

HIS 209: Native Americas--Caribbean

Fall 2021

T, Th 8:00-9:15, Room: Curry 303

Instructor: Arlen Hanson

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Office: MHRA 2108

Office hours: T, Th 9:30-11:00, or by appointment

History Department Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/UNCGDepartmentofHistory/>

History Department Website: <https://his.uncg.edu/>

This syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.

Please read all sections of this syllabus carefully and thoroughly.

Course Description:

This course will be a survey of indigenous histories and cultures in Latin America, Southwest Borderlands, and the Caribbean, from pre-contact to 1850. This is a history course but relies heavily upon material and insights from the disciplines of anthropology and archaeology. Students will be introduced to the field of Ethnohistory, in which our historical endeavors make use of the methods and insights of anthropology and archaeology, as well as traditional historical methods to reconstruct the past.

General Education Historical Perspectives Student Learning Outcomes (GEHP SLOs):

1. Students will learn to use a historical approach to analyze and contextualize primary and secondary sources representing divergent perspectives.
2. Students will learn to use evidence to interpret the past coherently, orally and/or in writing.

Global Engagement and Intercultural Learning Student Learning Outcomes ("Global" SLOs):

1. Describe dynamic elements of different cultures. These elements may include (but are not limited to) aesthetic systems, communication systems, economics, physical environments, ethics, gender norms, geography, history, politics, religious principles, or social beliefs, norms and practices.

2. Explain how similarities, differences, and connections among different groups of people or environmental systems affect one another over time and place.

Global Engagement and Intercultural Learning through the Humanities and Fine Arts or through the Social and Behavioral Sciences

Schedule Attribute: MAC Global and Intercultural

Courses in this competency provide students with knowledge and critical understanding of similarities and differences across world cultures over time and emphasize the development of global perspectives and skills to engage cross-culturally.

Required Readings:

Books:

Schwartz, Stuart B. and Tatiana Seijas, eds. *Victors and Vanquished: Spanish and Nahua Views of the Fall of the Mexica Empire*. New York: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2018.

Townsend, Camilla. *Fifth Sun: A New History of the Aztecs*. Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press, 2019.

These books are required.

In addition to the books above, there **will** be other required *short* readings which will be posted in both the Files and Modules sections on Canvas.

Assignments/Grading:

There are 11 assignments for this course, plus attendance, totaling 205 points:

1 Documentary analysis paper	= 15 points
1 Primary Source Analysis paper	= 25 points
4 Reading Journals from the book <i>Fifth Sun</i> x 15 points each	= 60 points
4 Discussion/Reflection pieces x 15 points each	= 60 points
1 Exam (Based on lectures and article readings)	= 30 points
Attendance	= <u>15 points</u>
	205 points

(Prompts for these assignments will be posted on Canvas well in advance of due dates.)

Letter grades will be assigned as follows:

94-100 A

90-93 A-

87-89 B+

83-86 B

80-82 B-
77-79 C+
73-76 C
70-72 C-
67-69 D+
63-66 D
60-62 D
<60 F

**Paper #1: Documentary Reflection on *From Caves to Cosmos* (GEHP SLO 2; “Global” SLOs 1 and 2)
DUE FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 3.**

Paper #2 (GEHP SLOs 1 and 2; “Global” SLOs 1 and 2):

For paper #2 you will read: Schwartz, Stuart B. and Tatiana Seijas, eds. *Victors and Vanquished: Spanish and Nahua Views of the Fall of the Mexica Empire*. New York: Bedford/St. Martin’s, 2018. For this paper you will analyze primary sources from the era of the Spanish “conquest” of the Mexica Empire, along with commentary and interpretation from authors Schwartz and Seijas.

NOTE: Please compose your paper in a Word document. The paper must be a minimum of 1500 words in length, double spaced, and in 12-point font with 1” margins.

DUE THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 4.

Reading Journal (GEHP SLO 2; “Global” SLOs 1 and 2):

While this is a survey course in which we will discuss many Indigenous Peoples historically and presently inhabiting the area now encompassed by Latin America, the Caribbean, and the Southwest borderlands of what is now the United States, it may be helpful to also provide an opportunity to go in some further depth into the history and culture of a single chosen Indigenous People. To this end, through both of the books we will be reading in this course, we will be taking a “deep dive” into the history of the *Mexica* (Me-SHEE-ka) or Nahua (NA-wa) people, more commonly (if *incorrectly*, actually) known as the Aztecs.

You will keep a reading journal on the book *Fifth Sun*, which will have four entries over the course of the class. For each of these four entries, you will write your reflection and analysis on a section of the book, as per a prompt to be posted on Canvas.

DUE DATES:

- 1. TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14**
- 2. TUESDAY, OCTOBER 5**
- 3. TUESDAY, OCTOBER 26**
- 4. TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 16**

Discussion/ Reflection Pieces (GEHP SLO 2; “Global” SLOs 1 and 2):

These assignments will be based on four readings posted both in the modules and files sections on Canvas:

For Discussion #1: *From Tainos to Africans in the Caribbean* by Jalil Sued-Badillo

For Discussion #2: *Conquistador y Pestilencia: World Pandemic and the Fall of the Great Indian Empires* by Alfred W. Crosby

For Discussion #3: *Negotiations of Conquest* by Lynne Guitar

For Discussion #4: *The Naming of Haiti* by David Geggus

Here's how the discussions work:

You will write a brief reflection (minimum 300 words) on the assigned article—as per a prompt to be posted on Canvas—in four weeks of the course. These short reflections will be **due on Wednesdays by 5:00 PM on Canvas**, and we will discuss the section of the book and your reflections in class the next day—Thursday—in each of the four weeks.

Discussion #1: Thursday, September 9th (Canvas submission deadline: Wednesday, September 8, 5:00 PM) Read *From Tainos to Africans in the Caribbean* by Jalil Sued-Badillo.

Discussion #2: Thursday, September 30th (Canvas submission deadline: Wednesday, September 29, 5:00 PM) Read *Conquistador y Pestilencia: World Pandemic and the Fall of the Great Indian Empires* by Alfred W. Crosby

Discussion #3: Thursday, October 21st (Canvas submission deadline: Wednesday, October 20, 5:00 PM) Read *Negotiations of Conquest* by Lynne Guitar.

Discussion #4: Thursday, November 11 (Canvas submission deadline: Wednesday, November 10, 5:00 PM) Read *The Naming of Haiti* by David Geggus.

To receive full credit for these assignments, you must do three things:

- 1. Complete the online assignment adequately as per the prompt given.**
- 2. Bring a hardcopy of your Canvas submission to class the next day (Thursday).**
- 3. Be present for the discussion in class on Thursday. (Any students needing to be absent these Thursdays will need to contact me—preferably ahead of time—to make special arrangements with me for full completion of the assignment.)**

LECTURE AND READINGS EXAM (GEHP SLO 2; “Global SLOs 1 and 2):

The final exam will be based mostly upon the lectures, but also on any additional readings outside of the books and discussion articles, as well as any videos that may be viewed during the course. The exam will be in essay and short answer in format, and will be open note and “take home.” The prompt for the exam will be posted one week before the due date.

Due Tuesday, December 7th, 11:59 PM on Canvas.

ONE FINAL WORD ABOUT YOUR ASSIGNMENTS: Late work will not be accepted without compelling reason and documentation furnished as proof of compelling reason.

Attendance:

Attendance is crucial to your success in this course. In addition to attendance comprising approximately 7% of your grade in the class, attendance is crucial **because questions for the two exams will be drawn from both readings and lectures**. Attend class and take good notes. If you must miss class for any reason, it is your responsibility to ensure that you get notes of the missed class from one of your classmates. Also, if you will miss class for any reason, you must notify the instructor via email as soon as possible, preferably well ahead of time, of the reason for your absence. A limited number of absences *may* (note the italics) be excused with documentation provided by the student.

Required attendance statement: Regular class attendance is a responsibility and a privilege of university education. It is fundamental to the orderly acquisition of knowledge. Students should recognize the advantages of regular class attendance, accept it as a personal responsibility, and apprise themselves of the consequences of poor attendance.

Plagiarism:

The University defines plagiarism as "intentionally or knowingly representing the words of another, as one's own in any academic exercise." (See the University's [Academic Integrity Policies](#) for further information.) See also this helpful and informative video on [How to Avoid Plagiarism](#). All sources (books, articles, documents, internet sites, etc.) used in any paper or assignment must be properly cited or will be considered plagiarism. Any instance of plagiarism will receive a zero and will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct for appropriate action, including suspension or expulsion from the University.

AN ADDITIONAL RESOURCE:

UNCG Writing Center

Location: 3211 MHRA

<http://www.uncg.edu/eng/writingcenter/>

From the Writing Center website: "The purpose of the Writing Center is to enhance the confidence and competence of student writers by providing free, individual assistance at any stage of any writing project. Staff consultants are experienced writers and alert readers, prepared to offer feedback and suggestions on drafts of papers, help students find answers to their questions about writing, and provide one-on-one instruction as needed."

Electronic Devices Policy: Use of phones and tablets is strictly prohibited. Use of these devices will result in your being asked to leave the class and being counted as absent. Although I would prefer that you also do not use laptops in class, **laptops may be used for notetaking only**, and if you are going to use a laptop in class, you must sit in the front rows. If at any time, however, I discover that you are using your laptop in class for anything else (checking your

email, playing games, surfing the web, etc.), you will be asked to leave class and counted as absent and will no longer be able to use your laptop for the remainder of the semester. In addition, if it comes to my attention that your laptop use in class is distracting your fellow students in any way, you will no longer be able to use your laptop for the remainder of the semester.

Electronic Communication:

Students are responsible for checking their UNCG iSpartan email on a regular basis. Email is the primary means in which the instructor will communicate with you about important information concerning the course, including any changes to the syllabus. Students are encouraged to utilize email to contact the instructor (amhanso2@uncg.edu). Please be aware that an email response may not be immediate. Please allow for a 24-hour (48 hours on the weekend) response time. If you fail to receive an email response after 24 hours (48 on the weekend) please contact me again.

Canvas:

It is the responsibility of all students to ensure that they are able to logon to Canvas. If you are having issues accessing Canvas, please note that I am not a technician and cannot assist you in resolving these issues. If you are having difficulty logging into Canvas, first contact 6-Tech Online for assistance.

Religious Obligations Statement:

It is expected that instructors will make reasonable accommodations for students who have conflicts due to religious obligations. Please make arrangements with the instructor in advance of any conflict. For more information on UNCG's Religious Obligations policy, visit:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1r7fZEcKyXzUPG4ztGVynNrdQyKn527xV3i-ESX4043c/preview>

Accommodations/ADA Statement:

UNCG seeks to comply fully with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Students requesting accommodations based on a disability must connect with the Office of Accessibility Resources and Services (OARS) in 215 Elliott University Center, (336)334-5440, oars.uncg.edu.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE:

(NOTE: The due dates below are FIRM, however, the dates of lectures topics are approximate. At any given time in the course, we may be either ahead or behind this schedule.)

Week 1 (August 17, 19):

Lecture Topics: Syllabus and Introduction. Introduction to Ethnohistory.

Readings: You should **begin reading *Fifth Sun* immediately**. You will need to have pages 13-58 read by September 14 when your first reading journal entry will be due.

Due: No graded assignments due.

Week 2 (August 24, 26):

Lecture Topics: Migrations and Cultural Diversity. Environmental Relationships. Indigenous Worldviews and Worldviews in Conflict.

Readings: Continue reading *Fifth Sun*. You will need to have pages 13-58 read by September 14 when your first reading journal entry will be due. Read [Earliest Evidence for Humans in the Americas](#) to accompany the lectures this week.

Due: No graded assignments due.

Week 3 (August 31, September 2):

Lecture Topics: Chaco. From *Caves to Cosmos* documentary.

Readings: Continue reading *Fifth Sun*. You will need to have pages 13-58 read by September 14 when your first reading journal entry will be due.

Prompt for Documentary Reflection: *Caves to Cosmos* will be posted on Monday, August 30, by 8:00 AM.

Due: Documentary Reflection: *Caves to Cosmos*—Friday, September 3, by 11:59 PM, on Canvas.

Week 4 (September 7, 9):

Lecture Topics: The Pre-Columbian Era

Readings: Read *From Tainos to Africans in the Caribbean* by Jalil Sued-Badillo (“Files” section in Canvas). Continue reading *Fifth Sun*. You will need to have pages 13-58 read by September 14 when your first reading journal entry will be due.

--Prompt for the First Discussion will be posted to Canvas no later than 8:00 AM on Sunday, September 5.

--Prompt for the First Reading Journal Entry on *Fifth Sun* will be posted no later than 8:00 AM on Tuesday, September 7.

Due: First Discussion/Reflection Piece on *From Tainos to Africans in the Caribbean* (“Files” section in Canvas) is due on Canvas by 5:00 PM, Wednesday, September 8, by 5:00 PM. Bring a hard copy of your submission to class for the discussion on Thursday, September 9.

Week 5 (September 14, 16):

Lecture Topics: Mesoamerican Chronology.

Readings: Continue reading *Fifth Sun*. You will need to have pages 13-58 read by September 14 when your first reading journal entry will be due. In addition, you will need to have pages 59-106 read by October 5 when your second reading journal entry is due.

Due: First Reading Journal Entry on *Fifth Sun* is due on Canvas by 11:59 PM on Tuesday, September 14.

Week 6 (September 21, 23):

Lecture Topics: The Maya and the Olmecs.

Readings: Continue reading *Fifth Sun*. You will need to have pages 59-106 read by October 5 when your second reading journal entry is due.

Due: No graded assignments due.

--Prompt for the Second Reading Journal Entry on *Fifth Sun* will be posted no later than 8:00 AM on Tuesday, September 21.

Week 7 (September 28, 30):

Lecture Topics: Teotihuacan and the Aztecs.

Readings: Read *Conquistador y Pestilencia: World Pandemic and the Fall of the Great Indian Empires* ("Files" section in Canvas). Continue reading *Fifth Sun*. You will need to have pages 59-106 read by October 5 when your second reading journal entry is due. In addition, you will need to have pages 107-154 read by October 26 when you third reading journal entry is due.

--Prompt for the Second Reading Journal Entry on *Fifth Sun* will be posted no later than 8:00 AM on Tuesday, September 28.

--Prompt for the Second Discussion will be posted to Canvas no later than 8:00 AM on Sunday, September 26.

Due: Second Discussion/Reflection Piece on *Conquistador y Pestilencia: World Pandemic and the Fall of the Great Indian Empires* ("Files" section in Canvas) is due on Canvas by 5:00 PM, Wednesday, September 29. Bring a hard copy of your submission to class for the discussion on Thursday, September 30.

Week 8 (October 5, 7):

Lecture Topics: Introduction to Andean Civilizations. The Columbian Exchange and Disease.

Readings: Continue reading *Fifth Sun*. You will need to have pages 59-106 read by October 5, when your second reading journal entry is due. In addition, you will need to have pages 107-154 read by October 26 when you third reading journal entry is due.

Due: Due: Second Reading Journal Entry on *Fifth Sun* is due on Canvas by 11:59 PM on Tuesday, September 28.

Week 9 (October 12, 14):

NO CLASS ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 12—FALL BREAK

Lecture Topics: The Columbian Exchange and Disease (Con.)

Readings: Continue reading *Fifth Sun*. You will need to have pages 107-154 read by October 26 when your third reading journal entry is due. **Begin reading *Victors and Vanquished*. You will need to have completed *Victors and Vanquished* by Tuesday, November 4 when your paper on *Victors and Vanquished* is due.**

Due: No graded assignments due.

Week 10 (October 19, 21):

Lecture Topics: Norte Chico and Chavin.

Readings: Read *Negotiations of Conquest* (“Files” section in Canvas). Continue reading *Fifth Sun*. You will need to have pages 107-154 read by October 26 when your third reading journal entry is due. **Continue reading *Victors and Vanquished*. You will need to have completed *Victors and Vanquished* by Thursday, November 4 when your paper on *Victors and Vanquished* is due.**

--Prompt for the Third Discussion will be posted to Canvas no later than 8:00 AM on Monday, Sunday, October 17.

--Prompt for the Third Reading Journal Entry on *Fifth Sun* will be posted no later than 8:00 AM on Tuesday, October 19.

--Prompt for Paper—*Victors and Vanquished*—will be posted on Thursday, October 21, by 8:00 AM.

Due: Third Discussion/Reflection Piece on *Negotiations of Conquest* (“Files” section in Canvas) is due on Canvas by 5:00 PM, Wednesday, October 20, by 5:00 PM. Bring a hard copy of your submission to class for the discussion on Thursday, October 21.

Week 11 (October 26, 28):

Lecture Topics: The Moche, The Muisca, The Tiwanaku Empire.

Readings: Continue reading *Fifth Sun*. You will need to have pages 107-154 read by October 26 when your third reading journal entry is due. In addition, you will need to have pages 155-208 read by November 16 when your fourth reading journal entry is due. **Continue reading *Victors and Vanquished*. You will need to have completed *Victors and Vanquished* by Thursday, November 4 when your paper on *Victors and Vanquished* is due.**

Due: Third Reading Journal Entry on *Fifth Sun* is due on Canvas by 11:59 PM on Tuesday, October 26.

Week 12 (November 2, 4):

Lecture Topics: The Incas.

Readings: Continue reading *Fifth Sun*. You will need to have pages 155-208 read by November 16 when your fourth reading journal entry is due. **Finish reading *Victors and Vanquished*. Read [“The College Student Who Decoded the Date Hidden in Inca Knots”](#) to accompany the lectures this week.**

Due: Paper—*Victors and Vanquished*—Thursday, November 4, by 11:59 PM, on Canvas.

Week 13 (November 9, 11):

Lecture Topics: Indigenous Peoples of Brazil.

Readings: Read *The Naming of Haiti* (“Files” section in Canvas). Continue reading *Fifth Sun*. You will need to have pages 155-208 read by November 16 when your fourth reading journal entry is due. Read [Excerpts from the Journal of Christopher Columbus](#) to accompany lectures this week.

--Prompt for the Fourth Discussion will be posted to Canvas no later than 8:00 AM on Monday, Sunday, November 7.

--Prompt for the Fourth Reading Journal Entry on *Fifth Sun* will be posted no later than 8:00 AM on Tuesday, November 9.

Due: Fourth Discussion/Reflection Piece on *The Naming of Haiti* (“Files” section in Canvas) **is due on Canvas by 5:00 PM, Wednesday, November 10, by 5:00 PM.** Bring a hard copy of your submission to class for the **discussion on Thursday, November 11.**

Week 14 (November 16, 18):

Lecture Topics: Southwest Borderlands, Hohokam, Anasazi, and Pueblo Peoples. The Encomienda System.

Readings: Continue reading *Fifth Sun*. You will need to have pages 155-208 read by November 16 when your fourth reading journal entry is due.

Due: Fourth Reading Journal Entry on *Fifth Sun* is due on Canvas by 11:59 PM on Tuesday, November 16.

Week 15 (November 23, Thanksgiving):

Lecture Topics: Spanish Expeditions and Attempts. *New Dawn Rising* documentary.

Readings and Assignments: No readings or graded assignments this week.

Week 16 (November 30): Tuesday, November 30 will be a review day for the Final Exam. No readings and no assignments due this week.

--Prompt for the Final Exam will be posted on Tuesday, November 30, by 8:00 AM.

Final Exam is due on Canvas, Tuesday, December 7 by 11:59 PM.

COVID-19: Required UNCG syllabus language

Approved by Faculty Senate on July 29, 2021

As we return for fall 2021, the campus community must recognize and address continuing concerns about physical and emotional safety, especially as we will have many more students, faculty, and staff on campus than in the last academic year. As such, all students, faculty, and staff are required to uphold UNCG's culture of care by actively engaging in behaviors that limit the spread of COVID-19. Such actions include, but are not limited to, the following:

- [Following face-covering guidelines](#)
- Engaging in proper hand-washing hygiene when possible
- Self-monitoring for symptoms of COVID-19
- Staying home if you are ill
- Complying with directions from health care providers or public health officials to quarantine or isolate if ill or exposed to someone who is ill.

Instructors will have seating charts for their classes. These are important for facilitating contact tracing should there be a confirmed case of COVID-19. Students must sit in their assigned seats at every class meeting and must not move furniture. Students should not eat or drink during class time.

To make it easier for students to hear their instructor and/or read lips and if conditions permit, instructors who are fully vaccinated and who can maintain at least six feet of distance from students may remove their masks while actively teaching if they choose, but will wear a mask at all other times while in the classroom, including during the periods before and after class

A limited number of disposable masks will be available in classrooms for students who have forgotten theirs. Face coverings will also be available for purchase in the UNCG Campus Bookstore. Students who do not follow masking requirements will be asked to put on a face covering or leave the classroom to retrieve one and only return when they follow the basic requirements to uphold standards of safety and care for the UNCG community. Once students have a face covering, they are permitted to re-enter a class already in progress. Repeated issues may result in conduct action. The course policies regarding attendance and academics remain in effect for partial or full absence from class due to lack of adherence with face covering and other requirements.

For instances where the Office of Accessibility Resources and Services (OARS) has granted accommodations regarding wearing face coverings, students should contact their instructors to develop appropriate alternatives to class participation and/or activities as needed. Instructors or the student may also contact OARS (336.334.5440) who, in consultation with Student Health Services, will review requests for accommodations.