

UNC-CH History Graduate Seminar in Latin American History
Spring 2012

HISTORY 713: Introductory Colloquium to Latin America Before 1810

Course description: In order to meet the needs of students entering the graduate program in Latin American history as well as those who are in progress toward completion of their comprehensive exams I propose to organize this course as a guide to the historiography around the interrelated themes of “Space, Territoriality, and the Creation of Regions in Colonial Ibero-America.” Course readings will challenge us to rethink physical spaces and material landscapes as well as the figured imperial spaces produced through cartography, imagery, and colonial texts. Our collective readings and discussions will bring together relevant bibliography on the central or core provinces of Spanish America, the borderlands, and Portuguese America. We will explore published research and theoretical or interpretative readings from history, geography and anthropology, combining books and journal articles. The time period will center on the mature colonial period, including the spatial implications of the Spanish Enlightenment in the American colonies.

Some of the authors we will read include: Jorge Cañizares-Esguerra, Alida Metcalf, Arturo Escobar, Lauren Benton, Hal Langfur, Yanna Yannakakis, David J. Weber, and Frank Salomon. Students will also have assignments that allow them to explore primary sources in the UNC-CH Flatow Collection, Duke Library Special Collections, or other on-line digital repositories.