

GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS OF LATIN AMERICA

Political Science 453
Fall 2012
Coor Hall L1-20
Tuesdays & Thursdays 1:30-2:45 PM

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COURSE DESCRIPTION AND STUDENT OBJECTIVES

This course will introduce students to the major theoretical issues in Latin American politics from the 1930s to the present, with particular emphasis on the political events of the last three decades. We will focus on the politics of Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Peru, and Venezuela. We will explore the historical, economic, and social factors that have influenced the politics of the region, analyze the effects of political institutions on governability and democratic stability, and examine the consequences of the diverse political events that have affected Latin America. By the end of the course, students will have mastery of the most important concepts in the study of modern Latin American politics and in-depth knowledge of the major political events of a number of key countries in the region.

COURSE POLICIES

I expect that everyone in class be treated with respect. You should turn off or silence your cell phones and any other electronic devices before class begins. Students with special needs should identify themselves to the instructor during the first 10 days of the semester. Students with disabilities that require academic accommodations should present a letter from the Disability Resource Center (DRC) to the instructor in order for special accommodations to be made. Students may request disability accommodations through the DRC. For more information, please visit the DRC's website: <www.asu.edu/studentaffairs/ed/drc>. Those students who will need to be absent due to religious observance should talk to the instructor within the first 10 days of the semester. Students are responsible for notifying the instructor in a timely manner of any situation that is interfering with their academic performance.

Students who violate the tenets of academic honesty will face disciplinary action and will automatically receive a failing grade in this course. Students are expected to abide by the Student Academic Integrity Policy. You can read more at: <<http://provost.asu.edu/academicintegrity>>. Arizona State University has asked that the following statement appear in this syllabus:

In the "Student Academic Integrity Policy" manual, ASU defines "Plagiarism" [as] using another's words, ideas, materials or work without properly acknowledging and documenting the source. Students are responsible for knowing

the rules governing the use of another's work or materials and for acknowledging and documenting the source appropriately." Academic dishonesty, including inappropriate collaboration, will not be tolerated. There are severe sanctions for cheating, plagiarizing and any other form of dishonesty. You can find this definition at: http://www.asu.edu/studentaffairs/studentlife/judicial/academic_integrity.htm#definitions.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Most course information, announcements, and supplementary materials made available during class will be placed on Blackboard. It is the responsibility of the student to keep current with the information provided on Blackboard.

Course grades will be based on your participation (10%), response papers (5% each), a map quiz (10%), two short quizzes (12.5% each), and two exams (20% each).

Attendance is indispensable to success in this course. The lectures are intended to complement the assigned readings. The lectures will not summarize the readings. In order to do well in this course, students should both attend lectures and do the reading assignments. Make-up exams will be given only under extraordinary circumstances. All make-up quizzes and exams will take place on the final class day (December 11). If an emergency situation arises that will prevent you from taking a quiz or an exam or turning in an assignment, you must let the instructor know as soon as possible to be considered for a make-up exam or an extension. There will be regular opportunities for in-class participation. You will earn participation points via your active involvement in these in-class assignments.

You will need to write three response papers during the course of the semester. The response papers should be 3 pages in length (in a normal size and font, and double-spaced). These papers are due at the beginning of class on the first day of the week and should cover that week's readings. You are responsible for deciding when you will write the response papers. I would urge you not to wait to write them during the last three weeks of the semester. Because I am allowing you to decide when to write the papers, I will not accept any late response papers. The response papers will be graded as check plus, check, or check minus. Students who fail to complete this assignment will receive a grade of zero.

The map quiz (September 4) will test your basic knowledge of Latin American geography. You must be able to locate the countries of Latin America on a map and identify the capitals of each of these countries. More information about this quiz will be given in class.

There will be two short quizzes. These have not been scheduled, but are not "pop" quizzes. They will be announced one week in advance. More information will be provided at that time.

The two exams (October 11 and during the designated final exam day for this course) will gauge your understanding of the concepts and information presented in both the lectures and the readings. These exams will not be cumulative. The exams will consist of a combination of identifications, short answers, and longer essays.

Those materials listed along with a web address can be found on the internet. You can find links to the journal articles listed on this syllabus on Blackboard. There are only three required texts for this course. These texts have been placed on reserve at the library and are available for you to purchase at the university bookstore:

Guillermoprieto, Alma. 1995. *The Heart that Bleeds: Latin America Now*. New York: Vintage.

Hellinger, Daniel C. 2011. *Comparative Politics of Latin America: Democracy at Last?* New York: Routledge.

Timerman, Jacobo. 2002. *Prisoner Without a Name, Cell Without a Number*. Madison: The University of Wisconsin Press.

WEEK 1: (8/23)

Introduction to the Politics of Latin America

There is no reading assignment for this week.

WEEK 2: (8/28 & 8/30)

Understanding Latin America, Part I

Hellinger, Daniel C. 2011. *Comparative Politics of Latin America*. New York: Routledge. Read pages 1-15, 67-115.

Guillermoprieto, Alma. 1995. *The Heart that Bleeds: Latin America Now*. New York: Vintage. Read the first 6 chapters.

WEEK 3: (9/4 & 9/6) Map Quiz: 9/4

Understanding Latin America, Part II

Hellinger, Daniel C. 2011. *Comparative Politics of Latin America*. New York: Routledge. Read pages 19-46.

Guillermoprieto, Alma. 1995. *The Heart that Bleeds: Latin America Now*. New York: Vintage. Read the remaining 7 chapters.

BBC News. *Argentina Country Profile*. Read the sections titled Overview, Facts, and Leaders.
http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/americas/country_profiles/1192478.stm

BBC News. *Brazil Country Profile*. Read the sections titled Overview, Facts, and Leaders.
http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/americas/country_profiles/1227110.stm

BBC News. *Chile Country Profile*. Read the sections titled Overview, Facts, and Leaders.
http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/americas/country_profiles/1222764.stm

BBC News. *Peru Country Profile*. Read the sections titled Overview, Facts, and Leaders.
http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/americas/country_profiles/1224656.stm

BBC News. *Venezuela Country Profile*. Read the sections titled Overview, Facts, and Leaders.
http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/americas/country_profiles/1229345.stm

WEEK 4: (9/11 & 9/13)

The Rise of Populism and Corporatism

Hellinger, Daniel C. 2011. *Comparative Politics of Latin America*. New York: Routledge. Read pages 140-167.

Collier, Ruth B. and David Collier. 1979. Inducements versus Constraints: Disaggregating "Corporatism". *American Political Science Review* 73(4): 967-986.

WEEK 5: (9/18 & 9/20)
Revolutions and Revolutionaries

Hellinger, Daniel C. 2011. *Comparative Politics of Latin America*. New York: Routledge. Read pages 283-285, 296-338.

Selbin, Eric. 2009. Conjugating the Cuban Revolution: It Mattered, It Matters, It Will Matter. *Latin American Perspectives* 36(1): 21-29.

WEEK 6: (9/25 & 9/27)
The Breakdown of Democratic Regimes and Authoritarianism, Part I

Hellinger, Daniel C. 2011. *Comparative Politics of Latin America*. New York: Routledge. Read pages 171-206.

WEEK 7: (10/2 & 10/4)
The Breakdown of Democratic Regimes and Authoritarianism, Part II

Timberman, Jacobo. 2002. *Prisoner Without a Name, Cell Without a Number*. Madison: The University of Wisconsin Press. Read the entire book.

WEEK 8: (10/9 & 10/11) Exam: 10/11
Transitions to Democracy

Hellinger, Daniel C. 2011. *Comparative Politics of Latin America*. New York: Routledge. Read pages 230-279.

Hagopian, Frances. 1990. "Democracy by Undemocratic Means"? Elites, Political Pacts, and Regime Transition in Brazil. *Comparative Political Studies* 23(2): 147-166.

WEEK 9: (10/16 & 10/18) Fall Break: 10/16
Democratic Consolidation?

Hellinger, Daniel C. 2011. *Comparative Politics of Latin America*. New York: Routledge. Read pages 47-63.

Myers, David J. and Robert E. O'Connor. 1998. Support for Coups in Democratic Political Culture. *Comparative Politics* 30(2): 193-208.

Palmer, David Scott. 2002. Democracy and the Military. *ReVista* Fall Issue.
<http://www.drclas.harvard.edu/revista/articles/view/163>

WEEK 10: (10/23 & 10/25)
Economic Crisis and Reform and Crisis

Hellinger, Daniel C. 2011. *Comparative Politics of Latin America*. New York: Routledge. Read pages 119-139, 207-229, 477-503.

Naím, Moisés. 2000. Washington Consensus or Washington Confusion? *Foreign Policy* (118): 87-103.

Weintraub, Sidney. 2009. An Economic Storm Hits Latin America. *Current History* 108(715): 58-64.

WEEK 11: (10/30 & 11/1)
Political Institutions, Part I

Hellinger, Daniel C. 2011. *Comparative Politics of Latin America*. New York: Routledge. Read pages 421-431.

Mainwaring, Scott. 1990. Presidentialism in Latin America. *Latin American Research Review* 25(1): 157-179.

Carey, John. 2002. Legislatures and Political Accountability: Building Credibility. *ReVista* Fall Issue. <http://www.drclas.harvard.edu/revista/articles/view/171>

McConnell, Shelley A. 2010. The Return of *Continuismo*? *Current History* 109(724): 74-80.

WEEK 12: (11/6 & 11/8)
Political Institutions, Part II

Hellinger, Daniel C. 2011. *Comparative Politics of Latin America*. New York: Routledge. 387-418, 431-450.

Petkoff, Teodoro. 2008. Elections and Political Power. *ReVista* Fall Issue. <http://www.drclas.harvard.edu/revista/articles/view/1125>

Burgess, Katrina and Steven Levitsky. 2003. Explaining Populist Party Adaptation in Latin America: Environmental and Organizational Determinants of Party Change in Argentina, Mexico, Peru, and Venezuela. *Comparative Political Studies* 36(8): 881-911.

WEEK 13: (11/13 & 11/15)
Social Movements and Political Participation

Hellinger, Daniel C. 2011. *Comparative Politics of Latin America*. New York: Routledge. Read pages 341-386.

Htun, Mala. 2002. "Women in Political Power in Latin America." In *Women in Parliament*. Stockholm: International IDEA. <http://www.idea.int/publications/wip/upload/Chapter1-Htun-feb03.pdf>

Van Cott, Donna Lee. 2004. Broadening Democracy: Latin America's Indigenous Peoples' Movements. *Current History* 103(670): 80-86.

Yashar, Deborah J. 1998. Contesting Citizenship: Indigenous Movements and Democracy in Latin America. *Comparative Politics* 31(1): 23-42.

WEEK 14: (11/20 & 11/22) Thanksgiving Break: 11/22
Out of Control: Informal Economies, Rule of Law, and Political Corruption

Hellinger, Daniel C. 2011. *Comparative Politics of Latin America*. New York: Routledge. Read pages 451-473.

Rohter, Larry and Juan Forero. "Unending Graft is Threatening Latin America." *The New York Times*. July 30, 2005. <http://www.nytimes.com/2005/07/30/international/americas/30latin.html>

O'Donnell, Guillermo. 2004. Why the Rule of Law Matters. *Journal of Democracy* 15(4): 32-45.

WEEK 15: (11/27 & 11/29)

The Future of Latin America or Does It Get Any Better Than This?

Hellinger, Daniel C. 2011. *Comparative Politics of Latin America*. New York: Routledge. Read pages 552-553.

Van Cott, Donna Lee. 2009. Indigenous Movements Lose Momentum. *Current History* 108(715): 83-89.

Ríos Tobar, Marcela. 2007. Chilean Feminism and Social Democracy From the Democratic Transition to Bachelet. *NACLA Report on the Americas* 40(2): 25-43.

Piccone, Theodore J. 2010. Perilous Times for Latin America. *Current History* 109(724): 81-83.

Morales, Pablo. 2009. Venezuela's Opposition: Back into the Frying Pan? *NACLA Report on the Americas* 42(3): 3.

Burt, Jo-Marie and Coletta A. Youngers. 2010. Peruvian Precedent: The Fujimori Conviction and the Ongoing Struggle for Justice. *NACLA Report on the Americas* 43(2): 6-8.

Maxwell, Kenneth. 2010. Lula's Last Year. *Current History* 109(724): 43-46.

WEEK 16: (12/4 & 12/6)

The Future of Latin America or Does It Get Any Better Than This?

Selected Newspaper Articles. Links will be posted on Blackboard.

WEEK 17: (12/11) Make-up Quizzes and Exams: 12/11

Conclusion to the Politics of Latin America

There is no reading assignment for this week.