

FORMATO DE PROGRAMA DE THE COLOMBIAN PACIFIC REGION: HISTORY AND CULTURE

History of Armed Conflict in Colombia

1. IDENTIFICATION:

NAME:	History of Armed Conflict in Colombia		CODE:		
COLLEGE / DEPARTMENT:	College of Human Sciences		AVAILABLE TO:	CET Students	
CARÁCTER DE LA ASIGNATURA:	Elective		CREDITS:	3	
VALIDABLE:	SÍ	NO	HOMOLOGABLE:	SÍ	NO
		X			X
HABILITABLE:		X			
PRE-REQUIREMENTS:	None				

2. PRESENTATION:

This course provides an in-depth exploration of the history of armed conflict in Colombia, focusing on its origins, evolution, and impacts on Colombian society. Through a multidisciplinary approach, students will analyze the complex interplay of political, social, economic, and cultural factors that have contributed to the persistence of conflict. Special attention will be given to understanding the diverse experiences of various stakeholders involved in the conflict, including guerrilla groups, paramilitary forces, government actors, and civilian populations. By critically analyzing key events, strategies, and peace processes, students will gain a comprehensive understanding of the complexities surrounding armed conflict in Colombia.

3. COMPETENCES:

- Applying critical thinking skills to the practice of active and democratic citizenship within contexts of diversity, pluralism, and interculturalism.
- Creating digital contexts with a critical sense, to exchange and transform them within global contexts.

4. LEARNING OUTCOMES:

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- Demonstrate a nuanced understanding of the historical context and root causes of armed conflict in Colombia.
- Evaluate the impact of armed conflict on Colombian society, including its effects on political structures, human rights, and cultural identity.

5. CONTENTS:

UNIT 1. Historical Context and Root Causes

Unit 1 provides students with an overview of Colombian history leading up to the emergence of armed conflict. It seeks to enable students to analyze socio-political factors contributing to conflict, including land distribution, inequality, and political violence, which includes a critical examination of the role of drug trafficking and illicit economies in fueling conflict.

Week 1-2: Introduction to Colombian History and Conflict

- Overview of Colombian history and historical context leading to armed conflict
- Introduction to key concepts and theories related to armed conflict studies.

Week 3-5: Root Causes of Conflict

- Analysis of socio-political and economic factors contributing to conflict
- Discussion of the role of drug trafficking and illicit economies

UNIT 2. Actors and Strategies

Unit 2 explores the responsibilities of key actors in the conflict, including guerrilla groups, paramilitary forces, and state actors. Students will be able to analyze strategies employed by different actors, such as insurgency, counterinsurgency, and state repression, focusing on case studies highlighting significant events and confrontations during the conflict.

Week 6-8: Actors and Strategies

- Examination of key actors in the conflict and their motivations
- Analysis of military strategies and tactics employed by different actors.

Week 9-11: Impact of Conflict on Society

- Evaluation of the social, political, and economic impacts of armed conflict
- Exploration of human rights abuses and violence against marginalized communities

UNIT 3. Peace Processes and Post-Conflict Challenges

Unit 3 offers students the possibility to study peace negotiations and agreements throughout the conflict's history. Throughout an in-depth evaluation of the successes and failures of peace processes, including the

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2016 peace agreement with the FARC guerrilla group. This will be the opportunity to examine post-conflict challenges, including transitional justice, disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration efforts—also, a short focus on social movements as peacebuilders.

Week 12-14: Peace Processes and Negotiations

- Study of peace negotiations and agreements throughout Colombian history
- Evaluation of the challenges and opportunities for peacebuilding and reconciliation

Week 15-16: Post-Conflict Challenges and Future Prospects

- Discussion of post-conflict challenges, including transitional justice and reconciliation efforts
- Social movements and prospects for peace and stability in Colombia.

6. METHODOLOGY:

This is an in-person class. Students are expected to attend every session and prepare their readings beforehand. They are also expected to participate in class discussions actively. The course draws on active and participatory pedagogies, which implies that the professor will only be a guide and a moderator.

Regular class sessions involve a series of pedagogical tools and strategies including discussions and debates, in-class workshops, online questionnaires, interactive digital resources, collaborative documents, and audio and video pieces. In-class assignments will be graded and will account for 25% of the final grade. In addition, there will be guest speakers and activities outside the room to complement the theoretical discussions.

Students will have to turn in three major assignments. Each assignment represents 25% of the final grade. Due dates are indicated above.

7. ASSESSMENT:

Activity	% of final grade	Units	Due dates
In-class assignments	25	1 -	Throughout the semester
Assignment 1	25	1	Week 1-5
Assignment 2	25	2	Week 6-10
Assignment 3	25	3	Week 11-16

- Weekly readings and discussion participation.
- Midterm examination.
- Research paper on a chosen aspect of the Colombian armed conflict.

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- Final presentation or project reflecting on lessons learned and future directions for peacebuilding efforts in Colombia.

8. BIBLIOGRAPHY:

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Centro nacional de Memoria Histórica: <https://centrodememoriahistorica.gov.co/>

Jurisdicción Especial para la paz: <https://www.jep.gov.co/Paginas/Inicio.aspx>

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