Study questions

“The Return and the Rebellion of the Inca” Lecture O’Toole 3a

These discussion questions are organized by the following four themes (bolded below): Tupac Amaru’s ideology and identity, changes in Spanish rule, on-the-ground changes that led to the uprising, and the memory of the Inca.

1. Why did José Gabriel Condorcanqui Noguera, aka Tupac Amaru II, have so many names and identities? How was he a colonial mestizo, an Andean *kuraka*, and an Inca? What made him rebel against Spanish colonial rule in the Andes? Why and how did he claim that the king had OK’ed his rebellious actions? Why did he and his followers execute the colonial *corregidor*, Antonio de Arriaga? How did Garcilaso de la Vega help him develop a Neo-Inca nationalism? How was Michaela Bastidas a full partner with and to her husband? What was Tupac Amaru’s objection to Spanish rule? What would you argue was Tupac Amaru’s **ideology**?
2. What threatened the **Spanish empire in the mid- to later eighteenth century**? Why and how did *kurakas, corregidores,* and clergy (priests and bishops) clash so much in the eighteenth-century Andes? Why did the Visitor General, José Antonio de Areche, clash with the viceroys in Peru? Why did Cuzco’s Bishop clash with Cuzco’s *corregidor*? What were the effects of these political struggles among the colonial Spanish rulers?
3. How did indigenous people in the Andes, and others, struggle under the Bourbon Reforms? What were the effects in their daily lives? Why were the 1770s such difficult economic and political years in the Andes? What were the growing ingredients for an **uprising**? What did indigenous people think should change?

When examining the 2002 woven belt showing the 1781 execution of Tupac Amaru II, try to identify the imagery of the Andean leader’s execution (he was drawn and quartered). Why would Andeans carry the **memory** of the rebellious Inca in a textile?

Just a tip: *Kurakakuna* is the same as *curaca* is the same as *kuraka* is the same as *cacique*. All four of these italicized terms mean a local indigenous leader or leaders in the Andes.