

LATIN AMERICAN POLITICAL SYSTEMS

Spring 2012
Tuesday and Thursday
9:30 AM-10:45 AM VAC 1B90
12:30-1:45 PM Club 13

Instructor: Raymond Foxworth
Office: Ketchum 5C
Office Hours: Tues/Thurs 11-11:50 A.M.
(appointment)

PSCI 3032, Fall 2011
University of Colorado, Boulder
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COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is an introduction to the politics of Latin America. We will focus on debates over three areas: (1) democracy in the region, (2) the economy, and (3) the role of the United States. We will split our time between theoretical debates and discussion of countries including Argentina, Chile, Peru, Brazil, Mexico, Bolivia, and Venezuela. In all, the goal of this course is to offer students with an introduction to the modern political history of Latin America, an eye toward considering social scientific explanations for the region's economic, political, and social development.

REQUIRED TEXTS

All readings listed on this syllabus are required. Three books are available for purchase at the CU Book Store and they are:

1. Vanden, Harry E. and Gary Prevost. 2012. *Politics of Latin America: The Power Game*, 4th edition. New York: Oxford University Press.
2. Thornton, Lawrence. *Imagining Argentina*. Bantam, 1991.
3. Peter Smith. 2008. *Talons of the Eagle: Latin America, the United States and the World*. New York: Oxford University Press.

In addition, I will assign and provide readings from other sources. These readings will be available on Desire2Learn (D2L). The remaining reading materials will be made available on course electronic reserves. On this syllabus, readings from Vanden and Prevost are abbreviated (V&P).

COURSE WORK AND GRADING

The class is centered on readings, lectures, films, and class discussions. Students are expected to come to class prepared to discuss the readings and lecture material. There are two grading options for this course and you may choose the one that best suits you. For both option, 20% of your grade will be based on class participation and reading quizzes and a map quiz worth 5%. For those of you choosing Option A, the remainder of your grade will be based on two midterm exams (20% each) and a final exam (35%). For those of you choosing Option B, you will write a research paper in addition to the three exams, and your grade calculation will be changed as described below. Please note those examinations are closed-book. As well, examinations will not be given to anyone on a day other than that already specified on this syllabus. Students with disabilities who require alternative arrangements must notify me soon about their needs.

Option A

Requirement	Due Date	% of Final Grade
Participation and Reading Quizzes	Often	20%
Map Quiz		5%
Exam #1		20%
Exam #2		20%
Final Exam	TBA	35%

Option B

Requirement	Due Date	% of Final Grade
Reading Quizzes	Often	20%
Map Quiz		5%
Exam #1		15%
Exam #2		15%
Final Exam	TBA	25%
Final Paper		20%

Attendance

This class has no attendance policy but please note that my PowerPoint slides will not be posted online. Thus, if you miss class you should get class notes from a colleague. If you are a student athlete or have some other emergency come up throughout the semester, it is your responsibility to contact me about these situations.

Participation and Reading quizzes

Reading quizzes and participation make up 20% of your grade. I will give quizzes nearly every week. Please note that quizzes may be given on any day of the week (Tuesday or Thursday), and can cover any of the material from that week, so please have the readings completed by Tuesday of each week. The quizzes will be an excellent study guide for the exams. **Reading quizzes cannot be made up.** Quizzes can be given at any point during the class period. If quizzes are given at the start of class, if you are more than 5 minutes late, you will not be able to take the quiz.

Exams

There will be two midterms and a cumulative final exam. The format of all exams will take the form of multiple choice and short answer and/or essay.

Optional Research Paper

This is not an extra credit assignment. The research paper is an opportunity to write a serious, full-length analytical research paper. This is an excellent opportunity to develop an original project and get feedback on your original project – something that is very hard to offer in large classes. As such, this is an option you should take only if you are willing to work hard, respond well to feedback and criticism and are interested in pushing yourself to produce an interesting, well-researched paper on the topic of your choosing.

The option to write a research paper is a good choice for students who are particularly interested in Latin American politics, who are planning to write an honors thesis and want to get started doing research, or for students who don't feel that they "test well" on exams (maybe multiple choice exams) and want to do extra work to improve their grades.

Requirements:

- You can write the paper on the topic of your choosing, but I ***strongly*** suggest you talk with

me about your idea and get feedback on the topic, organization of the paper, and your plan for research and analysis.

- The final paper must be between **15-20 pages** long, Times New Roman font, double-spaced, with 2-inch margins, page numbers, and a bibliography.
- All papers will be checked for plagiarism through an online service. Plagiarism (including accidental failures to cite properly) will result in a failing grade on the assignment, and will be submitted to the honor council. If you have any questions about what constitutes plagiarism, please see me.
- The final paper is due on **May 3, 2012**, the last day of classes.

CLASS POLICIES

No cell phones in the classroom and make sure you turn the ringer off before class begins. Do not sit in class and text and assume I cannot see you. Moreover, please be respectful to me and your classmates. This means please do not be disruptive and rude to me or your classmates.

Disabilities

If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit to me a letter from Disability Services in a timely manner so that your needs may be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities. Contact: 303-492-8671, Willard 322, and <http://www.Colorado.EDU/disabilityservices>

Religious Observance

Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort to reasonably and fairly deal with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. *Please note, however, that requests for special accommodations need to be presented in a timely manner: at least one week prior to scheduled exams/ assignments.* See full details at http://www.colorado.edu/policies/fac_relig.html

Classroom Behavior

Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. Students who fail to adhere to such behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Faculty have the professional responsibility to treat all students with understanding, dignity and respect, to guide classroom discussion and to set reasonable limits on the manner in which they and their students express opinions. Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with differences of race, culture, religion, politics, sexual orientation, gender, gender variance, and nationalities. Class rosters are provided to the instructor with the student's legal name. I will gladly honor your request to address you by an alternate name or gender pronoun. Please advise me of this preference early in the semester so that I may make appropriate changes to my records. See policies at <http://www.colorado.edu/policies/classbehavior.html> and at <http://www.colorado.edu/studentaffairs/judicialaffairs/code.html> - student_code

Discrimination and Harassment

The University of Colorado at Boulder policy on Discrimination and Harassment, the University of Colorado policy on Sexual Harassment and the University of Colorado policy on Amorous Relationships apply to all students, staff and faculty. Any student, staff or faculty member who believes s/he has been the subject of discrimination or harassment based upon race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status should contact the Office of Discrimination and Harassment (ODH) at 303-492-2127 or the Office of Judicial Affairs at 303-492-5550. Information about the ODH, the above referenced policies, and the campus resources available to assist individuals regarding discrimination or harassment can be obtained at <http://www.colorado.edu/odh>

Academic Integrity

All students of the University of Colorado at Boulder are responsible for knowing and adhering to the academic integrity policy of this institution. Violations of this policy may include: cheating, plagiarism, aid of academic dishonesty, fabrication, lying, bribery, and threatening behavior. All incidents of academic misconduct shall be reported to the Honor Code Council (honor@colorado.edu; 303-725-2273). Students who are found to be in violation of the academic integrity policy will be subject to both academic sanctions from the faculty member and non-academic sanctions (including but not limited to university probation, suspension, or expulsion). Other information on the Honor Code can be found at <http://www.colorado.edu/policies/honor.html> and at <http://www.colorado.edu/academics/honorcode/>

	Topics	Required Readings	Notes
Week 1	Course introduction and why study Latin America?	V&P pp. xvi-17	January 17 and 19
Week 2	Overview of themes and debates: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Democracy 2. Economics 3. Role of the U.S. <p>Recommended: start reading <i>Imagining Argentina</i></p>	Diamond, "Developing Democracy" (D2L) Valenzuela and Valenzuela, "Modernization and Dependency" (D2L)	January 24 and 26
Week 3	Historical Background Recommended: start reading <i>Imagining Argentina</i> Stanley Engerman and Kenneth Sokoloff. "Institutions, Factor Endowments, and Paths of Development in the New World."	V&P pp. 18-54, 79-102 Smith, pp. 13-80	January 31 and February 2
Week 4	Authoritarianism and Democracy Recommended: <i>The Political Economy of Democratic Transitions</i> ; Huntington, Samuel. (1991). "Democracy's Third Wave." <i>Journal of Democracy</i> . Vol. 2, no. 2.	V&P 54-78, 182-187 <i>Imagining Argentina</i>	February 7 and 9 MAP QUIZ Tuesday
Week 5	The Southern Cone: Argentina and Chile	V&P Chapter 16 "Argentina" and 17 "Chile" Smith, pp. 113-181	February 14 and 16
Week 6	Democratic Institutions and Elections	V&P pp. 187-244 Diamond, "Consolidating Democracy"	February 21 and 23
Week 7	Peru	Movie: <i>Fall of Fujimori</i> Skidmore & Smith, Ch 6 (D2L)	February 28 and March 1 EXAM I Tuesday

Week 8	Political Economy	V&P Chapter 7, TBA (?)	March 6 and 8
Week 9	The Giants: Mexico and Brazil	V&P Chapter 15 "Brazil" and Chapter 13 "Mexico"	March 13 and 15
<p>Recommended: Franko, Patrice, <i>The Puzzle of Latin American Economic Development</i>; Frieden, Jeffrey, <i>Modern Political Economy And Latin America: Theory And Policy</i></p>			
Week 10	Revolutions and Social Movements	V&P pp. 245-268 and Chapter 14 "Cuba" Van Cott, "From Movements to Parties" (D2L)	March 20 and 22
<p>Recommended: Yasher, "Resistance and Identity Politics in an Age of Globalization:" Cleaver, "The Zapatista Effect: The Internet and the Rise of an Alternative Political Fabric" Cleaver, "The Zapatista Effect: The Internet and the Rise of an Alternative Political Fabric"</p>			
Week 11	*****Spring Break, No Class***** Mar. 26-30		
Week 12	NGOs and Civil Society	Hulme and Edwards Diamond "Civil Society"	April 3 and 5 EXAM II Thursday
Week 13	Role of the U.S.	Movie: Our Brand is Crisis Smith <i>Talons</i> , pp. 307-415	April 10 and 12
Week 14	The New Left	Corrales (D2L) Smith, pp. 337-368	April 17 and 19
Week 15	Bolivia and Venezuela	V&P Chapter 17 "Venezuela" and Chapter 20 "Bolivia"	No Class April 19 MPSA April 24 and 26
Week 16	Future of Democracy	Smith <i>Democracy</i> chapters (D2L)	May 1 and 3

Note: This will guide us throughout the semester but deviations from this schedule may occur.