

(PALAS 360) Political and Social Change
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Program in Argentine and Latin American Studies
Universidad de Belgrano
Course Syllabus 2015-1

Course Information

Monday- Wednesday 11:30-13:00

Hours of Instruction: 60

Instruction in English

Contact Information

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Course Description

This course focuses on political and social change and its instrumental role in the formation of national identity. Drawing mainly on historic sources, the course analyzes the cases of Mexico, Brazil, Chile, Cuba, Venezuela, Bolivia and Argentina. Students will get familiar not only with the political system and parties but also with the uprising of new social actors and protest movements and prospects resulting from the dialogue between states, societies and social forces. The course will also address the role citizenship and institutions play in democracy nowadays and the effect the succession of repressive military dictatorships had in relation to memory.

Course Requirements

Following UB policies, students need a minimum of 75% of attendance to be in good standing for the final exam. Students have to slide an electronic card every class to comply with attendance policy. Notice that classes missed for national holidays will not be recovered. No excuses will be granted for travelling. Students are expected to do close readings, participate in class. During the semester, students will do one oral presentations in pairs and write a 2-3 page report. Wikipedia is not an acceptable source for research. UB holds to the view that plagiarism constitutes intellectual theft and is a serious breach of acceptable conduct. Any student caught plagiarizing will immediately be given a "no credit" for all courses taken in the semester. The requirements also include a midterm and a final exam. The teaching process, through theoretical and practical activities, seeks to stimulate active and reflexive, individual and group participation through critical reading.

Grading Policy

Participation and presentations	30%
Midterm exam	30%
Final exam	40%

For a better understanding of the comparable table for grading: check the student handbook (page 9) in orientation kit packet.

Course Content:

Unit 1: The political system of a new society (1810-1920)

The crisis of the Spanish Colonial Empire, the Spanish heritage, and the formation of the new republics. The emergence of new regional political units: Caudillos, regional differences, ethnic groups, and the formation of a new society in the oligarchic republics. Modernization, urbanization, and democratization: European immigration, new ideologies and political parties, emerging social actors, and a modern identity.

Unit 2: Populism (1920-1970)

Local transformations within the impact of the international cyclical crises. The emergence of Populism: organized labor, imports substitution, Nationalism, and the State; the new middle classes. Peronismo, Varguismo, Ibañismo, and Cardenismo. Ideological dynamics within Populism: Revolution or Reform?

Unit 3: Authoritarianism

Limits to the social transformation within the context of the Cold War. Crisis in the industrialist alliance: military intervention, social repression, and the search for sustainable growth. The Doctrine of National Security: military intervention, foreign influence, and movements of resistance. Wars of national/ popular liberation.

Unit 4: Redemocratization

New power relations in the emerging democracies through the structural transformation of globalization. The human rights movement and the heritage of State terrorism. The search for sustainable development. The new agenda: ecology, regional migration, drugs and money laundering, social polarization and exclusion

Academic Calendar

Week 1 / Unit 1

Introduction: Toward new political relations in the post-independence period, 1800-1824

Lecture session:

Introductory comments

Discussion session:

Bradford Burns, Latin America: Conflict and Creation

Chapter 2

Week 2 / Unit 1

The Origins of a Latin American ideological field, 1820-1870

Lecture session:

Bradford Burns, Latin America: Conflict and Creation

Chapter 8

Discussion session:

Bradford Burns, Latin America: Conflict and Creation

Chapter 8

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Week 3 / Unit 1

Politics and society in the neocolonial order, 1870-1910

Lecture session: **Holiday**

Lecture session:

Bradford Burns, Latin America: Conflict and Creation

Chapter 8

Week 4 / Unit 2

The political and social transformations of the new century, 1870-1910

Discussion session:

John Charles Chasteen and Joseph S. Tulchin (eds.), Problems in Modern Latin American History: A Reader (Wilmington: Scholarly Res., 1994)

Chapter 2

Discussion session:

Bradford Burns, Latin America: Conflict and Creation

Chapter 3

Week 5 / Unit 2

Populism, 1910-1960

Lecture session:

Bradford Burns, Latin America: Conflict and Creation

Chapter 4

Discussion session:

Bradford Burns, Latin America: Conflict and Creation

Chapter 5

Week 6 / Unit 2

Populism, 1910-1960

Lecture session:

Daniel James, Resistance and Integration (Cambridge: Cambridge Univ. Press 1988)
Introduction

Discussion session:

Ian Roxborough, "Populism and Class Conflict;"

Steve Stein, "Populism and Social Control," E. Archetti, Sociology of Developing Societies (London: Macmillan, 1987)

Pp. 119-135

John Charles Chasteen and Joseph S. Tulchin (eds.), Problems...

Chapter 4

Week 7 / Unit 2

Populism, 1910-1960

Lecture session:

Selection of texts from Readers about Argentina, Brazil, México, Perú

Discussion session:

Selection of texts from Readers about Argentina, Brazil, México, Perú

Week 8 Review

Midterm exam

Week 9/ Unit 3

Modernization and Authoritarianism, 1960-1990

Lecture session:

David Collier, The New Authoritarianism in Latin America (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1979) Chapters 1

Discussion session:

David Collier, The New Authoritarianism in Latin America Chapter 2

Week 10 / Unit 3

Modernization and Authoritarianism, 1960-1990

Lecture session:

Peter Calvert and Susan Calvert, "The Military and Development;"
Linda Alexander Rodriguez (ed.), Rank and Privilege (Wilmington: Scholarly Resources, 1994) Pp. 155-219

Discussion session:

Gabriel Marcella, "The Latin American Military, Low-Intensity Conflict, and Democracy," Pp. 155-219

Week 11/ Unit 3

Modernization and Authoritarianism, 1960-1990

Lecture session:

Bradford Burns, Latin America: Conflict and Creation Chapter 7

Discussion session:

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Timothy P. Wickham-Crowley, Guerrillas & Revolution in Latin America Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1992) Chapter 2, 3, 9, 11

Week 12 / Unit 4

Redemocratization, 1980-

Lecture session: **Holiday**

Discussion session:

William C. Smith, Authoritarianism and the Crisis of the Argentine Political Economy (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1989) Chapter 9, 10

Alfred Stepan (ed.), Redemocratizing Brazil (New York: Oxford Univ. Press, 1989)

Chapter 1, 4, 6, 9

Louis A. Pérez, Jr., Cuba: Between Reform and Revolution

Chapter 10, 11, 12

Week 13 / Unit 4

Redemocratization, 1980-

Lecture session:

John Walton, "Debt, Protest and the State in Latin America," Monograph

Discussion session:

Selection of texts from Readers about Argentina, Brazil, México, Perú

Week 14/ Unit 4

Redemocratization, 1980-

Lecture session:

Sergio Serulnikov, "When Looting Becomes a Right: Urban Poverty and Food Riots in Argentina," Monograph

Discussion session:

Philip Oxhorn, "Social inequality, civil society, and the limits of citizenship in Latin America," Monograph

Week 15

Review

Final exam

Final Grade and signature of *Hoja de situación* (attendance is mandatory)".

Students holding a student visa will not be allowed to take final exams, they have to go to the 17 Floor to clear the hold.

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Bibliography

- Cardoso, Fernando Enrique & Enzo Faletto, Dependency and Development in Latin America Berkeley: University of California Press, 1979)
- Chasteen, John Ch. Born in Blood and Fire (Norton: New York, 2001)
- Chomsky Aviva et al. The Cuba Reader. (Durham: Duke University Press, 2003)
- Galeano, Eduardo. Las venas abiertas de América Latina (Buenos Aires: Sudamericana, 1973)
- Halperín Donghi, Tulio. Contemporary History of Latin America (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1987)
- Gilbert Joseph and Timothy Henderson, ed. The Mexico Reader. (Durham: Duke University Press, 2002)
- Levine, Robert M & John Crocitti, ed. The Brazil Reader. (Durham: Duke University Press, 2003)
- Nouzeilles, Gabriela and Graciela Montaldo, ed. The Argentina Reader. (Durham: Duke University Press, 2002)
- Starn et al. The Peru Reader . (Durham: Duke University Press, 2005)