Welcome to the course

This course is designed to introduce students to the politics of Latin America. Latin America is a diverse region comprised of 34 countries with 10% of the world’s population. As Canadians we are becoming more acquainted with the region in recent years through music, film, literature, travel and business. Since the North American Free Trade Agreement came into effect in 1994, Canadian exports to Mexico have tripled and Canadian investment in Mexico has quadrupled. The Free Trade Agreement of the Americas (FTAA) is currently under negotiation but will not likely succeed.

This course offers the opportunity to understand the politics of this region through an examination of the history, governments and political actors of Latin America. A special emphasis is placed on the political processes that emerge from a particular cultural, social, economic and political environment. Throughout the course, we will look at more specific issues such as: democracy, dictatorship, revolution, attempted revolution, populism, neopopulism, social movements, economic reform, debt and U.S. involvement.

Theory is complemented with an examination of politics in selected countries. The countries covered in the course include: Nicaragua, Peru, Chile, Argentina and Mexico. Thematic issues discussed throughout the course include political stability and civil society.

Students are given the opportunity to explore additional issues that emerge from the course in their term paper.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Participation</th>
<th>Attendance and participation</th>
<th>10%</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Map Quiz</td>
<td>January 19th</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paper Outline</td>
<td><strong>Due in Class</strong> – February 16th</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term paper</td>
<td><strong>Due in Class</strong> – March 23rd</td>
<td>35%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>Formal exam period (April 9 – 28)</td>
<td>30%</td>
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Attendance/Participation Attendance is mandatory and will be kept. Significant participation is required to excel.

Map Quiz Students will be asked to locate 10 selected cities from amongst Latin America’s capital cities or cities that are of historic or economic importance. Non-capital cities that might be included on the quiz include: Potosi, Rio de Janerio, Sao Paolo, Veracruz, Cartagena, Cuzco, Cajamarca, Medellin and Callao. Cities must be placed with reasonable accuracy so, for example, a city that lies in the interior must not be placed on the coast and a city in the mountains must not be placed in the Amazon Basin. Recommended: locate all the above cities in an Atlas and then seek to place them on the physical geography map in your textbook.

Research Paper Proposal should include: two double-spaced pages (paragraph format) explaining the proposed essay. The proposal must include 1) a clear research question or what is it you are going to examine 2) a description of what issues you are going to examine in order to answer your question, and 3) a tentative thesis statement which is essentially the one sentence answer to your question and 4) a bibliography with at least 8 academic sources including at least one book.
Research papers should be 13-15 pages in length. Essays should be double-spaced, with 1.25 inch margins. Essays should include a title page, page numbers and bibliography.

Late penalty: All papers must be submitted at the beginning of class the day they are due. After this time late penalties will be applied. The late penalty is 2% off per day late (weekends count as one day, e.g. if due on Friday and handed in on Monday -4% will be deducted) unless there is evidence (e.g., a doctor’s note) of significant medical or personal reasons preventing submission on time. Only hard copies will be accepted. No papers will be accepted after the last class.

The final exam will cover all the material in the course. To be scheduled during the formal exam period (April 9 – 28).

REQUIRED BOOKS


Latin America Politics POL3204 Coursepack

COURSE OUTLINE

READING LIST

Part I: Introduction and Historical Background

Week 1 (January 5th) – Introduction to the course and to Studying Latin America
  Vanden and Prevost, Chapter 1, pp. 1-16, Introduction xi-xvii

Week 2 (January 12th) – Short survey of Latin American History
  Vanden and Prevost, Chapter 2, Chapter 3,
  E. Bradford Burns, “The Modernization of Underdevelopment: El Salvador, 1858-1931” in
  Charles K. Wilber ed. The Political Economy of Development and Underdevelopment (New
  Film: “The Conquistadors” (28 minutes –)

Recommended:
  W. George Lovell, “Surviving conquest: the Maya of Guatemala in historical perspective,” Latin

  Coatsworth, John (1978), “Obstacles to Economic growth in Nineteenth-century Mexico,” The
  American Historical Review, Vol. 83, no. 1, pps. 80-100.

  Cristina Rojas de Ferro (1995), “The `will to civilization’ and its encounter with laissez-faire,”

Part II: Contemporary Challenges in Latin American Politics

Week 3 (January 19th) – Economics, the International System and Neo-liberalism
  Map quiz today!

  Leslie Elliot Armijo and Philippe Faucher (2002), “We have a consensus’: Explaining political support

Vanden & Prevost, ch.7.


**Recommended**


**Week 4 (January 26th) Mexico: So close to the United States, So far from God**

Vanden & Prevost, ch.12


**Recommended:**


**Week 5 (February 2nd): From Liberalism to ISI: Modernization and Dependency theory**

Vanden and Prevost, Chapter 7,
David F. Ruccio and Lawrence H. Simon, “Radical Theories of Development, Frank, The Modes of Production School, and Amin.”

Film: The Garden of Forking Paths – Dilemmas of National Development

Recommended:


Fernando Henrique Cardoso and Enzo Faletto (1979), Dependency and Development in Latin America, Berkeley, University of California Press.


Week 6 (February 9th) – Authoritarianism, Democracy, Adjustment in Argentina

Research Paper Proposal due
Vanden and Prevost, Chapter 15.


Film: “The Take”

Recommended:
Vanden and Prevost, Chapter 11, pp. 285-323.


Alison Brysk, “From Above and below: social movements, the international system, and human rights in Argentina,” Comparative Political Studies 26, no. 3 (1993), pp. 259-285.


Week 7 (February 16th) – From Authoritarianism to Democracy; The Military in Politics

Vanden and Prevost, Chapter 8,


**Recommended:**


**Week 8 Reading Week February 23rd**

**Week 9 (March 2nd) Chile: Authoritarianism and Neo-liberalism**

Vanden and Prevost, Chapter 16

**Week 10 (March 9th) What Kind of Democracy is this? Populism, Neopopulism and questions about Civil Society**


**Week 11 (March 16th) – Peru: The search for stability**


**Week 12 (March 23rd) – From Revolution to Civil Society?**

**Research Paper Due!**

Vanden and Prevost, Chapter 10.


**Film:** “Fire in the Mind” (60 min. 207375)

**Recommended:**


**Week 13 (March 30th) – Nicaragua The failure of revolution?**

Vanden and Prevost, Chapter 19.


Recommended:


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**Academic Accommodations**

**For Students with Disabilities:** Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations in this course are encouraged to contact the Paul Menton Centre (PMC) for Students with Disabilities (500 University Centre) to complete the necessary forms. After registering with the PMC, make an appointment to meet with the instructor in order to discuss your needs **at least two weeks before the first in-class test or CUTV midterm exam.** This will allow for sufficient time to process your request. Please note the following deadlines for submitting completed forms to the PMC for formally scheduled exam accommodations: **November 6th, 2006** for fall and fall/winter term courses, and **March 9th, 2007** for winter term courses.

**For Religious Observance:** Students requesting accommodation for religious observances should apply in writing to their instructor for alternate dates and/or means of satisfying academic requirements. Such requests should be made during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist, but no later than two weeks before the compulsory academic event. Accommodation is to be worked out directly and on an individual basis between the student and the instructor(s) involved. Instructors will make accommodations in a way that avoids academic disadvantage to the student. Instructors and students may contact an Equity Services Advisor for assistance ([www.carleton.ca/equity](http://www.carleton.ca/equity)).

**For Pregnancy:** Pregnant students requiring academic accommodations are encouraged to contact an Equity Advisor in Equity Services to complete a *letter of accommodation*. Then, make an appointment to discuss your needs with the instructor at least two weeks prior to the first academic event in which it is anticipated the accommodation will be required.

**Plagiarism:** The Undergraduate Calendar defines plagiarism as: "to use and pass off as one's own idea or product, work of another without expressly giving credit to another.” The Graduate Calendar states that plagiarism has occurred when a student either: (a) directly copies another's work without acknowledgment; or (b) closely paraphrases the equivalent of a short paragraph or more without acknowledgment; or (c) borrows, without acknowledgment, any ideas in a clear and recognizable form in such a way as to present them as the student's own thought, where such ideas, if they were the student's own would contribute to the merit of his or her own work. Instructors who suspect plagiarism are required to submit the paper and supporting documentation to the Departmental Chair who will refer the case to the
Dean. It is not permitted to hand in the same assignment to two or more courses. The Department's Style Guide is available at: www.carleton.ca/polisci/undergrad/styleguide.pdf

**Oral Examination:** At the discretion of the instructor, students may be required to pass a brief oral examination on research papers and essays.

**Submission and Return of Term Work:** Papers must be handed directly to the instructor and will not be date-stamped in the departmental office. Late assignments may be submitted to the drop box in the corridor outside B640 Loeb. Assignments will be retrieved every business day at 4 p.m., stamped with that day's date, and then distributed to the instructor. For essays not returned in class please attach a **stamped, self-addressed envelope** if you wish to have your assignment returned by mail. Please note that assignments sent via fax or email will not be accepted. Final exams are intended solely for the purpose of evaluation and will not be returned.

**Approval of final grades:** Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by an instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.

**Course Requirements:** Students must fulfill all course requirements in order to achieve a passing grade. Failure to hand in any assignment will result in a grade of F. Failure to write the final exam will result in a grade of ABS. FND (Failure – No Deferred) is assigned when a student's performance is so poor during the term that they cannot pass the course even with 100% on the final examination. In such cases, instructors may use this notation on the Final Grade Report to indicate that a student has already failed the course due to inadequate term work and should not be permitted access to a deferral of the examination. Deferred final exams are available **ONLY** if the student is in good standing in the course.

**Connect Email Accounts:** The Department of Political Science strongly encourages students to sign up for a campus email account. Important course and University information will be distributed via the Connect email system. See [http://connect.carleton.ca](http://connect.carleton.ca) for instructions on how to set up your account.