Course Description: The course has been designed to identify, and quantify the consequences of slavery that rippled through anti-government movements to achieve independence from Spain for Cuba and Puerto Rico. The report encompasses the following areas: The contributions of the Taino Indians to the Puerto Rican culture and influence of the music aspects on Cuba and Puerto Rico culture.

During the 1800’s, the Cuba and Puerto Rico people were fighting against Spain for independence because of slavery injustices and discrimination against the Creoles. The course outlines the sequence of events that took place during the period of 1492 thru 1954. It covers the periods of violence highlighting anti-government sentiments. Cuba and Puerto Rico have requested help several times from the United States to liberate them from the government of Spain. The help was manifested by rebellions among blacks.

Upon conclusion of the Spanish American War, Cuba and Puerto Rico were admitted to the USA as colonies. Cuba was given independence from the USA about 1902 when Congress passed the Platt amendment. The history of Vieques (Puerto Rico) and the controversy with the Navy is excluded for obvious reasons-distraction. Henceforth, Cuba became an independent state and Puerto Rico negotiated a commonwealth status with the USA. The course encompasses the time period of Columbus arrival who discovered the islands and ends with the liberation of Cuba, and goes into a self-government of Puerto Rico with the commonwealth arrangement with the USA. The demographics of Cuba and Puerto Rico are discussed in detail. The sequence of events of the Castro revolution is included.

Study Guide: To attain eighty percent of the learning curve, it is suggested that you utilize the 4/80 concept. Four times reading the material retains 80% of the information as follows:

Step 1. Read the question and the reference material outlined on the web site.
Step 2. Read the material and highlight the key notes of the reference material.
Step 3. Copy the highlighted notes into a working area on the computer utilizing Microsoft Word.
Step 4. Read the notes copied into the working area and consolidate all the notes in a chronological and logical sequence.

At the conclusion of the lesson, you should have at least 80% of the information stored in your memory. This is the concept I have been using for years -- it works for me.

1. Who is considered the Abolitionist of Slavery in Puerto Rico?
   Web Site: http://www.loc.gov/rr/hispanic/1898/slaves.html
2. US-Cuban relations began when plantation owner Carlos Manuel de Cespedes freed and armed his slaves and, accompanied by 37 other planters, proclaimed the independence of Cuba. 
Web Site: http://www.google.com/search?sourceid=navclient&ie=UTF-8&q=Independence%2BCuba

Part I: Double click on the History of US-Cuba Relations heading. Select a time frame of 1492-1900 and provide a summary of events during 1868-1869 time frames:

Part II: Scroll down and double click on the History of Cuba 1776-1867. Provide a summary of the main events of Cuba History.

Part III: Scroll down and describe the events of 1793.

3. The fight for Independence of Cuba was comprised of three wars fought during this time frame: 1850-1898
Web Site: http://www.google.com/search?q=Independence%2BCuba&hl=en&lr=&start=10&sa=N

Part I: Provide a brief summary of each war and its leader during the time frame specified.
Part II: Scroll down and double click on Cuba 1898. How many blacks were in Cuba in 1840?
Part III: What were the grievances filed to the Spanish government by the Plantation owners?
Part IV: What year was the Emancipation Law enacted?

4. The Ponce Massacre is regarded as one of the darkest and bloodiest chapters in Puerto Rico's history. Ponce is located at the north east of the Caribbean Sea. Describe the cause of the Massacre of Ponce during the early 1930's:
Web Site: http://www.google.com/search?q=%2BMassacre+of+Ponce%BPuerto+Rico&spell=1

5. Double click on the web site listed below: Web site:
http://www.culturalorientation.net/cubans/HISTO2.htm

Part I: Provide a summary of the individual who was the most influential in Cuba?
Part II: United States appointed a military governor to govern Cuba. Name the terms of the US control of Cuba.
Part III: In what year did the Cuban War of Independence brake out?
Part IV: Who was the President of the USA when the Cuban provisional government was established? What were the demands of the USA to Spain during this period?

6. Unlike the Ten Years' War, the Cuban Independence Movement of the 1890s was not ignored ... who had dedicated more than half of his life to make Cuba free, became...
Web Site: http://www.pbs.org/crucible/tl3.html

Part I: Who were the Cuban Leaders during the 1895 Cuban War?

7. What was the impact of the Grito de Lares on the movement of Independence in Puerto Rico?
Web Site: http://www.elboricua.com/lares.html

8. Who was Albizu Campos? What was his motivation to start the Nationalist movement in Puerto Rico?
Web Site: http://www.nationmaster.com/encyclopedia/Pedro-Albizu-Campos


Part I: Provide a summary of the impact of the 1929 (USA) depression had on the Cuban Economy.

Part II: Provide a summary of the Spanish American War for Cuba Independence: Summarize Dates and events of the war.

Part III: On the same page, scroll down until you find 1930. Describe the events of the Cuban government actions.

10. Web Site: Go to this web site and select from the menu the transnational issues. Provide a summary of the issues.
Web Site: http://open-site.org/Regional/Caribbean/Cuba/

11. The fight for Independence of Cuba was three wars fought during this time frame, 1850-1898
Web Site: http://www.google.com/search?q=Independence%2BCuba&hl=en&lr=&start=10&sa=N. Provide a brief summary of each war and its leader during the time frame specified.

12. The Cuban Independence Movement, led to a nationalist uprising in Cuba against Spanish rule. It began with the unsuccessful Ten Years' War. Who was the abolitionist responsible for this movement?
13. The 24 February Cuban independence movement (Ejército Libertador de Cuba) issued in the Grito de Baire, declared independencia or muerte (independence or death).
Web Site: http://www.historyofcuba.com/main/contents.htm. Double click on the above web site. Who was the first Guerrilla Cuban Warrior? What did he accomplish during this war?

14. Cuba had several wars before they got their independence -- the second war. The Second War for Cuban Independence also known as The Spanish-Cuban-American War.
Web Site: http://www.historyofcuba.com/history/scaw/spawar.htm. Who was the President of the United States during the 1898 time frame? Who was the leader of the War in Cuba?

15. What was the name of the ship that was sabotaged while sitting on the harbor at Havana. Was it a freak accident or an act of sabotage caused an explosion that sent 260 sailors to their deaths and the battleship to the ocean floor?
Web Site: http://www.historyofcuba.com/history/scaw/scaw2.htm
Write a summary of the article about the Battleship. What do they mean by “yellow journalism?”

16. What was the intent of the Platt Amendment?

17. Double click on the web site listed below:
Web Site: http://www.historyofcuba.com/history/funfacts/slavery.htm. Describe a summary of Antonio Maceo achievements during the Independence movement of Cuba:

18. Spain renounced all claim to Cuba, ceded Guam and Puerto ... 17, 1922 the "Partido Nacionalista de Puerto Rico" (Puerto Rican Nationalist Party) was founded. "Double click on the Definition of History of Puerto Rico" Provide a brief summary of the History definition of Puerto Rico:

19. MSN Encarta - Archive Article - 1939: Puerto Rico ... which had involved tariff concessions to Cuba at the ... The Nationalist Party is not active in the organized political life of Puerto Rico, although, they were very active in subversive violence trying to be anti-American.
20. Unleashed an intense reign of terror on the people of Puerto Rico. ... including virtually all known members of the Puerto Rican Nationalist Party, and even to extent of subversive action against the US government: 

Web Site: http://www.google.com/search?q=%2BNationalist+Party%2BPuerto +Rico%2BCuba&hl=en&lr=&start=10&sa=N. Describe the sequence of events during this period:

21. The Massacre of Rio Piedras was a forum of violence. The Nationalist killed Police Chief Riggs in San Juan. The Police captured and killed the assassins in the police headquarters. Who were the individuals that killed Colonel Riggs?

Web Site: http://www.google.com/search?q=%2BColonel+Riggs%2BChief+of+Police%2BPuerto+Rico&btnG=Search. What was the motive of Nationalists killing Col Riggs, Chief of Police of Puerto Rico.


23. The Taino Indians are part of the history of Puerto Rico that has influenced the Puerto Rican culture. 

Web Site: http://welcome.topuertorico.org/reference/ taino.shtml. Double click this web site and provide a summary of the Taino culture:

24. The attack on the Blair House where President Truman resided temporarily has been a disgrace to our country. After the USA liberated Puerto Rico from the Spanish, they revolted against the USA because of the product of slavery. On the same day that the US Congress discussed immigration issues, an attack was launch by a member of the Nationalist Party to the members of Congress:

Web Site: http://www.google.com/search?q=%2B1953+Attack+on+Congress+by+Nationalist+Party%2BPuerto+Rico Describe the sequence of events and causes of this attack on the Blair House:

The Nationalist Party and Socialist Party have been insisting that Puerto Rico should be given Independence by the USA. They have persuaded Cuban officials to carry the fight for them at the United Nations: 

Cuban connection to Puerto Rico. Describe the events of the discussion at the hall of the United Nations:

25. The Hurricanes are in existence and when they occur affect black and white population and the economy of the island. Web site http://harvardforest.fas.harvard.edu/data/p01/hf012/hf012.html. Double click on the following:

Summarize the scope of the study by the Harvard University: "Landscape and Regional Impacts of Hurricanes in Puerto Rico." Describe the scope of the research by Harvard Scientist:

26. Puerto Rico is exposed to the cyclones of Caribbean, although less than Jamaica, Cuba, and the Lesser Antilles. Hurricanes frequently occur between August and October: Web Site: http://www.google.com/search?q=Hurricanes%2BPuerto +Rico&hl=en&lr=&start=10&sa=N. Double click on the History of Puerto Rico. Find the heading of Geography and describes the ecology of the island:

27. Puerto Rican culture has very unique characteristics. Go to the Web Site: http://welcome.topuertorico.org/culture/. Describe the characteristics of the Puerto Rican culture:

28. Music is embedded into the Hispanic culture. Cuba has been the main contributor to the Caribbean music. Double click on the web site below, scroll down to the category of music and answer the following questions: Who invented the Mambo? Web Site: http://is1.websearch.com/websrch.tab.main/dog/results?otmpl=dog/ webresults.htm&qkw=Mambo%2BCuba&qcat=web&top=1&nextId=&start=&ver=21836.

29. Using the web site above, search for the history of the mambo and provide a summary of the music. On the same web page, search for Ernesto Lecuona, the greatest Cuban composer and provide his biography and his accomplishments as a composer:


31. The Spanish American war was launched to liberate Cuba and Puerto Rico from Spain. Web site: http://www.spanamwar.com/Pr-countrytrip.htm. Double click on this web page and provide a brief summary of five major events in a chronological order of the War.
32. The same web site of the question: What was the name of the city where the ground assault began from the West?

33. The same web site of question: Who was the US Forces Commander during the invasion of Puerto Rico?

34. In Cuba and Puerto Rico history, the men who paid the ultimate sacrifice in war cannot be ignored. Web Site: http://www.army.mil/cmh-pg/topics/hisp/Hisp-MOH.htm. Double click on the web site below and provide a brief summary of each of the four Medal of Honor winners to include their citation for the heroic action who were born in Puerto Rico?

35. The 65th Infantry Regiment participated in WWI, WWII, and the Korean War. Web Site: http://www.frontier.net/~john/HonorandFidelity3.html. Provide a brief summary of each campaign during the WWI, WWII, and Korean Wars:

36. Utilizing the same web site, indicate the reasons for failure of the Post Kelly and Jackson Heights missions during the Korean War:

37. Jose Marti was born in Havana and considered by all Cubans as their hero. Web Site: http://www.fiu.edu/~fcf/jmarti.html. Double click on the web site and provide a summary of Marti's accomplishments during his lifetime.

38. Luis Munoz Rivera, devoted his life to the struggle for the political autonomy of Puerto Rico by peaceful means. Web Site: http://is1.websearch.com/websrch.tab.main/dog/results?otmpl=dog/webrsults.htm&qkw=%2BLuis+Munoz+Rivera%2BPuerto%2BRico&qcat=dog&top=1&nextId=&start=&ver=28316. Double click on Hispanic American in Congress and provide a summary of Don Luis Munoz Rivera accomplishments:

39. Don Luis Munoz Marin, son of Luis Munoz Rivera was the first elected governor of Puerto Rico. He was considered one of the most important thinkers and politicians in Puerto Rican History. Web Site: http://is1.websearch.com/websrch.tab.main/search/web/%252BLuis%252BMunoz%252BMarin%252BPuerto%252BRico. Double click on History of Luis Munoz Marin. Provide his accomplishments during the period that he was involved in Puerto Rican politics:

40. Taino Indians were the inhabitants of Puerto Rico until Christopher Columbus arrived on the island. Web Site: http://is1.websearch.com/websrch.tab.main/search/web/%2BTaino%2BIndians%2BPuerto%2BRico. Double click on the web site and scroll down on the topic "Taino Indians" and provide a brief summary of the Indians contributions to the Puerto Rican culture:

42. Double click on the web site listed below:  Web Site: http://staff.esuhsd.org/~balochie/studentprojects/cubanrevcastro/. Provide a brief summary of the Castro Revolution:


44. Double click on the web site below:  Web Site below: http://www.historyofcuba.com/history/baypigs/pigs.htm. Look at the menu at the top of the page and double click on Invasion. Provide a brief summary of the “Bay of pigs Invasion.”

45. Based on the web site above, double click on the Aftermath category and provide a brief summary of the post Bay of pigs Invasion.

46. The alliance which ensued between Castro and Khrushchev laid the ground for what culminated in a Soviet missile base in Cuba and ended in the Cuban missile crisis. Double click on the web site below:  Web Site: http://www.hpol.org/jfk/cuban/. Describe the actions taken by President John F Kennedy on 22 October 1962 during the Cuban Missile Crisis:

47. Double click on the web site below:  http://welcome.topuertorico.org/city/vieques.shtml. Provide a brief summary of the Vieques Island history:

48. Double click on the same web site and provide a brief summary of the Vieques Navy Range Installation:


50. Cuba is a multiracial society with a population of mainly Spanish and African origins. Roman Catholicism is widely practiced in Cuba. Since the Castro regime, officially, Cuba has been an atheist state. Double click on the web site below:  http://is1.websearch.com/websrch.bar.inkto/search/web/%2Bdemographics%2Bcuba. Scroll down on the web page until you find the CIA, the World Factbook - Cuba, then double click on this heading. Provide a brief summary of the Demographics of the Cuba population:

51. Double click on the web site below:  http://bear.cba.ufl.edu/centers/ciber/workingpapers/ReviewofDye.html. Provide a brief summary of the sugar production of Cuba after the Spanish American War:
52. Double click on the web site below:  http://is1.websearch.com/websrch.bar.inkto/dog/results?otmpl=dog/webrresults.htm&qkw=%2BSugar%20Productio
n%2BCuba&qcat=web&top=1&nextId=&start=&ver=485. Scroll down on this web page until you find Slavery and Sugar Complex in Cuba, 1792 thru 1886: The conflict of politics and Economics. Provide a brief summary of the sugar production of Cuba for the period 1792 to 1886 before the Spanish American War:

53. Double click on the web site below:  http://welcome.topuertorico.org/history5. shtml. After the Hispanic American War in 1898, a government was organized in partnership with local representatives. Double click on the web site and provide the following information:

Part I: Provide a brief summary of the Foraker Act:

Part II: What was the intent of the Act?

Part III: Name the five Puerto Ricans that were members of the cabinet of Governor Allen:

Part IV: What executive department had jurisdiction over Puerto Rico?


Part I: Scroll down and double click on Federico Degetau Heading and provide a brief summary of his political affiliation with the government. Who was Federico Degetau?

Part II: Scroll down and double click on Puerto Rico’s culture. Who was Ponce de Leon?

Part III: Provide a summary of the individuals contributions to the Puerto Rican culture: Francisco de Ayerra y Santa María, and Alonso Ramírez, and Bernardo de Balbuena

What executive department had jurisdiction over Puerto Rico? Scroll down to 1942. Who was the first Puerto Rican baseball player who played for the Chicago Cubs?

55. Scroll down the web page until you find the heading of each of the topics listed below: What was the purpose of the Jones Act? In what year was cockfighting legalized in Puerto Rico? Name the three individuals of the Nationalist Party who were sentenced to 6-10 years in a Federal prison for subversive actions?