NOVA COLLEGE-WIDE COURSE CONTENT SUMMARY
HIS 231-232 - HISTORY OF LATIN AMERICAN CIVILIZATIONS I – II (3 CR.) (3 CR.)

Course Description
Examines Latin American civilizations from pre-Columbian origins to the present. Preferable, but not mandatory, that courses be taken sequentially. Lecture 3 hours per week.

General Course Purpose
Provide students with a basic understanding of the region’s history and culture as well as an appreciation of the problems that shaped this region’s historical development.

Course Prerequisites/Co-requisites
No prerequisites. Ability to use English language correctly and effectively at the college-entry level is expected.

Course Objectives - HIS 231
Upon successful completion of this course students will be able to:

- Describe similarities and differences among Latin American nations
- Identify the contributions of the indigenous people, those of African descent and those of European descent to the history and culture of Latin America
- Identify the legacy of colonial institutions, such as the Church, forced labor and the role of the State
- Apply knowledge of Latin American history as part of a non-Western degree requirement or for personal knowledge of the region

Major Topics to be Covered – HIS 231

a. Iberian background
b. Land and peoples of ancient America
c. Discovery and conquest of the New World
d. Spanish colonial government
e. Religion, society and culture
f. Population and labor
g. Economic development
h. African heritage
i. Comparing Brazil and Spanish-America
j. The Enlightenment in Latin America
k. Backgrounds of independence
l. Independence Movements in Latin America
Course Objectives - HIS 232

Upon successful completion of this course students will be able to:

- Describe similarities and differences among Latin American nations
- Analyze the conditions that led to modern revolutions in the region and the outcomes of those revolutions
- Compare the role of the military in various Latin American nations
- Discuss the relationship between the United States and Latin America
- Apply knowledge of Latin American history as part of a non-Western degree requirement or for personal knowledge of the region

Major Topics to be Covered – HIS 232

a. Problems of the newly independent states
b. Mexico and Central America in the 19th century
c. South America in the 19th century
d. Brazilian empire
e. Mexico and its revolution
f. Cuba and its Revolution
g. Contemporary Brazil
h. Argentina and Chile
i. Andean nations
j. Latin America and the United States
k. Contemporary issues in Latin America