of transborder performance artists in the articulation of nationhood and ethnic and gendered identities. Students will be asked to pay careful attention to shifting conceptions of Mexican citizenship, especially in the "long" post-revolutionary period of Mexico's modern history. The lives of migrants in the United States and along the U.S. - Mexico border will also figure prominently in our readings and discussions. 7. Acquire a working understanding of the processes by which they can continue to acquire and use knowledge. This course addresses this basic purpose in two ways.

First, it focuses on the processes and rigors of historical scholarship. Students are exposed to divergent opinions on historical themes and encouraged to do history by examining primary sources as well as critically reading secondary sources. Second, by learning about the inherent biases of the production of historical knowledge, students will explore how history has shaped the present both practically and discursively.

**CA1 Criteria:** - This course engages students in historical and critical investigation and analysis.

**CA4 Criteria** The course, Mexico in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries, integrates, to varying degrees, many of the criteria of Group 4. 1. Emphasize that there are varieties of human experiences, perceptions, thoughts, values, and/or modes of creativity. This course explores a wide range of human experiences and thoughts, from an ethnographic study of state officials to the role of transborder performance artists in the articulation of nationhood and ethnic and gendered identities. Students will be asked to pay careful attention to shifting conceptions of Mexican citizenship, especially in the "long" post-revolutionary period of Mexico 's modern history. The lives of migrants in the United States and along the U.S. - Mexico border will also figure prominently in our readings and discussions.4. Develop an understanding of and sensitivity to issues involving human rights and migration. Studying the history of modern Mexico necessarily requires students to carefully analyze issues of human rights and migration. Intra and international migration from the late nineteenth century to the present has shaped fundamentally the contours of Mexico 's history. Beginning with the large exodus of Mexican workers to the United States at the beginning of the twentieth century, this course examines the history of migrant laborers and labor rights in both Mexico and the United States . Students will read and discuss historical documents such as personal narratives (testimonios) of migrants and changing Mexican and U.S. governmental legislation on migration.5. Develop an awareness of the dynamics of social, political, and/or economic power in the context of any of the above four items. Students will be asked to consider how dynamics of social, political, and economic power are integral to the issues examined in criteria 4 above. Migrant laborers leaving Mexico and living and working in the United States have been central to how both countries have understood and legislated citizenship. A key political issue, immigrant labor has been central to the economic prosperity on both sides of the border. Students will also study the social dimension of migration as it has greatly affected the historical development of families and communities simultaneously in both nations.

**This course is also proposed to meet the "international" requirement, and meets the following criteri.** The course focuses on issues of diversity/multiculturalism outside the United States . There are "many Mexicos ." This course looks at the historical development of the different regions and populations within Mexico 's modern history. Students will learn how issues of race, ethnicity, and regionalism are central to this nation's history and how those same issues have been affected by Mexico 's long standing relationship with the United States . While Mexico has defined its own history from within, one in every ten Mexican has for some time lived in the United States . As such, the development of new ethnic and community identities by Mexican citizens (and their descendants) in the United States have greatly influenced Mexico 's senses of diversity.

