Latin American History

Pintura del beneficio dela grana cochinilla en Mexico. c.1775. Ayer MS 2178.

Attempting to include all phases of the discovery, westward movement and settlement of the Americas, the Newberry has an abundance of primary source material documenting the British, French, Spanish and Portuguese Colonies. More than 50,000 volumes that relate to Latin America can be found within the Ayer Collection. Likewise, the Greenlee Collection of Brazilian and Portuguese History has a wealth of material for the study of Latin American history.

Latin American holdings are particularly strong in Mayan and Mexican archaeological materials and linguistics, including printed and manuscript materials, manuscript reproductions and transcripts, codices, grammars, and dictionaries. The Latin American history materials also emphasize the discovery, exploration, colonization, and early political and social developments of Middle and South America, including geographical, navigational, and descriptive works, as well as maps and atlases. Special strengths include sixteenth- to eighteenth-century colonial and Jesuit history of Mexico, Peru, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, and Venezuela.

A list of selected highlights for Uruguay, Chile, Brazil, Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Costa Rica, Peru, El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala, Mexico, Dominican Republic, Spain, Portugal, Argentina, Bolivia, Panama, and Nicaragua may be found in the Latin American Material Bibliographic Guide.