LATIN AMERICAN CIVILIZATION AND CULTURE

General Description

This subject aims to cover the basic elements which constitute Latin-American culture. It tackles the questions which today form models for understanding the contemporary reality of Latin-America. The fundamental aim is to gain a perspective on the complex reality of nations which are the result of a laborious process of culturalization.

Content

1. The Latin American geographical environment.
2. Racial distribution and historical evolution.
3. The demographic boom and its problems.
4. Family structure and daily life.
5. Social groups and their behaviour.
6. Present-day political and ideological trends.
7. Dependence and sub-development.
8. The national debt.
9. The cultural world.

Activities

a- After a theoretical explanation of the topics, students will be given text and audiovisual material to gain a better understanding of what was explained.
b- After the practical exercises, students will draw up a questionnaire in class for a feedback session on the content of each topic.
c- Students will write three short reflexive essays on any of the topics that have been viewed in the texts or audiovisual material throughout the course. The deadline for handing in these essays is the day of the final exam.

Assessment

Attention and participation make up 20%. Presentation of short essays will make up another 30%.

There will be two exams exempting subject matter. One halfway through the course and the other one at the end. Together they will account for 50% of the final grade.

Bibliography

Given the course content, the teacher will propose appropriate study material for each topic: selected texts, newspapers and magazines, audio-visual material, etc.