



Code: GSPS-04/A

Credits: 6

Subject: History and Institutions of the Americas

Main language of instruction: Italian

Other language of instruction: English

Teaching Staff

Head instructor

Prof. Silvio Berardi – silvio.berardi@unicusano.it

Prerequisites

Basic knowledge of Contemporary History and History of International Relations.

Objectives

The course in History and Institutions of the Americas aims at providing students with a basic knowledge of the events of the American continent in the last two centuries (19th and 20th centuries), offering them the tools to interpret this reality.

Competencies:

The course is divided into two parts: the first deals with the history of contemporary North America, the second with the history of contemporary Latin America.

Syllabus

Programme:

Contemporary North America – Modules 1-3

- Course Introduction: structure, content, and methodological notes.
- From US Independence to the Monroe Doctrine.
- The Rise of the West.
- The World of Slavery.
- The American Civil War.
- The United States between the late 19th and early 20th Centuries.
- From Wilson to Roosevelt.
- The United States and the Cold War.
- The 1960s and the Vietnam War.
- From Nixon to Carter.
- From the end of the Cold War to the aspiration for a "New World Order".
- The United States in the New Millennium.



- Overview of Contemporary Canadian History.

Contemporary Latin America – Modules 4-6

- Review of Key Historical Milestones.
- The 19th Century: The Origins of Contemporary Latin American History:
 - From the colonial era to independence.
 - Latin America between Conservative and Liberal pressures.
 - The construction of modern States.
 - Between neocolonialism and modernisation.
 - The Age of Positivism.
- The 20th Century:
 - Latin America between new nationalisms and political instability.
 - Military regimes and populisms.
 - Latin America in the Cold War.
 - Revolutions and counter-revolutions.
 - The Neoliberal Age.
 - The birth of democratic regimes.
 - The challenges of the new millennium.

Evaluation system and criteria

Lectures of History and Institutions of the Americas are held in Italian (English only under request). Erasmus+ students may however take the oral examination in English. The examination programme, which involves the use of texts available in the university library, must be agreed directly with the Professor through a student reception (online or in person). Erasmus+ students are advised to make contact with the Professor by email before embarking on the study of the subject.

Bibliography and resources

1. Materials to consult:

For students intending to take the exam in Italian, the reference materials are available in the respective course folders uploaded to the platform. All teaching materials have been prepared by Prof. Berardi.

2. Recommended bibliography:

Briggs A., Clavin P., *Modern Europe, 1789-present* (Longman 2003).

Welsh J.M., *The return of history. Conflict, migration, and geopolitics in the Twenty-First century* (Anansi 2016).

Westad, O.A., *The cold war. A world history* (Allen Lane 2017).

Williams A.J., Hadfield A., Rofe J.S., *International history and international relations* (Routledge 2012).