

**HIST 4351—Mexico Since Independence**

**010—TTh 11:00-12:15 Academic Building, 233**

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**Dr. Allison D. Huntley**

**Email: [ahuntley@angelo.edu](mailto:ahuntley@angelo.edu)**

**Office Hours: M-F 10:00-10:50 (In-Person or Email).**

**Or, by appointment.**

**Office: Academic Building, 239 E**

**Course Description:**

This course is a survey of the history of Mexico since Independence. Of particular interest will be the War for Mexican Independence, nation-building, the Mexican Revolution, the Cold War, and Mexico in the twenty-first century. Throughout the course, students will consider the shape of the political, economic, social, and cultural frameworks throughout Mexican history and engage with the legacies of wars, laws, institutions, and traditions to understand the formation of Mexican nationalism and identity during the nineteenth, twentieth, and twenty-first centuries.

**Course Objectives:**

- A. To familiarize students with the broad historical narrative of Mexican history since 1810.
- B. To help students to improve notetaking methods to prepare them for success in future courses.
- C. To sharpen students' critical thinking and analytical reading abilities.
- D. To increase students' skills in oral and written communication.

**Required Text:**

No required text. Readings will be posted to Blackboard each week.

**Class Meeting Format:**

Classes will include class and group discussions on historical topics covering the week's key concepts as well as the assigned primary sources and/or secondary sources that were posted to Blackboard for the week. Students should **bring their notes and readings to every class**, be on time and attentive, and show a willingness to participate in discussion, all of which will count toward their final grades. Students should arrive for class with their assignments already completed.

For students who are unable to attend class, the instructor will record and post the lecture to Blackboard. Students who were unable to attend class will have an Alternative Assignment to complete that will count toward their in-class participation.

Schedule of course topics included at the end of the syllabus.

**Grade Breakdown:**

In-Class Participation/Alternative Assignment: 15%

Precis 1—15% **(Due to Blackboard September 24)**

Midterm Exam—20% **(Due to Blackboard October 5)**

Precis 2—15% **(Due to Blackboard October 22)**

Precis 3—15% **(Due to Blackboard November 23)**

Final Exam—20% **(Due to Blackboard December 7)**

**In-Class Participation/Alternative Assignment:**

Participation refers to active engagement in the class discussion of the readings as well as in group work. Just being in class will not suffice. Please be sure to look over the handout on participation that is included at the end of the syllabus.

Students who are unable to attend class will have an Alternative Assignment for each class meeting (posted to Blackboard each week) to complete that will count towards their in-class participation. Students do not need to call or send an email to the instructor regarding absences from class, they are permitted to do the Alternative Assignment without prior permission.

When attending class, keep in mind that students who arrive late for class (after roll call), will receive one-third of an absence. Students who are late for class, **MUST** make sure that the instructor recorded their attendance. Failure to do this may result in a tardy being counted as an absence.

Students who need to leave before the end of class should inform the instructor before class begins. Depending on how early a student needs to leave, it is up to the discretion of the instructor to decide if the student will need to complete the Alternative Assignment to get credit for Participation. The instructor

reserves the right to call roll at the end of class, and students who have left before the class ended without explanation will be marked as absent and required to complete the Alternative Assignment.

**Students must be present for at least 50% of a class period to receive credit for attendance. Otherwise, they will need to do the Alternative Assignment.**

Students may miss two (2) classes/Alternative Assignments before the midpoint of the semester (**October 6**) without penalty. They may miss another two (2) classes/Alternative Assignments after the midpoint of the semester (**October 6**) without penalty.

### **Precis Writing Assignments:**

Students will write three Precis Writing Assignments over the course of the semester. Each Precis Writing Assignment will consist of two precis for each writing assignment—one on an assigned secondary sources and one on an assigned primary sources from the Reading Assignments. Each precis should be a two-paragraph review of a source that addresses the argument and/or purpose of the source and its methodology (evidence, organization, etc.) as well as an assessment of the strengths and weaknesses of the source. For further guidance, see:

<https://writing.wisc.edu/handbook/assignments/nonfictionanalysis/>

### **Exams:**

Exams will be taken online through Blackboard. Exams will be based on Blackboard sources, lectures, and class discussions. Students will receive a study guide at least a week prior to the exam.

The Final Exam will not be cumulative.

**\*The rubric for written assignments is included at the end of the course syllabus.**

### **Communication:**

Students who need help for any reason should feel free to contact the instructor with any questions or difficulties. The instructor is available via email or in-person office hours. When emailing the instructor, students should include their course number (Ex. HIST 4351). They do not need to include their CIDs.

Office hours are times when the instructor is available to speak with students and/or answer emails. Unless otherwise indicated, the instructor will be in her office during the times listed under office hours. **Students do not need to make an appointment to come by during listed office hours.** Nevertheless, anyone planning to speak with the instructor during these times should arrive in enough time to address questions or concerns fully. Students who are unable to communicate during the listed times may set up an appointment.

### **Classroom Etiquette:**

Students should take notes and remain engaged during class. They are not permitted to use electronic devices to create video or audio recordings of class.

A respectful attitude is expected during class. Be considerate of one another's opinions and feelings when asking questions or making comments. Students have the right to disagree with others, but this should be done in a mature manner and without personal attacks.

Students must turn off cell phones and put them away in their bags, pockets, or under their chairs during class unless they are using them for the purposes of class work. Students need to remove headphones prior to roll call. The only electronics that students are allowed to use during class are laptops or tablets for the purposes of notetaking and reviewing assigned readings. The only applications or windows that students may use during class are document viewers for the assigned readings and word processors for purposes of notetaking. Students found to be using other applications or doing work for classes other than HIST 4351 during class may be asked to leave and/or lose the privilege of using electronics in class.

Distracting behavior during class will result in the loss of In-Class Participation points and may mean being asked to leave class. Students who arrive late for class, should come into class quickly and quietly. If arriving late, students should be mindful not to walk in front of anyone who is speaking. If a student needs to leave the room during class, they should do so quietly.

Students are not permitted to eat during class. They may bring water if they wish.

### **Makeup Work:**

For assignments submitted via Blackboard, students who turn in submissions after the deadline may lose up to 30% off the assignment grade. **Students should not submit any assignments to the instructor's email. Assignments will not be graded if submitted to the instructor's email.** If a drop box has already closed, students should contact the instructor about reopening the box.

If students need to miss class for any reason, they do not need to call or send an email to the instructor regarding absences. They can view the lecture and complete the Alternative Assignment in Blackboard for the days missed. Students may make an appointment for office hours if they wish to do so to discuss missed material.

Students are responsible for turning in assignments on time regardless of if they missed class for an excused reason such as university-sponsored activities, religious observances, or an SDS accommodation for COVID-19.

If they fall behind on Blackboard assignments for any reason, students should schedule a virtual or in-person meeting with the instructor as soon as possible.

### **Incomplete Grade Policy:**

It is policy that incomplete grades be reserved for student illness or personal misfortune. Please contact faculty if you have serious illness or a personal misfortune that would keep you from completing course work. Documentation may be required. See ASU Operating Policy 10.11 [Grading Procedures](#) for more information.

### **Accessibility and Accommodations:**

Students' learning experiences should be as accessible as possible. Below is a list of resources to help to make this classroom and ASU a more inclusive learning environment.

#### Tutoring Services and the Writing Center:

<https://www.angelo.edu/dept/freshman-college/academic-tutoring.php>

#### Disability Support Services:

ASU is committed to the principle that no qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs or activities of the university, or be subjected to discrimination by the university, as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments of 2008 (ADAAA) and subsequent legislation.

Student Disability Services is located in the Office of Student Affairs, and is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability. It is the student's responsibility to initiate such a request by contacting an employee of the Office of Student Affairs, in the Houston Harte University Center, Room 112, or contacting the department via email at [ADA@angelo.edu](mailto:ADA@angelo.edu). For more information about the application process and requirements, visit the Student Disability Services website at [www.angelo.edu/ADA](http://www.angelo.edu/ADA). The employee charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing accommodation requests is: **Ms. Dallas Swafford, Director of Student Disability Services (Phone: 325-942-2047; Email: [dallas.swafford@angelo.edu](mailto:dallas.swafford@angelo.edu))**.

Students who have reasonable accommodations, **must** meet with the instructor by appointment (virtual or in-person) to discuss accommodations and how course requirements and activities may impact the ability to participate fully. Please be aware that any accessible tables and chairs in this room should remain available for students who find that standard classroom seating is not adequate.

#### Title IX Statement:

The University prohibits discrimination based on sex, which includes pregnancy, and other types of Sexual Misconduct. Sexual Misconduct is a broad term encompassing all forms of gender-based harassment or discrimination and unwelcome behavior of a sexual nature. The term includes sexual harassment, nonconsensual sexual contact, nonconsensual sexual intercourse, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, stalking, public indecency, interpersonal violence (domestic violence or dating violence), sexual violence, and any other misconduct based on sex.

You are encouraged to report any incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Office of Title IX Compliance and the Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator, Michelle Miller, J.D. You may submit reports in the following manner:

[www.angelo.edu/incident-form](http://www.angelo.edu/incident-form)

Mayer Administration Building, Room 210  
325-942-2022 [michelle.miller@angelo.edu](mailto:michelle.miller@angelo.edu)

*Note, as a faculty member at Angelo State, I am a mandatory reporter and must report incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Title IX Coordinator. Should you wish to speak to someone in confidence about an issue, you may contact the University Counseling Center (325- 942-2371), the 24-Hour Crisis Helpline (325-486-6345), or the University Health Clinic (325-942- 2171).*

For more information about resources related to sexual misconduct, Title IX, or Angelo State's policy please visit: [www.angelo.edu/title-ix](http://www.angelo.edu/title-ix).

#### Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Days:

A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence. See ASU Operating Policy 10.19 Student Absence for [Observance of Religious Holy Day](#) for more information.

#### **Student Conduct Policies:**

##### Academic Integrity:

Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in all work. Any student found guilty of any form of dishonesty in academic work is subject of disciplinary action and possible expulsion from ASU.

The College of Science and Engineering adheres to the Statement of [Academic Integrity](#)

##### Copyright Policy

Students officially enrolled in this course should make only one printed copy of the given articles and/or chapters. You are expressly prohibited from distributing or reproducing any portion of course readings in printed or electronic form without written permission from the copyright holders or publishers.

##### History Department Statement on Plagiarism & Academic Honesty

Plagiarism is a serious topic covered in ASU's Academic Integrity policy in the Student Handbook. Plagiarism is utilizing someone else's writings, ideas, or works without providing due credit or proper citation. Plagiarism is literary theft. Quotation marks and, if instructed by me or in the assignment criteria, footnote/endnote citations should be utilized in order to note the source of a work or idea. If you are unsure about a citation, contact me with your question or visit this helpful website to avoid common plagiarism pitfalls. There is no excuse for plagiarism. It is your responsibility to plan your semester and time effectively to avoid putting yourself in a situation where you might turn to plagiarism. A digital plagiarism detection program (e.g. SafeAssign or

Turn-it-in) will be used to check your work. Be intentional about submitting original work, complete with proper citations.

Academic misconduct is not limited to plagiarism. Academic dishonesty might also include copying somebody else's work, submitting somebody else's work as your own, failing to cite sources, or signing another student into class. Although discussing your work with classmates may be helpful, you must also be aware of “unauthorized collaboration” as a form of academic misconduct.

The History Department’s policy is that violations of the academic honor code will result in a 0 on an assignment for the first offense and a 0 in the entire class for subsequent offenses. In-class forms of plagiarism, such as signing in for another student, will be considered on a case-by-case basis, and I reserve the right to fail violators from this course on their first violation in egregious cases of misconduct. All academic integrity violations will be referred to the Executive Director of Student Affairs, who may impose additional sanctions if warranted as outlined in the Code of Student Conduct. Once a student has been notified of an academic integrity allegation, the student may not drop the course until the academic integrity processes are complete. If a student drops or withdraws, the student will be reinstated to the course.

**General Policies Related to This Course:**

All students are required to follow the policies and procedures presented in these documents:

- [Angelo State University Student Handbook](#)
- [Angelo State University Catalog](#)

**The instructor reserves the right to change or alter this syllabus anytime during the semester and will notify students of any changes.**

## Participation Guidelines

### Mental Processes-

- + Draw Conclusions
  
- + Synthesize Information
  
- + Make Comparisons
  
- + Give Examples
  
- + Bring in Past Learning
  
- + Recognize Contradictions
  
- + State a Position

### Positive Behaviors:

- + Involving Others
  
- + “I” Messages (Ex: “I think”)
  
- + Acknowledge Others’ Comments
  
- + Questions for Clarification
  
- + Speaking Clearly
  
- + Active Listening
  
- + Cite Assigned Reading

### Negative Behaviors:

- Interrupting
  
- Repeating
  
- Introducing Unrelated Topics
  
- Dominating
  
- Personal Attacks
  
- Distracting Others
  
- Never Speaking
  
- Not Paying Attention
  
- Inappropriate Use of Electronics



**Rubric for Precis and Exam Written Responses:**

<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Exceeds Standards (100%)</b>	<b>Meets Standards (80%)</b>	<b>Approaching Standards (60%)</b>	<b>Below Standards (0%)</b>
<b>Response to Prompt or Topic.</b>	Student thoroughly responded to prompt and stayed on topic throughout written response.	Student adequately responded to most aspects of the prompt and generally remained on topic throughout written response.	Student did not adequately respond to most aspects of the prompt, and/or student focused on topics beyond the scope of the prompt.	Student did not respond to prompt in a deliberate way.
<b>Argument</b>	Student clearly and concisely stated argument as it related to the writing prompt. Argument for each paragraph in the first sentence (topic sentence).	Student has an argument, but has trouble articulating it as it relates to the prompt. Argument may be spread throughout the paragraph instead of in a single statement.	Student's argument difficult to identify. Argument only vaguely relates to the prompt.	Student is lacking an argument that discernably relates to the prompt.
<b>Evidence and Analysis.</b>	Student demonstrates critical thinking through use of evidence that connects to student's arguments as well as key concepts from the course readings and discussions.	Student has analysis of how most examples or evidence relate to claims made in the response. May lack balance between evidence and analysis.	Student does not include the evidence required to prove most claims.	Student fails to provide appropriate evidence or analysis.
<b>Citations</b>	Student appropriately cites all relevant materials according to the directions provided in the prompt. Student does not overly rely on direct quotations.	Student cites source for materials but may be missing citations or is overly reliant on direct quotations.	Student fails to incorporate appropriate citations as stated in the directions from the prompt. Or, citations are incorrect.	Student does not use any support from the course material or discussions.
<b>Style and mechanics</b>	Response is polished, well-organized, and free of spelling and grammar errors.	Response is organized and generally free of spelling and grammar errors.	Response contains some spelling/grammar errors and/or awkward word choice or sentence structure.	Response contains numerous spelling/grammar mistakes. Paper overall may be difficult for readers to follow
<b>General Evaluation</b>	Exceptionally well-done and demonstrates writing and analytical skills expected at the college level.	Overall a strong effort. Some mild-to-moderate issues with writing that need some work.	Some strong aspects but lacking many of the elements necessary for writing at the college level.	Needs to meet with the instructor.

## **Course Schedule**

### **Week 1: Introductions**

### **Week 2: New Spain on the Eve of Independence**

### **Week 3: Independence Struggles**

### **Week 4: The First Mexican Republic**

### **Week 5: The Age of Santa Anna**

Precis 1 Due to Blackboard: September 24 by 11:59pm

### **Week 6: La Reforma**

### **Week 7: Second French Intervention**

Midterm Due to Blackboard: October 5 by 11:59pm—Class will not meet.

### **Week 8: Liberal Reforms and Modernization**

### **Week 9: The Mexican Revolution**

Precis 2 Due to Blackboard: October 22 by 11:59pm

### **Week 10: “Institutionalizing” the Revolution**

### **Week 11: Reading Week**

HIST 4351 Will Not Meet.

### **Week 12: The Great Depression and World War II in Mexico**

### **Week 13: The Mexican Miracle**

**Week 14: Thanksgiving Break**

November 23—HIST 4351 will not meet.—Precis 3 due by 11:59pm

**Week 15: The End of the Miracle & Mexico in the Twenty-First Century**

**Final Exam:**

Final Exam due December 7 by 11:59pm