

**Course GA-17****WOMEN IN THE HISTORY OF AMERICA** (45 class hours)

Lecturer:

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Dra. Rocío Delibes Mateos ([rdelibes@us.es](mailto:rdelibes@us.es))**OBJECTIVES**

The aim of this Course is the study of the role of women during the different stages of the history of Latin America, using as a point of departure the Continent's indigenous cultures, already in existence prior to any European presence, and on through the colonial period into the first republican phase, until the twenty-first century is reached. Within this overarching timeline, the set objective, by means of a careful selection of topics, is to provide an overview of the circumstances and experiences of women in a range of spatial and temporal contexts, while analyzing their involvement in different social environments within a multiethnic and multicultural context such as that of Latin America. In this way, what is registered is an awareness of, as well as an appreciation of, the trajectory of such women as historical agents, thus counteracting both the subordinate position and the invisibility to which they have been condemned, not only on the part of hegemonic patriarchy, but also by historiography itself. Finally, the aim of this Course is to encourage a critical mind-set capable of extricating the role of Latin American women from a range of ethnic and cultural strata so as to advocate their contribution to History.

**METHODOLOGY**

The Course syllabus will be carried through as a result of the complementary interaction of theoretical and practical class sessions.

Theoretical segment: the explanatory presentation of the syllabus topics, backed up by a range of didactic material (Power Point, document-based sources, audiovisual sources, etc.)

Practical segment: commentaries on, and debates concerning, the sources to be read, the bibliography to be consulted, and the varied audiovisual material to be screened, in relation to the syllabus content.

**ASSESSMENT AND GRADING CRITERIA**

Two written examinations will be undertaken, based on the syllabus content of the Course.

**SYLLABUS****1. WOMEN'S HISTORY AND GENDER HISTORY**

The Rise of both Gender Studies and Women's Studies.

Sources and Methodology for the Study of Women.

**2. WOMEN IN PRE-HISPANIC AMERICA**

The Nuclear Areas: Mesoamerica (Mayas and Aztecs) and the Andean World (Incas).

The Marginal Cultural Areas of South America: the Orinoco-related and the Chaco-related Regions.

Female-Related Roles: in Politics, in Society, in the Economy, and in Religion.

**3. WOMEN AND THE EUROPEAN CONQUEST**

The Evisoning of Female Otherness: *The Chronicles of the Indies*.  
Indigenous Women and the Conquerors: the Case of 'La Malinche' during the Conquest of Tenochtitlan (Mexico).  
Indigenous Women in the Conquest and Contemporary Writing.

#### 4. THE COLONIAL PERIOD (16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> CENTURIES)

The Making of Multi-Ethnic Societies: White Women, Miscegenated Women, Indigenous Women, and Black-skinned Women.  
The Female World in the Period of Vice-regal Rule: Family, Society and Everyday Life.  
Women Writers: Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz.

#### 5. THE REPUBLICAN PERIOD: THE NEW NATIONS.

Women as Part of the Revolutionary Process in Latin America.  
Women and Independence. Their Role in the Building of New Nations.  
Female Education. Nineteenth-Century Women Writers.

#### 6. WOMEN OF THE 20<sup>th</sup> AND 21<sup>st</sup> CENTURIES

Women as Revolutionaries and Women in Politics  
Women Workers.  
Women from Other Worlds: Women Immigrants from Europe and the Middle East.  
Women and Culture: Artists and Writers.

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