

# SBS Community Classroom

## Mexican Superheroes, Demons, and Idols

Fall 2019



El Santo Contra las Momias de Guanajuato (1972)

### Course Times and Location

Wednesdays 4-6 p.m.

09/25/2019 - 10/23/2019

The Loft Cinema, Screen 3

### About the Instructor

Luis E. Coronado Guel is an Adjunct Professor of History & Director of SBS Mexico Initiatives. He holds a doctorate in Latin American History. He received bachelor's degree in law from the Autonomous University of San Luis Potosí and a master's degree in history from El Colegio de San Luis. His research interests include the cultural and intellectual history of nineteenth and twentieth century Mexico, specifically, its nation-state building processes by analyzing patriotic celebrations, public rituals, mass media, cultural heritage, and expressions of popular culture. His first book, *La Alameda Potosina ante la llegada del ferrocarril* (2009, 2015) is an intellectual and cultural history on the impact the railway had in the region of San Luis Potosí. Coronado's teaching experience includes a variety of survey, upper-level, and graduate courses in Mexico and the United States in the fields of history, law, popular culture, and cultural heritage, both in English and Spanish.

## Course Description

Superheroes are not an exclusive American experience. In many places around the world, these cultural icons usually embody popular notions of justice, patriotism, solidarity, and protection. In Mexico, fantastic heroes are not new as they have represented people's aspirations, fears, and hopes in different times and historical contexts. Where is the connection between history, society, and wrestlers? In five sessions we'll learn about it, and we will enjoy remembering many of these icons by exploring popular and mass culture fragments, such as music, film, comics, and television shows. Each 2-hour class session will include viewings of clips and shorter films, lectures, some discussion, and a lot of fun and memories. Enroll and enjoy!

## Course Outline

### Week 1

Wednesday, September 25th:

***The heroes who gave us a fatherland: On Idols, Heroes, and Heroic Tales***

#### 16th - 19th Centuries

Pre-Colonial & Colonial Mexico

Baroque Mexico: Our Lady of Guadalupe & Santa Muerte

Official Heroes & Demons: Father Miguel Hidalgo, Morelos, Iturbide, Santa Anna, Juarez, Maximilian

### Week 2:

Wednesday, October 2nd, 2019:

***The Mexican Revolution: A Fervent Matrix of Heroes, Ghosts, and Demons***

#### 1862- 1929

Porfirio Diaz: From Hero to Demon

Social Bandits: From Joaquin Murrieta to Zorro, Chucho el Roto

Heroes & Antiheroes: Francisco I. Madero Pancho Villa, Emiliano Zapata, Obregón & Calles

### Week 3

Wednesday, October 9th, 2019:

***Factory of Idols, Heroes and Beyond: Popular Culture, Cinema & Media***

#### 1930-1950

The revolutionary culture

Communists & Radicals: Diego Rivera, Trotsky, Frida Kahlo, Orozco, Siqueiros

Charros VS Gangsters: Pedro Infante, Jorge Negrete

Children & Comics: Chupamirto to Familia Burrón. Cri- Cri and the Radio

Pachucos VS Chilangos: Cantinflas, Tin Tan,

Feme Fatale: Maria Felix, The Rumberas,

**Week 4:**

Wednesday, October 16th, 2019:

***Fragments of the Golden era of Superheroes and Idols: Luchadores, Aliens, Mommies, and Vampires***

1950 – 1965

Wrestling: El Santo, Blue Demon, Mil Mascaras.  
The Guanajuato Mommies, The Vampire Women,  
Kaliman  
Viruta y Capulina  
Real-life Horror: Las Poquianchis.

**Week 5**

Wednesday, October 23rd, 2019:

***From Disenchantment to hope: Fall and Apotheosis of Real-life Superheroes in Mexico's Crisis Era***

1965 – Present

Rius- Los Supermachos, Calzonsin Inspector, Los Agachados  
El Chapulin Colorado  
Modern Women: Hermelinda Linda, Lola la Trailera, Catalina Creel  
El Chupacabras  
Zombies del Bicentenario  
Real Superheroes: Superbarrio, Fray Tormenta, El Tacubo  
El Santos, La Tetona Mendoza, Las Poquianchis del Espacio, Zombies de Zahuayo