

I propose to redesign my upper-division survey, *History 242: U.S.-Latin American Relations*, at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. The 90-student course offers a survey of inter-American relations from the early 19th century to the early 21st century. In its current form, the course offers cursory coverage of major themes and episodes in US-Latin American relations, with one day of content on the Spanish-American War. The redesigned course will offer a more probing analysis of the Cuban diaspora during, and U.S. involvement in, the struggle for Cuban independence and the war with Spain. The redesigned course will feature two full weeks of lectures, readings, and activities, broken into three separate modules. These modules will empower students to take a deep dive into the topic and unpack the intricacies of Cuban-American relations from multiple perspectives.

Module 1 will examine Cuban migration to Key West, Tampa, and New York City during and following Cuba's Ten Years War (1868-1878). Lectures will explore how the cigar industry became both a vehicle for transnational travel, commerce, and cultural exchange as well as an incubator for revolutionary activism. Here, students will view original photographs of cigar factories in Ybor City and West Tampa and listen to oral history interviews of former factory workers from the University of South Florida Special Collections. Lectures and activities will focus on the role of Afrocubans, women, and *lectores* as agents of political change.

Module 2 will explore the life and times of Cuban independence leader José Martí. This module will serve as a bridge between Module 1's focus on Cuban migrants and Module 3's focus on the Spanish-American War. Lectures will use Martí as a lens for understanding the Cuban migrant experience in the U.S., focusing on the intellectual's travels to New York, Key West, and Tampa, culminating in his ill-fated intervention in the war for independence from Spain. Students will read and discuss *Nuestra America* and other key Martí writings and discuss his views on race, gender, and nationhood.

Module 3 will take an in-depth look at the Spanish-American War, examining the role that U.S. intervention and American racial and cultural attitudes played in altering the outcome of Cuban independence. Students will analyze and discuss an 1898 pulp fiction magazine issue about the Rough Riders (USF Special Collections), review the papers of a fallen U.S. volunteer (USF Special Collections), interpret political cartoons in Louis A. Pérez's *Cuba in the American Imagination*, and examine original photographs of American volunteers stationed in Tampa, Florida.

At the end of the three-week session, students should have a better understanding of the dialectic nature of Cuban independence, and of the cultural, racial, and gendered attitudes that shaped U.S.-Cuban Relations. This critical engagement with the content and material will enable students to make important connections

between the legacies of 1895 and the Cuban Revolution of 1959, discussed later in the course.

References

Module 1: The Cuban Diaspora

References

Pérez, Lisandro. *Sugar, Cigars, and Revolution: The Making of Cuban New York*. New York: New York University Press, 2018.

Pérez, Jr., Louis A. *Cuba: Between Reform and Revolution*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2011.

----- "Cubans in Tampa: From Exiles to Immigrants, 1892-1901," *The Florida Historical Quarterly* 57:2 (Oct., 1978): 129-140.

Poyo, Gerald E. *Exile and Revolution: José D. Poyo, Key West, and Cuban Independence*. Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 2014.

Assigned Primary Sources

Jones, Herbert, Interview of Juan García, University of South Florida Libraries Oral History Program, 1978.

Mormino, Gary, Interview of Armando López, University of South Florida Libraries Oral History Program, 1980.

Mormino, Gary, Interview of César Marcos Medina, University of South Florida Libraries Oral History Program, 1984.

Mormino, Gary, Interview of José Vega Díaz, University of South Florida Libraries Oral History Program, 1980.

Mormino, Gary, Interview of Mary Fontanills, University of South Florida Libraries Oral

History Program, 1983.

Mormino, Gary, Interview of Wilfredo Rodríguez, University of South Florida
Libraries Oral
History Program, 1984.

Various Cigar Factory Photographs, University of South Florida Special Collections,
1880-1930.

Module 2: José Martí and Cuban Independence

References

Fountain, Anne. *José Martí, the United States, and Race*. Gainesville: The
University Press of
Florida, 2014.

Pérez, Jr., Louis A. *Cuba: Between Reform and Revolution*. Oxford: Oxford
University Press,
2011.

Tone, John Lawrence. *War and Genocide in Cuba, 1895-1898*. Chapel Hill:
University of North
Carolina Press, 2006.

Assigned Primary Sources

Martí, José. *Selected Writings*. Edited and translated by Esther Allen. New York:
Penguin, 2002.

Module 3: The Spanish-American War

References for Lectures

Pérez, Jr., Louis A. *Cuba: Between Reform and Revolution*. Oxford: Oxford
University Press,
2011.

----- *Cuba in the American Imagination: Metaphor and the Imperial Ethos*. Chapel
Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2008.

Trask, David F. *The War with Spain in 1898* (New York: Collier Macmillan
Publishers, 1981).

Assigned Primary Sources

Henry A. Dobson Papers, Box 1, University of South Florida Special Collections, 1898.

Roosevelt, Theodore. *The Rough Riders*. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1899.

"Yankee Doodle with the Rough Riders; Or Hot Work in Cuba," *Yankee Doodle: Stories of the*

Present War 7 (3 August 1898). University of South Florida Special Collections.

Wehman Collection of Spanish-American War Photographs, Box 1, 1898, University of South Florida Special Collections.