

INR 4244 International Politics of Latin America Spring 2014

Instructor: Kevin Funk, MA

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Office hours: MW 3:00-4:00 (or by appointment), 317 Anderson

Class schedule/location: MWF 7 (1:55-2:45), FAC 0127

Summary and objectives:

This course will introduce you to the major issues, debates, and works of scholarship relating to Latin America's role in regional, international, and global politics and political economy. While we will trace the evolution of the international politics of the region from the beginning, this course focuses on the period starting with the Cold War. We will pay particular attention to current issues and future horizons relating to Latin America's place in the global system, including its evolving relationship with the U.S., the growing role of China, and the rise of Brazil. Throughout, we will analyze how thinkers from a variety of fields, perspectives, and locations have sought to make sense of the Latin American experience.

Course format:

This course will ideally function as a discussion-oriented seminar. That is, your comments and reactions to readings and other materials will (hopefully) play a fundamental role in guiding the trajectory of the class. As such, participation will factor heavily into your final grade. I will also aim to bring guest speakers into class several times during the semester. This is designed to be a 6000-word writing course, meaning that you will write a total of *no less than* 6000 words.

While we will briefly review the basic contours of the fields of Latin American Studies and International Relations at the beginning of the course, time constraints prevent us from doing so in any depth. If you lack background in either area, you may wish to consult the following reference sources (many others exist as well). You are also encouraged to speak to me about this during office hours.

Latin America

Benjamin Keen and Keith Haynes. *A History of Latin America*.

Thomas Skidmore, et al. *Modern Latin America*.

Peter H. Smith. *Talons of the Eagle: Latin America, the United States, and the World*.

International Relations

Tim Dunne, et al. *International Relations Theories: Discipline and Diversity*.

Books & readings:

This syllabus draws from an eclectic mix of texts. You will read works from scholars, protagonists, and activists; from Latin Americans reflecting on their own region, and U.S. thinkers for whom Latin America is the "Other"; and from Latin Americanists who are interested in the region for its own sake, as well as those who seek to understand it within a more general context. This is intended to both help guide you in the selection of a research topic, as well as push you to think about broader themes.

To minimize your financial burden, only a few (relatively) inexpensive books are required. They may be purchased from the UF bookstore or obtained elsewhere/through other means. The other readings will be available through the course webpage (details below).

Required texts:

Cardoso, Fernando Henrique and Enzo Faletto. 1979. *Dependency and Development in Latin America*. Berkeley, CA: University of California Press.

Grandin, Greg. 2007. *Empire's Workshop: Latin America, the United States, and the Rise of the New Imperialism*. New York: Metropolitan/Holt.

Mignolo, Walter D. 2005. *The Idea of Latin America*. Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishing.

News & current events:

You are expected to follow current events relating to Latin America on your own. Throughout the semester, we will discuss news stories and relate them to course materials. Though there is a dearth of quality English-language coverage of Latin America, palatable sources include:

- *BBC* (http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world/latin_america/)
- *New York Times* (<http://www.nytimes.com/pages/world/americas/index.html>)
- *Al Jazeera* (<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/americas/>)
- *The Economist* (<http://www.economist.com/world/americas>)

Course requirements & grades:

A	93-100	B+	87-89.9	B-	80-82.9	C	73-76.9	D+	67-69.9	D-	60-62.9
A-	90-92.9	B	83-86.9	C+	77-79.9	C-	70-72.9	D	63-66.9	E	<60

20 percent: attendance & participation

In addition to attending class, you are expected to make substantive contributions to discussions, particularly in such a way that shows you have grappled with course materials.

30 percent: (short) reaction papers

After each unit, you will write a brief response to the corresponding material. I will send prompts, as well as provide additional information, as the relevant dates draw near. These papers are designed to gauge whether you have been following along and contemplating the issues under consideration. You must write a *minimum of 500 words* (and no more than 600) for each paper. To receive full credit, they *must be received by midnight* on the specified date.

Reaction paper	Date of posting of question(s)	Due date
Unit 1	January 15	January 22
Unit 2	February 17	February 21
Unit 3	April 7	April 11
Unit 4	April 21	April 25

50 percent: research project

This is the largest component of your grade. You will choose a topic/question that is both interesting and important; assemble a bibliography; draw from these sources to determine what we do and do not know about this issue; and finally, elaborate a research plan for pursuing further study of this topic, and

delineate what you would expect to find if you carried it out. In so doing, you will learn not only about your topic of interest, but also about the more general process of conducting social science research. We will of course discuss these various steps throughout the semester.

You MUST see me during office hours to discuss your topic before it is due (I will distribute sign-up sheets to facilitate scheduling). Topics can potentially include any aspect of the international politics of Latin America, broadly defined. You are free to choose topics not covered in class.

This project consists of multiple stages, which you will turn in sequentially. You should utilize the feedback you receive on earlier parts to improve the final product. The sum of these parts, once revised and put together into the final paper, must be *at least 4000 words* (not including the bibliography). This is necessary to receive credit for the writing component of this course. On the last due date (4/28), you will submit the final paper in its entirety: that is, revised versions of the following components, in addition to your research design, all integrated into a cohesive whole (along with a brief conclusion).

Assignment	Due date	Percentage of project grade
Research topic/proposal	February 14	5 percent
Bibliography (preliminary)	February 28	15 percent
Literature review	March 31	30 percent
Research design (integrated into final paper)	April 28	50 percent

Step 1: research topic/proposal (minimum: 500 words)

Clearly state and explain your topic and/or question of interest. Why is it interesting? Why is it worthy of study? At this preliminary stage, what do you think your ideas may contribute? Do you seek to fill a gap in the literature and our collective understanding? What makes your potential contribution unique, and actually worth pursuing? Once revised, this section will be the introduction to your final paper.

Finding a suitable idea can be difficult (and frustrating). Following current events and perusing academic journals may help get the cognitive juices flowing. Examples include: *Journal of Latin American Studies*; *Latin American Research Review*; *Latin American Politics and Society*; and, *Latin American Perspectives*.

Step 2: bibliography

This is a preliminary list of sources that seem useful. This will almost surely not be an *exhaustive* list – there has been more written about most topics than any one person could ever hope to read.

You must have at least 10 sources, comprised of a mix of books and academic journal articles. You may wish to gather news articles and other sources as well, though these do not count towards the minimum of 10. We will visit the Latin American Collection early in the semester to help acquaint you with available materials. For the final paper, your bibliography needs to include every source that you have cited and/or consulted – including news articles, etc. You must also cite at least 3 sources from the course readings (that is, for a total of at least 13).

Step 3: literature review (minimum: 2000 words)

Drawing from the bibliography, as well as other sources that you will uncover, here you will review the different arguments that have been made on your topic. Yet a literature review is not merely a compilation of summaries. Rather, while you will need to do some summarizing, the focus is on your analysis of these works, how they can be categorized so that we can make sense of the existing universe

of literature, and the strengths and weaknesses of these differing approaches. This is similar to what is often published in academic journals as a “review essay” (examples are posted on the course site).

Step 4: research design & analysis (minimum: 1500 words)

Your analysis of the literature feeds into ideas concerning how to do better. That is, now that you have delineated the major approaches to this topic, as well as their strengths and weaknesses, what do you propose to move our understanding of this topic forward? Design a project that embodies your vision. Assuming sufficient time and financial resources, what would *you* do to study this topic, and why? What methods would you employ? How would you collect the relevant information? While you cannot actually carry out this project this semester, if you did, what would you expect to find? Why?

Course policies:

- All assignments must be turned in via the course website (<https://lss.at.ufl.edu/>).
- Late submissions will be penalized at a rate of 10 percent (e.g. from 95 to 85) every 12 hours.
- You can format assignments as you wish so long as the output is easy on my eyes.
- You may use your preferred citation style, provided it is applied consistently. Political science majors are encouraged to adopt APSA style (<http://writing.wisc.edu/Handbook/DocAPSA.html>).

University policies:

Academic honesty

Violations of the Student Honor Code (including, but not limited to, copying and plagiarizing) will be reported to the Dean of Students Office for consideration of disciplinary action. For more information, see: <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>.

Counseling and wellness

A variety of counseling, mental health and psychiatric services are available through the Counseling and Wellness Center, whose goal is to help students be maximally effective in their academic pursuits by reducing or eliminating emotional, psychological, and interpersonal problems that interfere with academic functioning. For more information, call 392-1575 or visit <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc>.

Students with disabilities

The University of Florida is committed to providing academic accommodations for students with disabilities. Students requesting accommodations should register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) as soon as possible by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students should present me with their accommodation letter.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Availability of readings:

*- available at the e-Learning course site (<https://lss.at.ufl.edu/>)

1/6 (M) Course introduction

I. REVIEW, OVERVIEW, AND BACKGROUND

- 1/8 (W) What is Latin America?
 *Thomas Skidmore, et al. *Modern Latin America* (7th ed.). Pp. 3-13.
 *Howard Wiarda and Harvey Kline. *Latin American Politics and Development* (7th ed.). Pp. 3-16.
- 1/10 (F) Latin America as an “idea”
 Walter Mignolo. *The Idea of Latin America*. Pp. 57-94.
- 1/13 (M) Review of IR theories
 *Daniel Drezner. *Theories of International Politics and Zombies*. Pp. 33-45; 47-60; 67-76.
- 1/15 (W) IR and Latin America, part I
 *Arlene Tickner. “Seeing IR Differently: Notes from the Third World.” Pp. 295-324.

II. FROM COLONIALISM TO IMPERIALISM

- 1/17 (F) Latin America and Europe: from colonialism to independence
 *Thomas Skidmore, et al. *Modern Latin America* (7th ed.). Pp. 14-41.
 *Eduardo Galeano. “The English Invasions.” P. 39.
- 1/20 (M) **NO CLASS – MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY**
- 1/22 (W) Nationalism and pan-Latin Americanism
 Simón Bolívar. “Letter from Jamaica.”
<http://faculty.smu.edu/bakewell/BAKEWELL/texts/jamaica-letter.html>.
 *José Martí. “Our America.”
 *Benedict Anderson. *Imagined Communities*. Pp. 47-65.
Reaction paper #1 due
- 1/24 (F) War and conflict
 *Eduardo Galeano. *Open Veins of Latin America*. Pp. 188-197.
 *William Sater. *Chile and the United States: Empires in Conflict*. Pp. 31-50.
- 1/27 (M) The U.S. and Latin America before the Cold War
 *Benjamin Keen and Keith Haynes. *A History of Latin America: Vol. 2* (9th ed.). Pp. 574-589.
- 1/29 (W) Visit to the Latin American Collection (<http://www.uflib.ufl.edu/lac/>)
 No reading
- 1/31 (F) Latin America and the Cold War, part I: U.S. interventionism
 *Greg Grandin. *The Last Colonial Massacre: Latin America in the Cold War*. Pp. 1-17.
- 2/3 (M) Latin America and the Cold War, part II: Cuban internationalism
 *Piero Gleijeses. *Conflicting Missions: Havana, Washington and Africa, 1959-1976*. Pp. 12-29; 373-381.

- 2/5 (W) Latin America and the Cold War, part III: *la vía chilena*
 *Tanya Harmer. *Allende's Chile and the Inter-American Cold War*. Pp. 1-19.
 *Salvador Allende's final speech. Pp. 1-4.
 Dennis Maxwell. "The Soccer Match That Disgraced Chile."
<http://pri.org/stories/2013-09-11/soccer-match-disgraced-chile>.
- 2/7 (F) Latin America and the Cold War, part IV: Operation Condor
 *John Dinges. *The Condor Years: How Pinochet and His Allies Brought Terrorism to Three Continents*. Pp. 1-9.
 *J. Patrice McSherry. *Predatory States: Operation Condor and Covert War in Latin America*. Pp. 107-132.
- 2/10 (M) Latin America and the Cold War, part V: The Central American wars
 Greg Grandin. *Empire's Workshop: Latin America, the United States, and the Rise of the New Imperialism*. Pp. 87-120.
- 2/12 (W) Dependency theory and its critics, part I
 Fernando Henrique Cardoso and Enzo Faletto. *Dependency and Development in Latin America*. Pp. vii-xxv; 1-7.
- 2/14 (F) Dependency theory and its critics, part II
 Fernando Henrique Cardoso and Enzo Faletto. *Dependency and Development in Latin America*. Pp. 8-28; 199-216.
- Research topic/proposal due**
- 2/17 (M) Cultural relations
 *Ariel Dorfman and Armand Mattelart. *How to Read Donald Duck: Imperialist Ideology in the Disney Comic*. Pp. 9-10; 48-60; 95-99.
 *Eduardo Galeano. "Creole Soccer." Pp. 39-40.

III. CURRENT TOPICS: EMERGENT LATIN AMERICA?

- 2/19 (W) The U.S. and Latin America after the Cold War: change or continuity?
 Greg Grandin. "Muscling Latin America."
<http://www.thenation.com/article/muscling-latin-america?page=full>.
 Greg Grandin. "The Latin American Exception: How a Washington Global Torture Gulag Was Turned Into the Only Gulag-Free Zone on Earth."
<http://www.tomdispatch.com/blog/175650/>.
 Peter Hakim. "Is Washington Losing Latin America?"
http://www.nytimes.com/cfr/international/20060101faessay_v85n1_hakim.html?pagewanted=all&r=0.
- 2/21 (F) Drugs, crime, and international politics
 Michael Shifter. "Plan Colombia: A Retrospective."
<http://www.americasquarterly.org/node/3787>.
 Nancy Brune. "The Brazil-Africa Narco Nexus." <http://www.americasquarterly.org/brune>.
 Tim McGirk. "Gangs: the Mara Salvatrucha."
<http://www.time.com/time/world/article/0,8599,59841,00.html>.

José Miguel Cruz. "Recasting the Security Policy in Central America."

<http://www.americasquarterly.org/node/3625>.

Reaction paper #2 due

- 2/24 (M) Latin America and the "War on Terror"
 *John Tofik Karam. "Crossing the Americas: The U.S. War on Terror and Arab Cross-Border Mobilizations in a South American Frontier Region." Pp. 251-266.
- 2/26 (W) The "left turn"
 *Jorge Castañeda. "Latin America's Left Turn." Pp. 28-43.
 *Vijay Prashad. *The Poorer Nations: A Possible History of the Global South*. Pp. 258-271.
- 2/28 (F) The rise of Brazil
 *Riordan Roett. *The New Brazil*. Pp. 127-148.
 *Jean Friedman-Rudovsky. "The Bully from Brazil."
 Joe Leahy. "Brazil: The First Big 'Soft' Power."
<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/2/37685a5c-7bbd-11e2-95b9-00144feabdc0.html#axzz2pRAMP05V>.
- Bibliography due**
- 3/3 (M) **NO CLASS – SPRING BREAK**
- 3/5 (W) **NO CLASS – SPRING BREAK**
- 3/7 (F) **NO CLASS – SPRING BREAK**
- 3/10 (M) Contemporary intra-Latin American relations, part I: regional integration and identity
 "South American Union of Nations Constitutive Treaty."
<http://www.itamaraty.gov.br/sala-de-imprensa/notas-a-imprensa/2008/05/23/tratado-constitutivo-da-uniao-de-nacoes-sul>
 (scroll down to English version).
 Socorro Ramírez. "Regionalism: The Pacific Alliance."
<http://www.americasquarterly.org/content/regionalism-pacific-alliance>.
 *"Declaration of Santiago of the First CELAC Summit."
- 3/12 (W) Contemporary intra-Latin American relations, part II: war and peace
 *Félix E. Martín. "Economic Interdependence, Trade, and Peace in South America." Pp. 143-165.
 *Raúl Zibechi. "Repression in Haiti: The Responsibility of the Left."
- 3/14 (F) Contemporary intra-Latin American relations, part III: conflict and rivalry
 *Michael Shifter and Cameron Combs. "Shifting Fortunes: Brazil and Mexico in a Transformed Region." Pp. 49-55.
 Andrés Oppenheimer. "Escalating Border Disputes Hurt Latin America."
<http://www.miamiherald.com/2013/09/21/3639908/andres-oppenheimer-escalating.html>.
 Search for information concerning the following border/territorial disputes:
 Colombia-Nicaragua

Belize-Guatemala
 Costa Rica-Nicaragua
 Bolivia-Chile-Peru
 Argentina-Uruguay (pulp mill)

- 3/17 (M) Latin America, Europe, and the *reconquista*
 *Susanne Gratius. "Europe and Latin America: In Need of a New Paradigm." Pp. 1-18.
 *Anthony Faiola. "Spanish Firms Revive Latin America Conquest."
 Ben Sills and Randy Woods. "Can Spanish Companies Rely on Latin America?"
<http://www.businessweek.com/articles/2012-05-17/can-spanish-companies-rely-on-latin-america>.
- 3/19 (W) Latin America and China
 *Kevin Gallagher and Roberto Porzecanski. "China Matters: China's Economic Impact in Latin America." Pp. 185-200.
- 3/21 (F) Latin America and the Middle East
 *Celso Amorim. "Brazil and the Middle East: Reflections on Lula's South-South Cooperation." Pp. 48-63.
 *Douglas Farah. "Iran in Latin America: An Overview." Pp. 13-21.
- 3/24 (M) Latin America and Africa
 *Jerry Dávila. *Hotel Trópico: Brazil and the Challenge of African Decolonization, 1950–1980*. Pp. 1-10.
 *José Flávio Sombra Saraiva. "The New Africa and Brazil in the Lula Era: The Rebirth of Brazilian Atlantic Policy." Pp. 169-182.
- 3/26 (W) **NO CLASS – ATTENDING CONFERENCE**
- 3/28 (F) **NO CLASS – ATTENDING CONFERENCE**
- 3/31 (M) Globalization and global capitalism
 *William Robinson. *Latin America and Global Capitalism: A Critical Globalization Perspective*. Pp. 1-4; 25-50.
 Dave Zirin. "Brazil: Yes, Blame the Damn World Cup."
<http://www.thenation.com/blog/174947/brazil-yes-blame-damn-world-cup#>.
- Literature Review due**
- 4/2 (W) The "Global Latinas"
 *Lourdes Casanova. *Global Latinas: Latin America's Emerging Multinationals*. Pp. 1-25.
- 4/4 (F) The political economy of international tourism
 *Florence Babb. *The Tourism Encounter: Fashioning Latin American Nations and Histories*. Pp. 19-39.
- 4/7 (M) Social movement transnationalism
 *Vijay Prashad. *The Poorer Nations: A Possible History of the Global South*. Pp. 235-258.

IV. DOES LATIN AMERICA MATTER?

- 4/9 (W) U.S. foreign policy: Latin America and beyond
Greg Grandin. *Empire's Workshop: Latin America, the United States, and the Rise of the New Imperialism*. Pp. 223-237.
*Hal Weitzman. *Latin Lessons: How South America Stopped Listening to the United States and Started Prospering*. Pp. 239-258.
- 4/11 (F) An alternative development model?
*Hal Weitzman. *Latin Lessons: How South America Stopped Listening to the United States and Started Prospering*. Pp. 75-99.
Reaction paper #3 due
- 4/14 (M) Latin America: the next superpower?
*Oscar Guardiola-Rivera. *What if Latin America Ruled the World?* Pp. 1-18.
- 4/16 (W) The Latin Americanization of the Global North
*Alexander D. Barder. "American Hegemony Comes Home: The Chilean Laboratory and the Neoliberalization of the United States." Pp. 103-121.
- 4/18 (F) IR and Latin America, part II
*Lucy Taylor. "Decolonizing International Relations: Perspectives from Latin America." Pp. 386-400.
- 4/21 (M) Latin America, the Global South, and future horizons
Walter Mignolo. *The Idea of Latin America*. Pp. 149-162.
*Vivek Chibber. *Postcolonial Theory and the Specter of Capital*. Pp. 284-293.
If you desire/require more background, see:
<https://www.jacobinmag.com/2013/04/how-does-the-subaltern-speak/>.
- 4/23 (W) Class cancelled (work on final papers)
- 4/25 (F) **Reaction paper #4 due**
- 4/28 (M) **FINAL RESEARCH PAPER DUE AT NOON** (via the course website: <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/>)