

SECOND PAPER TOPICS

Requirements

1. Please write a five-page paper in response to **ONE** of the topics below. The text should be double-spaced. A hard copy version of the paper is due at the beginning of Class #23.
2. Your paper must be computer-processed. Please give your paper a title, and write your name on the back of the last page. Do not write your name elsewhere on the paper. **All pages should be numbered.**
3. Citations to texts read in this course should be made in parentheses in your paper. For example, if you refer to a passage on page 13 of Azuela's *The Underdogs*, indicate this in the following manner at the end of your sentence, after the period: (Azuela, 13) Full citations to any work not assigned in class should be made in footnote or endnote form. For more suggestions, see the guide to editing.

Topics

1. Imagine you are one of the following: Francisco I. Madero, a large landholder in the state of Chiapas, an indigenous *campesino* or *campesina* (peasant) in Chiapas, or the United States ambassador to Mexico. It is 1911; Emiliano Zapata's [Plan de Ayala](#) has just been published. Write a newspaper editorial in which you express your views of Zapata's plan.
2. Imagine you are one of the following: Ernesto "Che" Guevara, the Peruvian General Juan Velasco Alvarado, Salvador Allende, Augusto Pinochet, one of the Nicaraguan citizens whose "life story" we read, or Rigoberta Menchú. You have just read Manuel Azuela's *The Underdogs*. Write a book review, or a letter to a friend, in which you critique the novel's representation of the people and revolution in light of your own experiences.
3. What is the most important success of the Cuban Revolution? What is its most significant failure? Assess Castro's regime in light of both issues that you identify. (Be sure to do the readings for Class #22 before you begin to write your paper. Cite specific issues and examples from several of the readings on Cuba.)