

Lehman College
LEH-301
Fridays-1:00-3:30
Prof. Regina Joyce
Spring 2007

LEH 301. *Latin America: Violence and the Violent*

Texts:

Children of Cain. Tina Rosenberg
News of a Kidnapping- Gabriel Garcia Marquez
Killing Pablo-Mark Bowden

Supplementary texts:

War, Evil, and the End of History. Bernard-Henri Lévy
War as a Force That Gives Us Meaning. Chris Hedges
The Heart that Bleeds. Alma Guillermoprieto
Looking for History. Alma Guillermoprieto
Wretched of the Earth- Frantz Fanon
Harvest of Empire- Juan Gonzalez
Latin America: From Colonization to Globalization- Noam Chomsky

Course description:

This course will provide an overview into Latin American violence emphasizing the complexity of repression and rebellion in this region's history. Rosenberg in Children of Cain states "that one doesn't necessarily have to be pathological to do horrible things. but rather this belongs to the society." If society contains the answer, this course will consider a wide range of texts trying to not only understand the origins of violence in Latin America but also the point where global history enters into this equation. Themes of postcolonial mindsets and behavioral patterns, reflecting current political and economic relationships, will emerge and the role of certain social movements will be examined.

Schedule of Classes:

Fridays

February

2/2-Overview of course: Why Cain and Abel? Handouts

2/8-*"Sicario"*-film

2/16- Harvest of Empire- Juan Gonzalez-"Conquerors and Victims: The Image of America Forms (1500-1800) and The Wretched of the Earth- Franz Fanon

2/23-*"City of God"*-film

March

3/2-“Colombia and the *Quijote* Complex”-Rosenberg- *Chap. 1*“The Headaches of Carlos Castaño”-Bernard-Henri Lévy.

3/9.-“*Maria Full of Grace*”-film

3/16- “Bogota 1989”, “Medellin 1991” and “Bogota 1993”-Guillermoprieto/“Power and Knowledge”-Michel Foucault

3/23- Discussion and presentations on The Killing Of Pablo by Mark Bowden

3/30- “ *The Official Story*”-film

April

4/13 Where did all the children go?- Argentina -Rosenberg *Chap. 2*, “The Plague of Nationalism”- Chap. 2- Chris Hedges - The Myth of War” and “War: Realities and Myths”

4/20-Chap. 3- Rosenberg , Peru and Guerillas; “Lima 1993” Guillermoprieto; *Chap.4* Rosenberg -“The Laboratory”

4/27/Nicaragua-The Sandinistas –“The Triumph” Rosenberg *Chap. 5*; Gioconda Belli- “Sex, Lies, and Revolution”/Chile and Pinochet- Rosenberg *Chap. 6*

May

5/4- “*The House of the Spirits*”-film

5/11-Oral and Written presentations on News of a Kidnapping by Gabriel Garcia Marquez

Grade Determination:

The final grade for this LEH course will be calculated using the following formula:

20%- attendance and participation in class

50%- 5 reaction essays (2 pages each) corresponding to the films viewed in class

20%-individual presentation on News of a Kidnapping and corresponding essay (3-5 pages)

10%- group presentation on Killing Pablo.