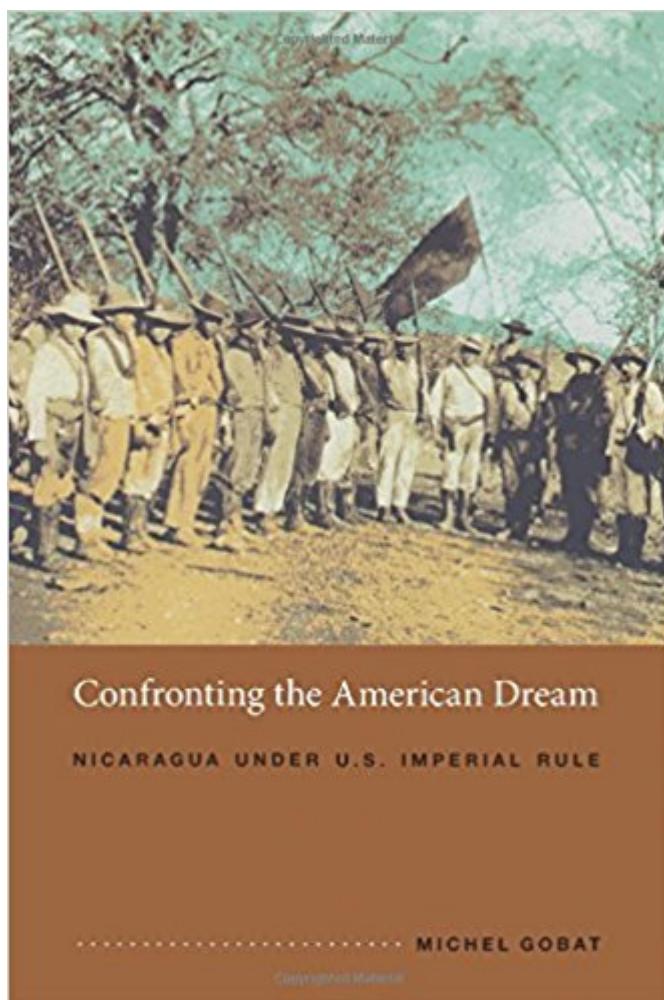


The book was found

# Confronting The American Dream: Nicaragua Under U.S. Imperial Rule (American Encounters/Global Interactions)



## Synopsis

Michel Gobat deftly interweaves political, economic, cultural, and diplomatic history to analyze the reactions of Nicaraguans to U.S. intervention in their country from the heyday of Manifest Destiny in the mid-19th century through the U.S. occupation of 1912–33. Drawing on extensive research in Nicaraguan and U.S. archives, Gobat accounts for two seeming paradoxes that have long eluded historians of Latin America: that Nicaraguans so strongly embraced U.S. political, economic, and cultural forms to defend their own nationality against U.S. imposition and that the country's wealthiest and most Americanized elites were transformed from leading supporters of U.S. imperial rule into some of its greatest opponents. Gobat focuses primarily on the reactions of the elites to Americanization, because the power and identity of these Nicaraguans were the most significantly affected by U.S. imperial rule. He describes their adoption of aspects of "the American way of life" in the mid-19th century as strategic rather than wholesale. Chronicling the U.S. occupation of 1912–33, he argues that the anti-American turn of Nicaragua's most Americanized oligarchs stemmed largely from the efforts of U.S. bankers, marines, and missionaries to spread their own version of the American dream. In part, the oligarchs' reversal reflected their anguish over the 1920s rise of Protestantism, the "modern woman," and other "vices of modernity" emanating from the United States. But it also responded to the unintended ways that U.S. modernization efforts enabled peasants to weaken landlord power. Gobat demonstrates that the U.S. occupation so profoundly affected Nicaragua that it helped engender the Sandino Rebellion of 1927–33, the Somoza dictatorship of 1936–79, and the Sandinista Revolution of 1979–90.

## Book Information

Series: American Encounters/Global Interactions

Paperback: 392 pages

Publisher: Duke University Press Books (December 27, 2005)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0822336472

ISBN-13: 978-0822336471

Product Dimensions: 6.1 x 1 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 6 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,153,806 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #54 in Books > History > Americas > Central America > Nicaragua #1053 in Books > Textbooks > Humanities > History > Latin America #1163 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Politics & Government > International & World Politics > Caribbean & Latin American

## Customer Reviews

Ã¢ "Extraordinarily engaging, Confronting the American Dream is far and away the best work ever written on the convoluted path of elite/Conservative disenchantment with the U. S. imperial project in Nicaragua. Its relevance to broader historical and contemporary phenomena throughout Latin America and well beyond is really quite remarkable." Lowell Gudmundson, coauthor of Central America, 1821-1871: Liberalism before Liberal Reform "This is a beautifully argued and researched book" one of the most important and revealing case studies we have in U.S. Latin American relations. But it goes far beyond that. Without ever significantly moving past the 1930s, Michel Gobat has provided an indictment of the early-twenty-first-century embrace of American empire and, in a model of scholarship, provided stunning insights into the ironies and tragedies of the misuse of U.S. power. "Walter LaFeber, author of America, Russia, and the Cold War, 1945-2002

"Extraordinarily engaging, "Confronting the American Dream" is far and away the best work ever written on the convoluted path of elite/Conservative disenchantment with the U. S. imperial project in Nicaragua. Its relevance to broader historical and contemporary phenomena throughout Latin America and well beyond is really quite remarkable."-- Lowell Gudmundson, coauthor of "Central America, 1821-1871: Liberalism before Liberal Reform"

I am a Nicaraguan and this book is extremely accurate. It is a must to anyone studying the turbulent, violent, fair and unfair relationships between the United States of America and Nicaragua in particular and Latin America in general. Very well documented and supported in facts and not the myths of the leftists intellectuals very prone to US bashing. It describes us as we were, as we are and as we will be. Explain lots of historical and transcendental happenings y a very clear and concise manner. It worth every dollar that you pay for it. Highly recommended.

Great book. Very well researched. My great great grandmother told my father about her memories

of that time frame between 1912 and 1933 when the US was heavily involved in Nicaragua. Nice to read up on the history through a very well written book. Gave it to my father as a gift after I read it. He loved it as well.

This book was essential in helping me write my BA thesis. It was informative, easy to read, and well-organized. It was recommended to me by one of my Spanish professors at the University of Chicago and also assigned as reading in a history class at UChicago, so it's respected by top scholars.

Extremely informative. Great piece of research. A must for Nicaraguan History, Sociology and Literature.

### Excellent History

If you REALLY want to know about the USA involvement in Nicaragua read this book. One comes away with a clear picture of the years 1912 through 1933 in Nicaragua. To be even better the book could have explored the position of the middle and worker class but information is scarce. All in all one of the best books written on this era in Central America

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Confronting the American Dream: Nicaragua under U.S. Imperial Rule (American Encounters/Global Interactions) Dreams: Discover the Meaning of Your Dreams and How to Dream What You Want - Dream Interpretation, Lucid Dreaming, and Dream Psychology (+BONUS) (Dream Analysis, Dream Meanings, Lucid Dream) From the Revolution to the Maquiladoras: Gender, Labor, and Globalization in Nicaragua (American Encounters/Global Interactions) The American Colonial State in the Philippines: Global Perspectives (American Encounters/Global Interactions) Linked Labor Histories: New England, Colombia, and the Making of a Global Working Class (American Encounters/Global Interactions) Nora Roberts Dream Trilogy CD Collection: Daring to Dream, Holding the Dream, Finding the Dream (Dream Series) Footprint Nicaragua (Nicaragua Guidebook) (Nicaragua Travel Guide) Costa Rica, Nicaragua & Panama Handbook: Travel guide to Costa Rica, Nicaragua & Panama (Footprint Costa Rica, Nicaragua & Panama Handbook) From Silver to Cocaine: Latin American Commodity Chains and the Building of the World Economy, 1500–2000 (American Encounters/Global Interactions) Empire of Care: Nursing and Migration in Filipino American History (American Encounters/Global Interactions) Aloha Betrayed:

Native Hawaiian Resistance to American Colonialism (American Encounters/Global Interactions)  
The Dictator's Seduction: Politics and the Popular Imagination in the Era of Trujillo (American Encounters/Global Interactions) The Dictator Next Door: The Good Neighbor Policy and the Trujillo Regime in the Dominican Republic, 1930-1945 (American Encounters/Global Interactions) Tropical Zion: General Trujillo, FDR, and the Jews of SosÃƒÂ³a (American Encounters/Global Interactions) Paper Cadavers: The Archives of Dictatorship in Guatemala (American Encounters/Global Interactions) Silence on the Mountain: Stories of Terror, Betrayal, and Forgetting in Guatemala (American Encounters/Global Interactions) AdiÃƒÂ¡s Muchachos: A Memoir of the Sandinista Revolution (American Encounters/Global Interactions) Borderland on the Isthmus: Race, Culture, and the Struggle for the Canal Zone (American Encounters/Global Interactions) Emperors in the Jungle: The Hidden History of the U.S. in Panama (American Encounters/Global Interactions) In Search of the : Brazil, the United States, and the Nature of a Region (American Encounters/Global Interactions)

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)