History

HIST 205  **LatAm Hist: Primary Accounts**  credit: 3 hours.
Examining the history through the primary texts written by Latin Americans, this course introduces students to theories, contents and methods of historical inquiry, as well as the nuances and the complexities of Latin American history. Reading primary texts written by all strata of society, students will look through the eyes of the diverse populations in Latin America. Students will analyze the traditional narrative of Latin America and gain insight into the lived experience of Latin Americans. Together we will advance our individual and collective understanding of Latin America's rich and complex past.

This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for a:
Humanities – Hist & Phil
Cultural Studies - Non-West

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Humanities - Hist & Phil, and Cultural Studies - Non-West course.
Title: Latin American History: Primary Accounts about the Incan Empire Topic: The Incan Empire has been celebrated as one of the greatest Empires in pre-modern times. Their engineering feats, their careful use of natural resources, their monumental architecture, their political ingenuity, economic far-sightedness, and military prowess are all hailed as some of the greatest cultural and political achievements of South American cultures. To this day Inca history is a source of "pride" among South American people. Yet much that has been written about the Incas is legendary. The Incan knotted strings that served as their script have not yet been deciphered. This course dives into the primary texts written in the Andes after the "fall of the Incan Empire." It asks how these texts interpreted the Incas within their respective socio-political contexts. These texts help us explore the complex socio-political, economic, and religious spheres of the Incan empire. In order to assess Incan achievements from a modern scientific perspective we will also consult scientific studies by engineers, architects, astronomers, art-historians, and historians who all try to solve the many riddles that surround the Incan Empire to this day.