

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 social history helps us understand the scientists' behavior and how they developed concepts. Social context includes the location, resources, culture, and values of the society and all these factors impacted discoveries. Researchers use different analytical perspectives.

2. What is an example of the failure of economic explanations for the development of science given by the author?

The author states that since a country/society may be in debt there is not enough funding for science and technology. Latin American scientists used scientific collaboration to get answers during this time.

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 1982 in order to give a platform to Latin American scientists. It publishes Latin American texts and other works.

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?

Peripheral science has multiple focuses and opportunities for historical study. Central science focused on European developments. Some examples include herbal medicine and Peruvian mathematics.

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?

On Wednesday October 17, 1492 Christopher Columbus came across these civilizations and gave the people inhabiting the land the name "Indian". He thought he was in India but he was confused geographically. The two versions of history discredit the achievements the indigenous people had during the Enlightenment.

2. From the viewpoint of the author, what seems to be the definition of the term "ethnohistory?" How is it connected to globalization?

Ethnohistory focuses on the history of people and cultures. Ethnohistory scrutinized the native people which is connected to globalization because the history that was taught and recorded scrutinizes the natives.

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?

The reconquest was different because there was no destruction of knowledge or pre-existing cultures when the Spanish territory was held by Arabs.

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?

The European story comes from Prestar John and it came about during the 3rd Crusade. Acosta recorded a similar story with evidence from Peru. People can have different interpretations of stories.

5. Upon hearing of the condors from indigenous people, European colonials thought the description matched which animal? Why?

They thought the description of condors sounded like a description of a griffin because of the way it flew.