

# NEW CLASS FOR FALL 2015

## CM SPAN 158: Revolutions and Revolutionary Thinking in Latin America

Prof. Lee Skinner (lskinner@cmc.edu)  
MW 1:15-2:30

The Wars of Independence. The Mexican Revolution. Cuba. Nicaragua. Chile. Venezuela. Bolivia. El Salvador. Spanish America's culture and history have been marked by periods of violent upheaval and political tumult.



How do people understand, communicate, and make sense of violent conflict, social transformation, and cultural change? This class looks at literary texts and non-fiction essays, as well as music, visual art and film, to study some of the key moments of revolutions and revolutionary thinking in Latin America from 1810 to the present. We'll discuss civil war, armed insurrection, social movements, youth protests, and more, and

analyze the ways in which cultural texts of all kinds represent revolution and social change. We'll critically examine the roles of different socioeconomic classes, gender, race and ethnicity in these processes.

This is a seminar-style class designed for upper-level students with strong reading skills in Spanish.



Requirements:

- 100-200 pages of reading per week, mostly in Spanish (novels, short stories, essays, and poetry), with some contextual materials in English
- Active class participation and frequent brief homework assignments
- A web-based project using the wiki feature in Sakai
- Two short papers (4-5 pp)
- One long research paper (12-15 pp) /final project (creative option possible)
- Midterm and final exams

