

History of the Americas (A005531)

Course size *(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)*

Credits 5.0

Study time 150 h

Course offerings in academic year 2024-2025

A (semester 2)

Dutch, English

Gent

Lecturers in academic year 2024-2025

Willems, Eva

LW03

lecturer-in-charge

Cottyn, Hanne

LW03

co-lecturer

Offered in the following programmes in 2024-2025

[Bachelor of Arts in History](#)

crdts 5

offering A

[Bachelor of Science in Political Science](#)

5

A

[Master of Arts in Global Studies](#)

5

A

[Master of Arts in Global Studies](#)

5

A

[Exchange Programme Global Studies and World Societies](#)

5

A

[Exchange Programme History](#)

5

A

[Exchange Programme in Political and Social Sciences](#)

5

A

[Elective Set History](#)

5

A

Teaching languages

English, Dutch

Keywords

Contemporary history, American continent, Latin America and the Caribbean, interregional and global history, postcolonial history, social and economic history, political history, cultural history.

Position of the course

This introductory course aims to familiarize students with historical processes in the American continent in the 19th and 20th centuries, with a central focus on socio-economic and political developments in Latin-America and the Caribbean. Exchange students may take up this course unit, for which no prior knowledge of Dutch is required.

Contents

The course starts with an overview of the main developments in the contemporary history of the American continent. This is followed by a series of thematic classes that provides a deeper discussion of a selection of topics related to the history of Latin America and its interactions with intra-continental and global developments. Topics will include but are not limited to: social movements; populism and authoritarianism; revolution and reform; armed conflict, peace and transitional justice; development models and extractivism; indigenous rights.

Initial competences

Sufficient knowledge of the English language to follow the classes, actively participate in class discussions, and understand the study materials (historical documents, academic literature, slides).

Final competences

1 To have basic knowledge of the most important geographical, political, socio-economic and cultural developments in the contemporary history of the

Americas.

- 2 To understand, situate and explain a number of key concepts related to the contemporary history of the Americas.
- 3 To apply insights into the contemporary history of the Americas to critically assess complex problems.
- 4 To formulate adequate research questions on topics related to the contemporary history of the Americas.
- 5 To present research results in a structured way, and in clear and academically correct language.

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is unrestricted: the student takes into consideration the conditions mentioned in 'Starting Competences'

Conditions for exam contract

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods

Extra information on the teaching methods

Lectures, seminars, group work, independent work

Study material

Type: Handbook

Name: A History of Modern Latin America 1800 to the present

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

Language : English

Author : Teresa A. Meade

Online Available : Yes

References

Course content-related study coaching

Appointment via email, Ufora.

Assessment moments

end-of-term and continuous assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the first examination period

Participation, Written assessment with open-ended questions, Assignment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the second examination period

Participation, Written assessment with open-ended questions, Assignment

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Participation, Written assessment with open-ended questions, Assignment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

examination during the second examination period is possible

Calculation of the examination mark

25% paper

75% written exam

Facilities for Working Students

1 Attendance in class is recommended

2 Possible rescheduling of the examination to a different time in the same academic year

3 Feedback can be given by email or videoconference

For more information concerning flexible learning: contact the monitoring service of the faculty of Arts and philosophy

