TODAY: Society and Culture

- Race and Ethnicity
- Religion
- Culture
- Language
- Sports
- Music
- Literature
Race & Ethnicity

• Colonial legacy of population holocaust, slavery, and miscegenation => complex map
• Post-colonial migrations — much in 19th C
  ➢ Asian
  ➢ European
Current spatial distributions

- Current spatial distributions
  - Afro-American (Latin Americans are "Americans," too)
    - Brazil, & Caribbean (Garifuna)
  - Amerindian
    - Former high culture areas of Mesoamerica and Andes
Current spatial distributions

- Mestizo
- Euro-American
Race in Latin America

• Racial mixing
• Racial “bleaching”
• Racism
Race in Latin America

• "Social" races
• Indigenismo & Negritude
• Pigmentocracia
• Chile/Argentina vs. Brazil/Cuba
Catholic Heritage I

- Spanish Catholic roots
- Spiritual conquest — an integral part of the conquest of the Americas
Catholic Heritage I

- Legacy of Church’s history in Latin America
  - Identified with power/economic elite
  - Reform in form of liberation theology => oppression of the poor is a sin
Catholic Heritage II

- Overwhelmingly people say “soy Catholic” = “I am a Catholic”
  - church attendance is often low
  - But presence is everywhere
- “folk” Catholicism — merging of Roman Catholic ritual and beliefs with indigenous (Amerindian) beliefs
- Roman Catholic beliefs have merged with various African religious traditions in the Caribbean and Brazil especially
Religion: Non-Catholic

- Hindu and Islam — imported with indentured labor to Suriname, Guiana, Trinidad & Tobago mostly (but minorities in all of the Caribbean)
- Judaism — accompanied 1st migrants from Spain (conversos)
- Evangelical Protestants — Protestants outlawed in Spanish/Portuguese colonial times
Inter-Personal socio-cultural traits

- Machismo — men in control of their lives and the lives of others in their lives
- Marianismo — roughly the inverse of machismo (from the idea that the ideal woman resembles Mary in her virtue and purity)
- Role conflict (e.g., *casas chicas*)
Inter-Personal socio-cultural traits

- "Personalismo" — much of social, economic, indeed all life in LA depends on social/family ties & personal spheres of influence and obligation
Geography of Latin American Languages

Languages of the World

Map not to Scale

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Other Major languages Spoken in the World
1. French & Sango
2. French & English
3. Setswana
4. English & Others
5. Malagasy & French
6. Pashto & Dari
Geography of Latin American Languages
Geography of Latin American Languages

- Accents: e.g., Chile, Argentina, Cuba
Geography of Latin American Sport

- Futbol
Geography of Latin American Sport

% who watch World Cup soccer games regularly

Average 54%
Most between 40-60%

Brazil 81%

Costa Rica, El Salvador  Guatemala over 60%

Nicaragua 7%
Bolivia 10%
Peru 22%
Paraguay 30%
Dominican Republic 20%

(Source: Los Medios y Mercados de Latinoamérica 1998)
Geography of Latin American Music

- Salsa
- Andean
- Rock
- Samba
- Bossa Nova
- Protest
- Requeton
Geography in Latin American Literature

- Pablo Neruda: Chile
- Ulises Estrella: Ecuador
Geography in Latin American Literature

- Pablo Neruda: Chile
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