



"The Will of Don Miguel Damián," ink and watercolor on *amatl*, Xochimilco, 1576
Newberry Library: Vault oversize Ayer MS 1900

AH/LALS 263: Latin American Colonial Art

Spring 2009 MWF 11:00-11:50pm 107 Henry Hall

AH: CRN 28599 and Honors CRN 28600

LALS: CRN 29206 and Honors CRN 29207

Prerequisite: Three hours of art history at the 100 level, or consent of the instructor.

World Cultures Course

The sixteenth century contact between indigenous peoples of the indigenous "Aztec Empire" and Europeans began in 1519 when Hernán Cortés' ship reached the shores of what is now Mexico. This invasion and subsequent encounters between Europeans and the indigenous peoples of the Americas was an event of momentous proportions that forever altered both peoples as each confronted unknown worlds and worldviews so unlike their own. The art and architecture of the colonial Western Hemisphere under Spanish rule provides a visual record of those changes in all their complexity and richness. This course explores those changes through the visual and written record of the period. We will analyze continuity and innovation in indigenous painting traditions; the art and architecture of conversion with its utopian and millenarian aspects; the introduction of European architecture, painting, sculpture, and decorative arts; urban planning and the growth of cities; the mapping of "New Spain;" and the building of cathedrals among other topics. In short, we will study the development of a distinctive Latin American visual culture.