Brazil 1800-Present (Michael L. Conniff, Spring 1994)

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History 551        BRAZIL 1800-PRESENT        Professor Conniff
M-F 9 am            SPRING 1994              HC 7024, X 6768
HC 2312                      off. hrs. MWF 10


"Brazil from 1800 to the present" will introduce students to the recent history of this major South American nation. At the time of its separation from Portugal, Brazil stood on the threshold of tremendous economic development, with a per capita income close to that of the United States. The dream of growth was frustrated for the rest of the nineteenth century, for Brazil fell behind the industrializing nations of the North Atlantic. Since the early 1900s Brazil began to catch up economically and underwent political and social modernization as well. Today Brazil is poised between the Third and First Worlds, a country on the make with a dynamic economy and society and a political system on the mend after two decades of military rule. This course charts Brazil's development over the past 190-odd years.

Lectures (laced with discussions, slides, and videos on Tuesdays and Thursdays) will follow a roughly chronological order. This will establish a framework for understanding topical and other approaches in the readings.

The overall grade will be based upon a midterm, a final, and a term paper, weighted respectively 30%, 35%, and 35%. Exams will be drawn equally from lectures and readings. Please come and see me at any time if you have questions about grades.

The term paper should be your original composition on a major theme in Brazilian history. I expect papers to be typewritten double-spaced and to follow a standard format such as presented in the style guides available.

If you word-process your paper, please put notes at the bottoms of pages; otherwise endnotes are acceptable. Please see me about topics and bibliography early in the term. Undergrads should aim for 12-page papers, graduate students about 20 pages. Grad students should try to include some primary and/or Portuguese sources.

Dates Topic Readings
Mar. 28 INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW
29 The Court in Rio Burns thru ch. 2
30 Geography of Brazil
31 The Rise of Coffee

Apr. 1 Free to develop paper topics
4 Decline of Pedro I
5 Regency
6 Second Empire Burns 4
7 Pedro II
8 Coffee is King
11 Abolition
12 Army Takes Over Burns 5
13 1890s
14 Federalism
15 Coffee Modern Brazil, Holloway
18 Industry
19 Locomotive
20 Heartland Modern Brazil, Topik
21 Usina Velha Modern Brazil, Pang
22 Race Relations Modern Brazil, Adamo
25 Urbanization
26 Troubled 1920s Modern Brazil, Love
27 MIDTERM EXAM
28 Getulio's Revolution Modern Brazil, Conniff
29 Estado Novo Burns 6

May 2 Democratic Republic
3 Fifty Years in Five Burns 7
4 Jan-Jan
5 Origins of the Coup Modern Brazil, McCann
6 Castello Branco Burns 8
9 Military Technocracies Modern Brazil, Levine
10 Rise of the Hard Line
11 Costa e Silva
12 O Milagre Modern Brazil, Diniz
13 Climax of Violence
16 Medici
17 Soccer and Spooks
18 Voting against the Generals Modern Brazil, Straubhaar
19 Geisel
20 Oiling Up the Works
23 Abertura
24 New Diplomatic Directions PAPERS DUE
25 Figueiredo
26 Facing down the Generals
27 New Republic Burns 9
30 From Sarney to Collor Mod Brazil, Hall/Garcia
31 Itamar Franco Modern Brazil, Sturm
June 4 9-11:30 am FINAL EXAM

Information provider:
Unit: H-Net program at UIC History Department Email: H-Net@uicvm.uic.edu
Posted: 7 Aug 1994