

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 Latin America imposes a particular style on the science conducted.

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

An example of failure of economic explanations in terms of science is the Gortari (Mexico) & López Sánchez (Col.) explanations of modern science being a product of capitalism. Accepting these theories only leads to saying science didn't exist in Latin America before.

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?

La Sociedad Latinoamericana de Historia de las Ciencias y Tecnología, founded in 1982 publishes a journal "Quipu" which helped brought international recognition to history of science in their region.

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 considers historical studies in which Latin American science is familiar with whereas central science was based on Eurocentrism. An example of Latin America being central was their study in astronomy which both Europe and Latin America were on the same page.

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?

Latin America doesn't necessarily have a written history of science as opposed to Europeans who possess both background knowledge from Enlightenment figures. Columbus landed in 1942 and coined the term in Indian because he thought he landed in India. The author hopes that indigenous works will be found & compiled, free from external influence.

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

Ethnohistory in the text, seems to be analysis with regards to other cultures (specifically indigenous). This looks at indigenous cultures and history as it interacts with Westernization.

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 of Christian territory was not about eradicating all sources of Arab culture but for Latin America, it's harder to recover their culture due to mass destruction of the source by colonizers.

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?

It is said that in Florida, aged people were seen diving in a fountain and coming out youthful. It arose from the Crusades after the story of Alexander the Great's soldiers. People will tend to spread rumours of mythical things in foreign lands.

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

In terms of condors, European colonials claimed it matched the description of a gryphon (or griffin, griffon). The Europeans don't have condors and this animal was in the new world and undiscovered to the Old World. In addition, this bird is carnivorous as opposed to European birds that don't eat anything beyond worms and seeds.