

21H.802
Spring 2005

HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT # 2

INSTRUCTIONS

- 1) The homework assignment is due at the beginning of class on Tuesday, February 22. Your responses should be computer-processed; I will not accept hand-written homework assignments. Please respond to each question below with a minimum of two substantial paragraphs that draw on the week's readings to respond to the question. There is no maximum limit to each response.
- 2) The point of the homework assignments is to make you think analytically and synthetically about the week's readings, and to prepare you for our class discussions. Accordingly, it would be best if you do the readings a day or two in advance of class, set them aside for awhile, then write your responses the night before class after you have had time to digest the readings.
- 3) I will grade your homework assignment and hand it back at the start of the next class.

QUESTIONS

- 1) What, in your opinion, was the most important reason for the outbreak of the Mexican Revolution? What was its most important outcome? Justify each of your choices.
- 2) Compare and contrast the political experiences of Argentina and Mexico in the decade of the 1910s. Why was there a full-blown revolution in Mexico, but not in Argentina?
- 3) What aspects of the Mexican Revolutionary experience do the characters Demetrio Macías and Luis Cervantes, in Azuela's novel *The Underdogs*, symbolize?
- 4) According to Thomas Benjamin, what role did civic festivals play in defining and consolidating the meaning of the Mexican Revolution for the country's citizens? Can you think of comparable festivals in your own experience? Please describe them.