

FIRST HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT: *One Hundred Years of Solitude*

Due electronically by noon, in Class #4.

- 1) What do you think García Márquez means by "solitude"? Is he referring to the solitude of individuals, communities, nations, or all of the above? Provide an example or two from the reading.

- 2) *One Hundred Years of Solitude* is a work of fiction, of course, but its author also has a strong sense of history in general, and the history of Colombia and Latin America in particular. How would you characterize García Márquez as a historian? How does his historical vision compare with that of Skidmore and Smith, or Orozco, the Mexican muralist?

- 3) What is the role of the state (i.e., the Colombian government) in Macondo and the lives of Buendía family members? Analyze an example of state intervention in Macondo. Are the town and its residents better off with the presence of the state, or without it?