

Reading Quiz 0.1 - INTD290

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1 How to Submit this Assignment

Once you answer the questions, take a picture of your work and convert it to a PDF. Submit the PDF to the assignment link on Moodle.

2 Introduction - The Latin American Scientific Theater (Juan José Saldaña)

1. The author begins by describing different methods of historical analysis as applied to Latin America, and in particular scientific development there. What is the author's conclusion about the social history of Latin America with respect to science?
The author concludes that the social history of science helps understand the different social groups that helped develop concepts and theories. Many people don't realize the importance of science in Latin American history and how with social and culture life of Latin America make up important events in the history. Latin American science is linked and contributed to original scientific achievements which makes it makes it important to study the culture and identity of the region.
2. What is an example of the failure of economic explanations for the development of science given by the author?
Many economic explanations for development of science in Latin America failed because it was hard to prove. Sánchez and Gortari discuss the economy's direct effect on developing science. It is difficult to prove economic explanation therefore many people concluded that science was connected to religion in colonial Latin America.
3. What is the function of La Sociedad Latinoamericana de Historia de las Ciencias y Tecnología, when was it founded, and what does it publish? It was founded in the City of Puebla, Mexico in 1982 and it helped bring attention to history of science in Latin America. It also help expand the field of historians researching impact of science and helped make the discipline more professional.
4. What does the concept of peripheral science, versus central science have to do with Latin America and Europe? What are some examples the author gives in which Latin America was central?
When categorizing science the concept of "peripheral science" refers to science produced in countries with small structured scientific community. But there are also examples where Latin American science is described as central compared to European science. Such as Mexican herbalism and New Granadan botany are examples of "central" science in Latin America.

3 Chapter 1 - Natural History and Herbal Medicine in Sixteenth-century America (Xavier Lozoya), part I

1. What does the author have to say about the two versions of the history of scientific thought in Latin America, with regard to the Enlightenment? When did Christopher Columbus land in the New World, and what was the origin of the word "Indian?" In the opinion of the author, what will be the future of indigenous history?
When the author explains the history of scientific thought in Latin America he states how Latin America like other parts of the world was present in development of "universal knowledge" which was a part of the Enlightenment. Christopher Columbus landed in 1492 where because of his confusion he thought he was in India so he called the indigenous people "Indians". He thinks the future of the history of indigenous people will work to dismantle misconceptions and tell the truth about the important contribution indigenous people had in current scientific knowledge.

2. From the viewpoint of the author, what seems to be the definition of the term "ethnohistory?" How is it connected to globalization? He believes in twenty-first century the world view of dominant cultures is shifting dramatically. In "ethnohistory" people can analyze with a different viewpoint the history of different people and cultures. This can then connect to globalization because people can examine learn about the scientific knowledge from indigenous cultures of Asia Africa, and American continents.
3. How was the reconquest of former Spanish territory held by Arabs from North Africa different from the conquest of Latin America with regard to preservation or censorship of knowledge? When they reconquest former territory held by Arabs the Spanish did not destroy all the Arabs informational and cultural sources. Where as when Spanish conquered Latin America they destroyed many of natives customs, knowledge, and traditions leaving oral transmission, one of the only natives could keep their culture alive.
4. Describe the origin of the myth of the Fountain of Youth. How did this tale arise in both Europe and Latin America? What does it tell you about how people interpret what they see and hear in a foreign land?

5. Upon hearing of the condors from indigenous people, European colonials thought the description matched which animal? Why?
When they heard about descriptions of griffins which turned out to be condors many assumed it was similar to a vulture or some kind of bird.

4. The legend of "Fountain of Youth" dates back to a description from King of Ethiopia in 1165 and many other legends. It was believed that the water from the river would return the youth to the old. When conquistadors would visit the new world and see all these new things for the first time they thought it was magical. Then they would bring what they saw from the new world back to old world and people would be fascinated and want to find these special places.