This class meets with another HIST-H 212.
This course will survey the history of Latin America over the last 200 years, the era of national independence. We will pay attention to politics and economy, but our emphasis will be on social and cultural history, on the forces that shape everyday life and the way people make sense of their lives. One way we can get at these issues will be to investigate how social movements and revolutions have reacted to, reflected, and in many cases driven changes in race, class, gender, sex, and the family. We will get at these issues through close readings of primary documents: memoirs, speeches, and journalistic accounts by individuals as accounts of their lives and the events around them. Along with these readings we will watch an abundance of film. The general thematic approach of the course will draw specific examples from various Latin American countries, including Mexico, Argentina, Brazil, Central America, and Cuba. Assignments include short papers over two books, plus in-class mid-term and final exam.