

AP/HIST 3733 3.0 "The Spanish Conquest of Mexico"  
Fall 2020

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### Course Calendar Description

This course examines the Spanish conquest of Mexico using translated historical documents, and analyzes changing understandings of what was involved in the European invasion of the Americas.

### Expanded Description

The Spanish invasion of the Aztec Empire in 1519 is one of the most dramatic events in world history, and one that had profound consequences for the Americas and the world as a whole. It has long been imagined as a spectacular feat in which a few hundred Europeans swiftly subjugated millions of indigenous people, but historians no longer accept this portrayal of what happened.

This course examines who the opposing sides were (with special attention to the Aztecs) and what sort of conquest was achieved by the Spanish. As well as discussing how the participants and their immediate descendants narrated the conquest, we will see how and why the interpretations of modern historians have changed profoundly, and continue to change.

### Method of Delivery

There will be no in-person interactions or activities on campus. Some components may be pre-recorded and posted on Moodle, but some real-time learning activities will take place at the scheduled course time (Tuesday 2:30-5:30).

### TENTATIVE Grade Breakdown

Participation (includes online reading log): 20%  
Quizzes: 10%  
Reading responses/primary source analyses: 40%  
Take-home exam: 30%