

**MEXICAN CULTURE AND SOCIETY**  
**Partnerships for International Research and Education**  
**Spring 2009 / Sat 9:00 am-12:00 pm / BBC Library (room 250)**

**Instructor:**

Dr. María Aysa-Lastra  
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**Office:** DM 340B

**Office hours:** Tuesday and Thursday 12:00-1:00 pm and by appointment

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***Course Description***

This is an abbreviated course on Mexican culture and society. The aim of the sessions is to provide information on main historical facts, culture, traditions and development of Science and technology in Mexico. It is designed for the fellows accepted in the program offered by the Partnerships for International Research and Education.

The course is divided in five sessions:

MARCH 7

**Session One: History of Mexico**

Required Readings:

Cosío Villegas, Daniel (1974) *A compact History of México*, Colegio de México, México D.F. This title is available at the FIU libraries.

Levy, Daniel and Kathleen Bruhn (2006) *Mexico the struggle for democratic development*, University of California Press, Berkeley (e-book available through FIU libraries)

Assignment: Due March 28 (please bring a hard copy to class)

Write a summary (about 2 pages) about the main facts about the History of Mexico

MARCH 28

**Session Two: Fine Arts, Film and Literature**

Required Readings:

Monsivais, Carlos and Carlos Bonfil (1994) *A través del espejo: el cine mexicano y su público*, Instituto Mexicano de Cinematografía, Mexico (material available at the Green Library Special Diaz-Ayala Collection, 4th floor)

Rulfo, Juan (2002) *Pedro Paramo*, University of Texas Press, Austin (available at FIU libraries)

Martínez, José Luis (1995) *La literatura Mexicana del Siglo XX*, Consejo nacional para la Cultura y las Artes, Mexico (material available through FIU libraries)

Burke, Marcus B. (1998) *Mexican art masterpieces*, Hugh Levin Associates, New York (material available through FIU libraries)

Consejo Nacional para la Cultura y las Artes: [www.conaculta.gob.mx](http://www.conaculta.gob.mx)

Instituto Nacional de las Bellas Artes: [www.bellasartes.gob.mx](http://www.bellasartes.gob.mx)

Instituto Nacional Antropología e Historia: [www.inah.gob.mx](http://www.inah.gob.mx)

APRIL 4

### **Session Three: Economic Geography, Population and Society in Mexico**

Required Readings:

World Bank Country Report

<http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/COUNTRIES/LACEXT/MEXICOEXTN/0,,contentMDK:20185184~menuPK:338403~pagePK:1497618~piPK:217854~theSitePK:338397,00.html>

Doing Business in Mexico

<http://www.doingbusiness.org/subnational/exploreconomies/Mexico2009.aspx>

Materials on geography, population and economy and information by state

[www.cuentame.inegi.org.mx](http://www.cuentame.inegi.org.mx)

Alba, Francisco (1982) *The population of Mexico: trends, issues, and policies*. New Brunswick, N.J.: Transaction Books (material available through FIU libraries)

Tulchin, Joseph S., and Andrew D. Selee (2003). *Mexico's politics and society in transition*. Boulder, Colo: L. Rienner (material available through FIU libraries)

APRIL 11

### **Session Four: Popular Culture**

Beezley, William H., Cheryl English Martin, and William E. French (1994) *Rituals of rule, rituals of resistance public celebrations and popular culture in Mexico*. Latin American silhouettes. Wilmington, Del: SR Books (material available through FIU libraries)

Lomnitz-Adler, Claudio (2005) *Death and the idea of Mexico*. Brooklyn, N.Y.: Zone Books (material available through FIU libraries)

APRIL 18

### **Session Five: Science and Technology in Mexico**

Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. 1994. *Reviews of national science and technology policy. Mexico*. Paris: Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. (material available through FIU libraries)

Botzman, Thomas J. 1999. *Technology and competitiveness in Mexico: an industrial perspective*. Lanham: University Press of America (material available through FIU libraries)

Consejo Nacional de Ciencia y Tecnología: [www.conacyt.mx](http://www.conacyt.mx)

Instituto Politécnico Nacional: [www.ipn.mx](http://www.ipn.mx)

Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México: [www.unam.mx](http://www.unam.mx)

Instituto Tecnológico de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey: [www.itesm.edu](http://www.itesm.edu)

Universidad Iberoamericana: [www.uia.mx](http://www.uia.mx)

Universidad de las Américas: [www.udlap.mx](http://www.udlap.mx)

Universidad del Mayab: [www.unimayab.edu.mx](http://www.unimayab.edu.mx)

Universidad de Guadalajara [www.udg.mx](http://www.udg.mx)