

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English language to follow the classes, actively participate in class discussions, and understand the study materials (historical documents, academic literature, slides).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

