

# Reading Quiz 0.2 - INTD290 ... Part I

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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 Hispanic America's Historical Dynamics

1. The author lays out the central argument of the chapter in this section, which is the connection between merchant guilds, the domestic economy, and the constitution of enlightenment institutions. Please list some of the institutions, like colleges and botanical gardens (think of these as research institutes), mining guilds and corporations, etc. Give the dates, organized by country below:

(a) México:

- schools of mining (1792)
- schools of botany (1788)
- schools of the arts (1785)

(b) Perú:

- Laboratorio Químico Metalúrgico (1792)

(c) Venezuela (Caracas):

- Academia de Matemáticas (1760)

(d) Guatemala:

- Jardín Botánico (1796)
- drawing & mathematic schools (1797)

## 3 Modern Scientific Culture

1. Discuss the significance of *empiricism*, or the use of observations from instruments, on scientific culture. How was this different from Scholasticism? (Feel free to look up the definitions of these terms).

Empiricism is very much based on sensory, which Latin American science is more reliant on as opposed to the traditional Scholastic science that Europeans used based on works from people like Aristotle. Scholasticism didn't exist to Latin American scientific culture until colonization.

## 4 Hispanic American Scientific Culture

1. Notice the discussion of *Scientific Libraries*. Discuss the significance of the formation of private scientific libraries in Enlightenment period Hispanic America. What does the existence of these collections of new, modern books tell us about scientific culture at the time? Why where these books not in common libraries? What are a few other examples of the birth of modern scientific culture that more private than public or nationalized?

In the Enlightenment period of Hispanic America, private scientific libraries held more info than the regular libraries which had more traditional items. The books in private collections were considered heretic in a sense hence why they're private. It's influence on scientific culture began to grow as illegal trade of the literature in private collections grew.

2. Notice the discussion of *Scientific and Technical Journals*. Give several examples of scientific and technical journals emerging in the culture. When were they created and what did they cover?

- 1) *Diario Literario de México* (1766) = contained a range of topics including <sup>two logical to</sup> <sup>astrology to natural disasters.</sup>  
2) *Mercurio Volante* (1772-73) = Medical topics  
3) *Mercurio Peruano* (1791) = popularized several enlightenment authors

3. What was the significance of the debate over mining methods? Who eventually won the debate and why?

The economy in Hispanic America was dominated by mining which resulted in several miners and merchants competing for the minerals. Eventually, modern science was applied in order to improve methods. The debate was "settled" by a visiting judge, Gremboz, who wrote "Comentarios" which became a reference work for many miners.