

**LATIN AMERICAN POLITICS AND CULTURE  
THROUGH FILM AND TEXT  
Professor: Professor D. Goldstein  
Anthropology 4020-002  
Spring 2003**

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**Class:** T Th: 3:30-4:45 p.m. in Guggenheim 205  
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**General Information:**

Professor Goldstein's Office Hours: Hale 445

Wed.: 1-3:00

(please use sign-up sheet on office door; walk-ins possible if empty slots)

**Tel.:** (303) 492-5484 (please call during office hours, if possible)

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**In Case of Emergency, Call Anthropology Department Front Desk: 492-2547**  
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**Final Exam Date:**

(Do Not Plan to Leave Town Before This Examination: There are No Make-ups)

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**Note:** The College will make reasonable accommodations for persons with documented disabilities. Students should notify the Counselor for Students with Disabilities, Disability Services Office, located in Willard 322 (phone 303-492-8671) and their instructors of any special needs. Instructors should be notified the first day of classes. Students with disabilities who may need academic accommodations should discuss options with me during the first two weeks of class.  
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**Course Description:**

**Prerequisite is Frontiers of Cultural Anthropology 2100**

This course introduces students to the political culture and societies of Latin America. Through historical and ethnographic text and through documentary and non-documentary cinema, we will explore relations of power, class relations, ideology, and resistance from the colonial conquest to the present, including the effects of North American foreign policy, economic dependency, underdevelopment and development, religious and political institutions, the military, and neoliberal economic policies in the context of globalization. I expect discussions to be at a 4000-level and the quantity and quality of readings, while reasonable, will also be ambitious.  
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**WHAT YOU WILL NEED:**

**1) Packet of Required Articles:**

Beginning the first week of class, copies of the entire reader will be available for you to purchase. It is a requirement of the course that you purchase the reader. **The following articles are in the reader:**

1. Skidmore, Thomas E. and Peter H. Smith. 2001. *Modern Latin America*. "Why Latin America" and "Chapter One: The Colonial Foundations 1492-1880s." Oxford: Oxford University Press, pp. 1-41.

2. Seed, Patricia. 1995. *Ceremonies of Possession in Europe's Conquest of the New World, 1492-1640*. "Introduction" and "The Requirement: A Protocol for Conquest," pp. 1-15, pp. 69-99.

3. Galeano, Eduardo. 1997 [1973]. *Open Veins of Latin America*. "Chapter One: Lust for Gold, Lust for Silver." New York: Monthly Review Press, pp. 11-58.
4. Díaz del Castillo, Bernal. 1996. *The Discovery and Conquest of Mexico 1517-1521*. "The Expedition Under Cortés." New York: Da Capo Press, pp. 31-68. (translated into English, from the original scribe the conquest of Mexico)
5. Galeano, Eduardo. 1973. *Open Veins of Latin America*. "Chapter Two: King Sugar and Other Agricultural Monarchs." New York: Monthly Review Press, pp. 59-133.
6. Schwartz, Stuart. 1996. "The Landed Elite." In *The Countryside in Colonial Latin America*, edited by Lousa Schell Hoberman and Susan Migden Socolow. Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, pp. 97-121.
7. Stavenhagen, Rodolfo. 1968. "Seven Fallacies About Latin America." In *Latin America: Reform or Revolution?* edited by James Petras and Maurice Zeitlin. Greenwich, Conn. Fawcett Publications, Inc., pp. 13-31.
8. Skidmore, Thomas E. and Peter H. Smith. 2001. *Modern Latin America*. "Chapter Two: The Transformation of Modern Latin America, 1880s-1990s." Oxford: Oxford University Press, pp. 42-67.
9. Dunkerley, James. 1999. "The United States and Latin America in the Long Run (1800-1945)." In *The United States and Latin America: The New Agenda*, edited by Victor Bulmer-Thomas and James Dunkerley. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, pp. 3-31.
10. Gilderhus, Mark T. 2000. *The Second Century: U.S.-Latin American Relations Since 1889*. "Chapter Four: Cold War, Dependency, and Change 1945-1959," and "Chapter Five: Castro, Cuba, and Containment 1959-1979." Wilmington, Delaware: Scholarly Resources, Inc., pp. 113-212.
11. Skidmore, Thomas E. and Peter H. Smith. 2001. *Modern Latin America*. "Chapter Eight: Cuba: Late Colony, First Socialist State." Oxford: Oxford University Press, pp. 259-288.
12. Coerver, Don M. and Linda B. Hall. 1999. *Tangled Destinies: Latin America and the United States*. "Chapter 5: Cold War and Social Revolution, 1945-1968." Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, pp. 104-134.
13. Skidmore, Thomas E. and Peter H. Smith. 2001. *Modern Latin America*. "Chapter Four: Chile: Socialism, Repression, and Democracy." Oxford: Oxford University Press, pp. 107-136.
14. Kalfon, Pierre. 1973. "The Setting." In *The End of Chilean Democracy*, edited by Laurence Birns. New York: The Seabury Press, pp. 9-27.
15. Volk, Steven. 1983. "The Lessons and Legacy of a Dark Decade." NACLA: Report on the Americas, Vol. 17, No. 5: 2-14.
16. Dinges, John. 1983. "The Rise of the Opposition." NACLA: Report on the Americas, Vol. 17, No. 5: 15-26.

17. Hoeffel, Paul Heath, and Peter Kornbluh. 1983. "The War at Home: Chile's Legacy in the United States." *NACLA: Report on the Americas*, Vol. 17, No. 5:27-41.

18. Robinson, William I. "Polyarchy: Coercion's New Face in Latin America." *NACLA: Report on the Americas*, Vol. 34, No. 3:42-48.

19. Skidmore, Thomas E. and Peter H. Smith. 2001. *Modern Latin America*. "Five: Argentina: Prosperity, Deadlock, and Change." Oxford: Oxford University Press, pp. 68-106.

20. Suárez-Orozco, Marcelo. "A Grammar of Terror: Psychocultural Responses to State Terrorism in Dirty War and Post-Dirty War Argentina." In *The Paths to Domination, Resistance, and Terror*, edited by Carolyn Nordstrom and JoAnn Martin. Berkeley and Los Angeles: University of California Press, pp. 219-259.

21. Bouvard, Marguerite Guzman. 1994. *Revolutionizing Motherhood: The Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo*. "Introduction: The Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo," "Chapter 1: The Dirty War," and "Chapter 9: A New Model in the Struggle for Human Rights," and "Chapter Chapter 10: Taking Space: Women and Political Power." Wilmington, Delaware: Scholarly Resources, Inc., pp. 1-45, 219-260.

22. Goldstein, Donna. 2003. *Laughter Out of Place: Race, Class, Violence and Sexuality in a Brazilian Shantytown*. "Chapter 2: The Aesthetics of Domination: Class, Culture, and the Lives of Domestic Workers." Berkeley and Los Angeles: University of California Press.

23. Goldstein, Donna. 2003. *Laughter Out of Place: Race, Class, Violence and Sexuality in a Brazilian Shantytown*. "Chapter 5: State Terror, Gangs, and Everyday Violence in Rio de Janeiro." Berkeley and Los Angeles: University of California Press.

WITHOUT THESE ARTICLES AS A SET OF YOUR OWN TO MARK UP AND TO READ AT HOME, YOU WILL NOT HAVE THE COMPLETE INFORMATION TO PERFORM WELL IN THIS CLASS. ALL OF THE ABOVE ARE REQUIRED.



**Expectations:**

I hope that you will want to attend this class, and that you will participate in the fullest possible way. Since approximately half of the classes involve film viewing, it is important that students come prepared, that is, having read the week's assigned materials preferably by the Tuesday session and definitely by the Thursday session. It is imperative that you take notes on the films' content as information and/or write your thoughts about the film soon after viewing it.

If you miss a class during which time we are showing a film, you are welcome to go to the Academic Media Services on the 3rd floor of the Stadium building (Gate 9) or to rent it from Video Stateion and watch the film on your own. Some of the films are not available, however. In such cases, you will need to track the film down **on your own**.

If you miss a lecture class, please ask to borrow a fellow student's notes for that day. You are (at the very least) expected to read the assignments **before** class and come prepared to discuss the topic of the day.

I adhere to the academic honesty rules of this university. I expect you to do your own work. This entails citing sources correctly, including internet sources. (Internet sources are

cited by giving the URL and the date accessed.) Cheating on exams, papers, etc. is simply unacceptable. In the case of cheating or of plagiarism, there will be a zero given for the course.



**Grading Policy and Examinations:**

**1. Class Participation and Attendance: 10%**

Although attendance is necessary, it is not sufficient to receive full credit. It is not possible to get an “A” in this course while failing to participate in class discussion. Any student having difficulties with this portion of the requirements needs to contact me during the first two weeks of the semester.

**2. Final Examination: 40%**

The final examination is **Saturday, May 3rd at 7:30-10:00 a.m.** It will be cumulative, that is, it will cover material from the entire course. The format for this exam is still to be determined, but will most likely be fact-oriented and drawn from the entire semester’s **readings**. This suggests that students ought to take notes on their readings throughout the semester.

**3. Two Film Diaries: 50% (Each one is worth approximately 25% of your grade)**

Film Diaries ensure that you have seen and thought about the films that you are viewing in class. They also ensure that you have synthesized the reading materials into your understanding of the films. You should buy a 3-ring notebook or some other item to take notes in during class. You will need to take notes on each and every film. Then, twice during the semester you will need to hand in your film diaries. Film diaries are sophisticated, well thought-out papers that address the relationship between the readings in the course and the information and symbolic content of the films themselves. The format for what you hand in to me is very specific:

1-Each diary will discuss 3 films; it will be as if you are handing in three separate papers, each of which are 3 pages in length. The total number of pages you hand me should be 9 pages on 8 1/2” X 11” paper, 12 point font, double-spaced, with margins of one inch all around. Do not put a plastic cover on the project, but merely a cover page with your name, student identification number and the names of the films you are analyzing. You must use MLA or APA formats, or any format consistently where you

- a) use footnotes
- b) cite relevant sources from your readings
- c) include bibliography, even if it is only texts from the course. Be sure to include anything you found on the internet as well. With internet sources, you cite the URL and the date you found the material.

If you cannot follow these directions, I will hand the paper back to you and deduct a half grade from your final grade for this project.

2-To do well on this project, you will need to think about the content of the film, about what the filmmakers are attempting to do in terms of presentation of content, and you will need to relate that information to the readings and lectures of the class. **Without citing written text from the class, the highest grade you can receive on this assignment is a “C.”**



**Required Films:**

The following is a tentative list of the films you will see.

1. Conquistadors Part 1: Cortes in Mexico (CU-Boulder)
2. I Am Cuba (Video Station)
3. The Other Cuba (Video Station)
4. Battle of Chile (Parts 1 and 2) (CU-Boulder)
5. Missing (Video Station)
6. Fernando is Back (not available on campus)
7. The Official Story (Video Station)
8. Chronically Unfeasible (CU-Boulder)
9. Pixote (Video Station)
10. To be announced
11. To be announced
12. To be announced

There may be other films added or substituted and some viewed during class lecture depending on availability.

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### **Week 1. Some Background on Latin America and Colonialism**

#### **Readings:**

#### **Required Readings:**

1. Skidmore, Thomas E. and Peter H. Smith. 2001. *Modern Latin America*. "Why Latin America" and "Chapter One: The Colonial Foundations 1492-1880s." Oxford: Oxford University Press, pp. 1-41.

#### **Class:**

**January 14:** Introduction to Class, Syllabus, Policies

**January 16:** General Introduction to Latin America, Readings

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### **Week 2. Rituals of Conquest**

#### **Required Readings:**

1. Seed, Patricia. 1995. *Ceremonies of Possession in Europe's Conquest of the New World, 1492-1640*. "Introduction" and "The Requirement: A Protocol for Conquest," pp. 1-15, pp. 69-99.
2. Galeano, Eduardo. 1973. *Open Veins of Latin America*. "Chapter One: Lust for Gold, Lust for Silver." New York: Monthly Review Press, pp. 11-58.
3. Díaz del Castillo, Bernal. 1996. *The Discovery and Conquest of Mexico 1517-1521*. "The Expedition Under Cortés." New York: Da Capo Press. pp. 31-68. (translated into English, from the original scribe the conquest of Mexico)

#### **Class:**

**January 21:** Film: "Conquistadors" (About Cortes in Mexico, BBC Production, 60 minutes)

**January 23:** Discussion of Film and Readings

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### **Week 3. Sugar, Coffee, Peasants, Elites and Latifundia**

**Required Readings:**

1. Galeano, Eduardo. 1973. *Open Veins of Latin America*. "Chapter Two: King Sugar and Other Agricultural Monarchs." New York: Monthly Review Press, pp. 59-133.

2. Schwartz, Stuart. 1996. "The Landed Elite." In *The Countryside in Colonial Latin America*, edited by Lousa Schell Hoberman and Susan Migden Socolow. Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press. pp. 97-121.

3. Stavenhagen, Rodolfo. 1968. "Seven Fallacies About Latin America." In *Latin America: Reform or Revolution?* edited by James Petras and Maurice Zeitlin. Greenwich, Conn. Fawcett Publications, Inc., pp. 13-31.

**Class:**

**January 28:** Film Part 1: "I Am Cuba" (70 minutes)

**January 30:** Discussion of Readings, Film

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**Week 4. Transformations and Entanglements with the U.S.A.: Focus on Cuba**

**Required Readings:**

1. Skidmore, Thomas E. and Peter H. Smith. 2001. *Modern Latin America*. "Chapter Two: The Transformation of Modern Latin America, 1880s-1990s." Oxford: Oxford University Press, pp. 42-67.

2. Dunkerley, James. 1999. "The United States and Latin America in the Long Run (1800-1945)." In *The United States and Latin America: The New Agenda*, edited by Victor Bulmer-Thomas and James Dunkerley. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, pp. 3-31.

**Class:**

**February 4:** Film Part 2: "I Am Cuba" (70 minutes)

**February 6:** Discussion of Readings and Film

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**Week 5. Development, Dependency, and World Systems Theory**

**Required Readings:**

1. Frank, A.G. 1967. *Capitalism and Underdevelopment in Latin America: Historical Studies of Chile and Brazil*. "Capitalist Development of Underdevelopment in Brazil," and New York and London: Monthly Review Press, pp. 145-218.

**Class:**

**February 11:** Film: "Memories of Underdevelopment" (96 minutes)

**February 13:** Continue Film, Discussion of Articles, Film

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**Week 6. The Case of Cuba**

**Required Readings:**

1. Gilderhus, Mark T. 2000. "Chapter Four: Cold War, Dependency, and Change 1945-1959," and "Chapter Five: Castro, Cuba, and Containment 1959-1979." In *The Second Century: U.S.-Latin American Relations Since 1889*, Wilmington, Delaware: Scholarly Resources, Inc., pp. 113-212.
2. Skidmore, Thomas E. and Peter H. Smith. 2001. *Modern Latin America*. "Chapter Eight: Cuba: Late Colony, First Socialist State." Oxford: Oxford University Press, pp. 259-288.
3. Coerver, Don M. and Linda B. Hall. 1999. *Tangled Destinies: Latin America and the United States*. "Chapter 5: Cold War and Social Revolution, 1945-1968." Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, pp. 104-134.

**Class:**

**February 18:** Film: "The Other Cuba" (94 minutes)

**February 20:** Last 20 minutes of "The Other Cuba" and Discussion of Readings, Film



**Week 7: Chile, The Longest-Running Democracy in Latin America**

**Required Readings:**

1. Skidmore, Thomas E. and Peter H. Smith. 2001. *Modern Latin America*. "Chapter Four: Chile: Socialism, Repression, and Democracy." Oxford: Oxford University Press, pp. 107-136.
2. Kalfon, Pierre. 1973. "The Setting." In *The End of Chilean Democracy*, edited by Laurence Birns. New York: The Seabury Press, pp. 9-27.
3. You need to rent the film "Missing" and watch at home by March 6th. **Make a Film Diary Entry for this film.**

**Class:**

**February 25:** Film: "Battle of Chile Part 1" (96 minutes)

**February 27:** Continuation of Film: "Battle of Chile Part 1" and Discussion of Readings



**Week 8: Civil War, US Intervention, and the Chilean Case**

**Required Readings:**

NONE

**FILM DIARY #1 IS DUE ON MARCH 6 IN CLASS**

**Class:**

**March 4:** "Battle of Chile Part 2" (88 minutes)

**March 6:** Continuation of Part II and Discussion of Readings, Film

**FILM DIARY DUE IN CLASS**



**Week 9. Neoliberal Dreams, The Pinochet Years and After**

**Required Readings:**

1. Volk, Steven. 1983. "The Lessons and Legacy of a Dark Decade." NACLA: Report on the Americas, Vol. 17, No. 5: 2-14.
2. Dinges, John. 1983. "The Rise of the Opposition." NACLA: Report on the Americas, Vol. 17, No. 5: 15-26.
3. Hoeffel, Paul Heath, and Peter Kornbluh. 1983. "The War at Home: Chile's Legacy in the United States." NACLA: Report on the Americas, Vol. 17, No. 5:27-41.
4. Robinson, William I. "Polyarchy: Coercion's New Face in Latin America." NACLA: Report on the Americas, Vol. 34, No. 3:42-48.

**Class:**

**March 11:** Film: "Fernando is Back"

**March 13:** Discussion of Readings on Pinochet Years and After

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**Week 10. The Dirty War in Argentina**

**Required Readings:**

1. Skidmore, Thomas E. and Peter H. Smith. 2001. *Modern Latin America*. "Five: Argentina: Prosperity, Deadlock, and Change." Oxford: Oxford University Press, pp. 68-106.
2. Suárez-Orozco, Marcelo. "A Grammar of Terror: Psychocultural Responses to State Terrorism in Dirty War and Post-Dirty War Argentina." *In The Paths to Domination, Resistance, and Terror*, edited by Carolyn Nordstrom and JoAnn Martin. Berkeley and Los Angeles: University of California Press, pp. 219-259.

**Class:**

**March 18:** Film: "The Official Story" (110 minutes)

**March 20:** Film Continued, Discussion of Text and Films

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**Week 11: SPRING BREAK: NO CLASSES OR RECITATIONS**

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**Week 12. Argentina Continued**

**Required Readings:**

1. Bouvard, Marguerite Guzman. 1994. *Revolutionizing Motherhood: The Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo*. "Introduction: The Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo," "Chapter 1: The Dirty War," and "Chapter 9: A New Model in the Struggle for Human Rights," and "Chapter Chapter 10: Taking Space: Women and Political Power," pp. 1-45, 219-260.

**Class:**

**April 1:** Film: "Las Madres De Plaza del Mayo" (64 minutes)

**April 3:** Discussion of Las Madres

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**Week 13: Everyday Class Relations and Poverty in Contemporary Brazil**

**Required Readings:**

1. Goldstein, Donna. 2003. *Laughter Out of Place: Race, Class, Violence and Sexuality in a Brazilian Shantytown*. "Chapter 2: The Aesthetics of Domination: Class, Culture, and the Lives of Domestic Workers." Berkeley and Los Angeles: University of California Press.

**Class:**

**April 8:** Film: "Chronically Unfeasible" or Something Else

**April 10:** Continue Film and Discussion of Goldstein's Chapter 2



**Week 14: Everyday Violence in Brazil**

**Required Readings:**

1. Goldstein, Donna. 2003. *Laughter Out of Place: Race, Class, Violence and Sexuality in a Brazilian Shantytown*. "Chapter 5: State Terror, Gangs, and Everyday Violence in Rio de Janeiro." Berkeley and Los Angeles: University of California Press.

**Class:**

**April 15:** Film: "Pixote"

**April 17:** Continue Film and Discussion of Goldstein's Chapter 5



**Week 15: Film Festival: Films to be announced**

**Required Readings:**

NONE

**Class:**

**April 22:** To be Announced

**April 24:** To be Announced



**Week 16: Film Festival: Films to be announced**

**Required Readings:**

NONE

**SECOND FILM DIARY IS DUE ON APRIL 29TH IN CLASS**

**Class:**

**April 29:** To be Announced

**May 1:** To be Announced



**The Final Examination for this class will take place on  
May 3rd at 7:30 a.m.- 10:00 a.m. in Guggenheim 205**