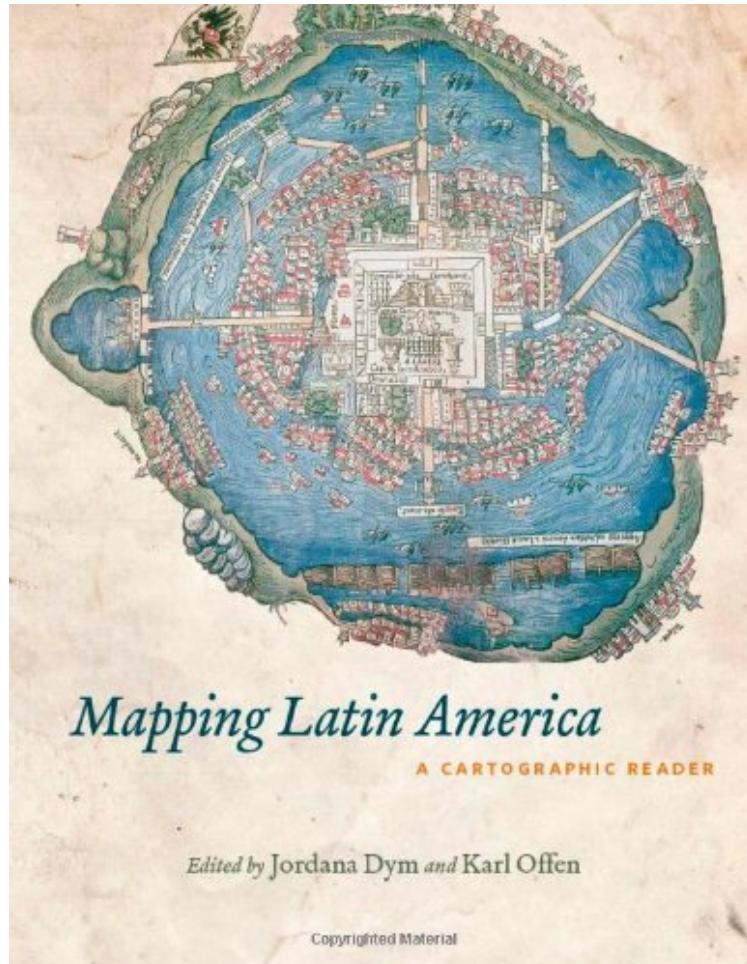


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Mapping Latin America: A Cartographic Reader

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From University Of Chicago Press : Mapping Latin America: A Cartographic Reader before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Mapping Latin America: A Cartographic Reader:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Great teaching toolBy madvivaciousThis book is well-researched and has a variety of "maps" or visual representations to help students understand Latin America. Overall, the essays are really well-written and I find the different variety of maps fascinating.5 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Impressive and well-developed history of Latin American cartographyBy Gerardo CastilloThis book, edited by the historian Jordana Dym and the geographer Karl Offen, offers a superb example of an interdisciplinary approach. The fifty-seven articles/chapters, which make a review of Latin American history from the Sixteen Century to nowadays, involve topics ranging from environmental issues to landscape politics, including ideas of order, State-building, ethnicity, resistance, and urban planning. In addition, the edition is carefully presented with colorfull and

detailed illustrations. In my opinion, this is an outstanding publication on Latin American cartography.

For many, a map is nothing more than a tool used to determine the location or distribution of something—a country, a city, or a natural resource. But maps reveal much more: to really read a map means to examine what it shows and what it doesn't, and to ask who made it, why, and for whom. The contributors to this new volume ask these sorts of questions about maps of Latin America, and in doing so illuminate the ways cartography has helped to shape this region from the Rio Grande to Patagonia. In *Mapping Latin America*, Jordana Dym and Karl Offen bring together scholars from a wide range of disciplines to examine and interpret more than five centuries of Latin American maps. Individual chapters take on maps of every size and scale and from a wide variety of mapmakers—from the hand-drawn maps of Native Americans, to those by famed explorers such as Alexander von Humboldt, to those produced in today's newspapers and magazines for the general public. The maps collected here, and the interpretations that accompany them, provide an excellent source to help readers better understand how Latin American countries, regions, provinces, and municipalities came to be defined, measured, organized, occupied, settled, disputed, and understood—that is, how they came to have specific meanings to specific people at specific moments in time. The first book to deal with the broad sweep of mapping activities across Latin America, this lavishly illustrated volume will be required reading for students and scholars of geography and Latin American history, and anyone interested in understanding the significance of maps in human cultures and societies.

Mapping Latin America . . . is the first publication that takes on the ambitious and long overdue task of showcasing the crucial role that maps have played in shaping human communities across the entire region and, no less importantly, in demonstrating their value to students and scholars alike in gaining new insights into the societies that produced them. . . [T]he volume succeeds admirably in demonstrating that scholars of colonial and modern periods alike would do well to take seriously the role of space and spatial representation in the shaping of Latin America's societies, cultures, and environments. This book will appeal not only to students and scholars of Latin America but to anyone with an interest in critical studies of cartography and visual culture.