

Course Title (English)	Mexican Religious Studies
Academic Institution	University of Oaxaca (UABJO)
City	Oaxaca
Country	Mexico
Course Title (Spanish)	Estudios Religiosos Mexicanos
Course Number	SP-HIS 370
Sessions (Terms)	Year Round
Instructional Language	Spanish
Contact Hours	45
Credits (semester credits)	3
Credits (quarter units)	4.5
Prerequisites	Advanced Spanish I
Track	Electives

Course Objectives

General objective: That the students learn the different religious manifestations that have developed in Mexico, from pre-Hispanic times to the present, as well as the cosmogonic thought that supported them, in addition to the processes of syncretism and adaptation that such manifestations have undergone.

Specific objectives:

- Students will learn about the manifestations of pre-Hispanic religiosity, the cosmogony that supported them, as well as the religious thought, rituals, and traditions of the time.
- Students will identify the introduction of Catholicism in Mexico, as well as its characteristics, manifestations, strategies and adaptations during the conquest and the colonial period
- Students will identify the role of the Catholic Church in the process of Mexican independence, as well as the Church-State relationship during the period of consolidation of Mexico as an independent country.
- Students will identify the conflicts and relations of the Catholic Church with the State during contemporary Mexico.
- The course will analyze the role of other religious manifestations in the transformation of contemporary Mexican social dynamics.
- Students will learn about the contemporary manifestations of popular

religiosity and religious syncretism in Mexico.

Course Content

I. Religiosity in pre-Hispanic Mexico

1.1 Teotihuacan

Where men become gods: the origin of the new sun and the cosmogonic architecture of Teotihuacán.

1.2 Tula

Tula, the mirror city of the sky; Quetzalcóatl, the man-god; Quetzalcóatl, Tezcatlipoca and the fall of Tula.

1.3 Tenochtitlan

The Nahuatl image of the universe; Religion and thought among the Aztecs; The Man-God: Quetzalcóatl in Nahuatl religiosity; Calpulli: the priesthood among the Nahuas; The religious songs of the ancient Mexicans.

II. The other conquest: religious syncretism in New Spain

2.1 Between idolatry, superstition and idolatry

The indigenous religion as idolatry; The strategies and actions of the Catholic Church for the conversion of the indigenous peoples of New Spain

2.2 Indigenous religiosity

Responses of indigenous communities to evangelization and the new indigenous religiosity

2.3 The Catholic Church and Catholic religiosity in New Spain

The concept of heaven, purgatory and hell during the viceroyalty; the representations and apparitions of the heavenly and the demonic in New Spain.

III. Religion and independence

3.1. The insurgent priests

Miguel Hidalgo and José María Morelos and popular religiosity during the beginning and development of the Independence of Mexico

3.2. The official position of the Church of New Spain before the Independence

The degradation and excommunication trials of Miguel Hidalgo and José María Morelos

3.3 The Church of New Spain before the Consummation of Independence

The Plot of the Professed: the role of the Church in the last stage of the struggle for Independence.

3.4 Church-state relations in independent Mexico

The Church in the sociopolitical conflicts of independent Mexico; The War of Reform and the Church-State separation.

IV. Church-State Relations in Contemporary Mexico

4.1 The Mexican Church during the Porfiriato and the revolutionary period

4.2 The Cristero War

4.3 The "dirty war", the guerrilla struggles and the emergence of "Liberation Theology" in Mexico

4.4 Resumption of relations with the Vatican during the Salinato.

V. New religious manifestations and contemporary Mexican popular religiosity

5.1 Social and cultural transformations from the new religious manifestations in Mexico

5.2 New Idolatries?

Guadalupanismo, San Judas Tadeo, Jesús Malverde, Santo Niño Fidencio, and La santa muerte

5.3 Religious syncretism

Modern rituals

Bibliography

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- Lara Cisneros, Gerardo (Coord.). La idolatría de los indios y la extirpación de los españoles: Religiones nativas y régimen colonial en Hispanoamérica. Instituto de Investigaciones Históricas-UNAM, México, 2016.
- León-Portilla, Miguel. De Teotihuacán a los Aztecas. Antología de fuentes e interpretaciones históricas. Instituto de Investigaciones históricas-UNAM, México, 1977.
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- O'Gorman, Edmundo. Destierro de sombras: luz en el origen de la imagen y culto de nuestra señora de Guadalupe de Tepeyac. Instituto de

Investigaciones Históricas-UNAM, México, 2016.

- Pastrana Flores, Miguel. Entre los hombres y los dioses Acercamiento al sacerdocio de calpulli entre los antiguos nahuas. Instituto de Investigaciones Históricas-UNAM, México, 2008.
- Seler, Eduard (Ed.). Los cantos religiosos de los antiguos mexicanos. Instituto de Investigaciones Históricas-UNAM, México, 2016.
- Velázquez, Primo Feliciano (trad.). Códice Chimalpopoca: Anales de Cuauhtitlán y Leyenda de los Soles. Investigaciones Históricas-UNAM, México, 1992.
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