

## Welcome Letter for Spanish Caribbean

|                                  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| <b>Professor:</b>                | N. Zeller  |
| <b>Email:</b>                    | <a href="mailto:zellern@wpunj.edu">zellern@wpunj.edu</a> |
| <b>Department:</b>               | History  |
| <b>Course No. &amp; Section:</b> | HIST 382   |
| <b>Phone:</b>                    | 973 720 2324   |
| <b>Office Hours:</b>             | Atrium 215   |

Hello and welcome to Spanish Caribbean!

This course will provide an overview of the history of the Spanish Caribbean (Cuba, Dominican Republic, and Puerto Rico), focusing on several themes that have shaped these countries: race and slavery, sugar plantations, national identity, colonialism, authoritarianism, U.S. imperialism, revolution. The objectives will be to develop critical thinking and analytical skills by reading and writing about the topics presented, and to enhance the student's abilities to acquire information independently.

### Texts

Findlay, Eileen Suarez. *Imposing Decency: the Politics of Sexuality and Race in Puerto Rico, 1870-1920*. Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 1999.

Julia Alvarez ' *In the Time of the Butterflies*, Penguin Group (USA) Incorporated, 1995 (ISBN-13: 9780452274426)

Lauren Derby - *The Dictator's Seduction*

Louis Perez, Jr. - *Cuba: Between Reform and Revolution*

Other books TBA

### Grading

Weekly Summary Papers: 60% Book Review (two): 20 Final exam: 20

---

### How to Access Blackboard:

To log on to Bb point your web browser to <http://bb.wpunj.edu> and click the Login button in the upper left. Then enter your username and password in the spaces provided and click login again -- you'll find your course Bb sites listed on

the right.

Some things to be aware of as you work with Blackboard:

1. You probably won't find all your courses listed; the only ones that will appear are those that have been activated by the professor teaching the course. Professors who don't use Blackboard will not activate their courses.
2. Your username is comprised of your lastname and firstinitial, usually appended with a numeral. If you don't know your WPUNJ system username password you can use the Username lookup link at <http://bb.wpunj.edu> , or go to it directly at <http://www.wpunj.edu/username>
3. If you are already logged in to the WPUNJ system through WPCConnect you won't have to re-enter your username and password -- just click the first login button.
4. Blackboard documentation can be found in two places: at Bb Home, <http://bb.wpunj.edu>, before one logs in, and in the Blackboard Support tab after one has logged on.
5. You can always obtain Bb help by using the Problem Report form at <http://bb.wpunj.edu> , or by going to it directly at: <https://liberty.wpunj.edu/bb/support-center/> .
6. Blackboard courses will use student email; third-party email addresses will not work on Bb

**Good luck and have fun in the course! N. Zeller**