Duluth Campus

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Ancient Middle America Week 13
CANVAS
https://canvas.umn.edu/

The Late Postclassic Stage

Toltecs and "Toltecized" Maya



This week we'll continue our **comparative** view of Ancient Middle America with . . .

"Artisans and Traders"

(60 min., 1993, UM DULUTH Library Multimedia CC165 .O97 1993b DVD Disc 2)

from the Out of the Past series.



Copán Jade Honduras

(course viewing guide)

Time permitting we'll have a walk around **Monte Albán** and **Mitla**.

Monte Albán in Oaxaca ranks as one of the great archaeological sites of the world. You have seen Monte Albán in many of the films, and we'll see it again between now and the end of the semester. Monte Albán is one of my very favorite places in the world.

At its peak, in the Classic, Monte Albán was the home of the great **Zapotec** people and their Empire. It is the flagship site and **political** and economic center of one of the very few civilizations in the world that lasted almost a thousand years.



Monte Albán -- Wikipedia

Mitla, "place of the dead," or "underworld," is the second most important archaeological site in the State of Oaxaca. Mitla was once also a major Zapotec **religious** center, but was taken over by the **Mixtecs** in the Postclassic. It was still a major flourishing center when the Spanish arrived in 1520. Mitla is especially well-known also for its geometric architecture.



Mitla -- Wikipedia

We'll see more of Mitla—and its great leader **Eight Deer Ocelot Claw**—in the Postclassic.

On Thursday, we'll have a look at the characteristics and diagnostic features of the Late Postclassic *Stage*, including a look at the great Toltecs of Tula, Hidalgo—the people the Aztecs most wanted to be like.

Toltec and Tula, Hidalgo



The Toltecs of Tula (of the modern State of Hidalgo) had great influence during the Early Postclassic, and were the defining civilization of the era. A northern Yucatán Maya city of

Chichén Itzá became, in essence, a look-alike sister city of Toltec Tula. A week from Tuesday we'll have a look at Chichén Itzá—the city named after the "Well of the Itzá"—one of the most famous archaeological sites and prehistoric cities in the world.

video:

Chichén Itzá: At the Mouth of the Well

(27 min., 2001, UM DULUTH Library Multimedia F1435.1.C5 C44 2001 DVD)

film HomePage

course viewing guide



After we've finished with the Postclassic stage characteristics, and had a look around Tula and

Chichén Itzá, we'll start to have a look at the **Postclassic Aztecs**. And, as we close out the semester in the remaining weeks, and if time allows, we'll also have a brief look at looks at

the Postclassic Mixtec of Oaxaca, and their famous leader Eight-Deer

Ocelot Claw—the Mixtec counterpart of the Aztec Mochtezuma.



8-Deer, Mixtec Leader

(on the right)

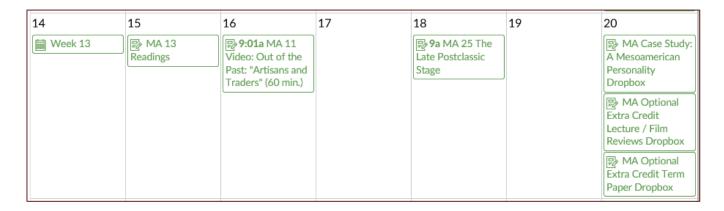
And we'll finish the semester with the arrival of **Cortéz and the Conquistadors**.

This Week's Assignments and Events

... are listed on your "Calendar".



This Week's "Calendar"



They are also listed on the "Syllabus" section of your canvas folder, if you prefer to have them in another form (see below).

And the "Syllabus" version is found here:



In the "Syllabus" mode the assignments look like this:



If you have any **questions** right now, please do not hesitate to post them on the canvas Course "Chat", or e-mail troufs@d.umn.edu, or stop by Cina 215 before or after class.

Best Regards,

Tim Roufs

< http://www.d.umn.edu/~troufs/>