



Fall and Winter Terms
2009-2010
382 University College
Tuesdays, 9:30-12:30



HIST 4870
CONTEMPORARY
LATIN AMERICA



HIST 7730
INDEPENDENT
LATIN AMERICA



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COURSE DESCRIPTION

This seminar will explore the contemporary history of Latin America since the late 1950s by covering a wide range of countries, issues, and approaches. The course will thus provide a broad overview of the main historical processes experienced by the region in the last fifty years, including the Cuban revolution, the crisis of populist regimes in South America, the impact of US imperialism, the emergence of leftist guerrilla groups and military dictatorships, the region's uneven economic development and resulting social inequality, and the emergence of contemporary social movements. As a result, students will not only acquire the particular knowledge of the region's history but also theoretical and historical frameworks useful for comparative perspectives with other areas.

ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

The class will meet once a week, on Tuesdays between 9:30 and 12:30, for the discussion of assigned material. Given that the course is an upper-undergraduate/ Honours/ graduate seminar, attendance and active participation are not only course requirements but also assumed and highly expected by the instructor, and they *will be strictly taken into account for the final mark* (see below on grading).

Each semester, students will write three short (4-5 pages) papers. Students will have two options for each paper, which will be based on class readings and written in response to questions provided by the instructor.

Students will also write a final, longer paper (10-12 pages) at the end of the academic year, which will be due at the last class and will demand the analytical organization and discussion of the material covered in the course. As an option to this final paper, students in the Honours program or interested in specific topics related to the course might work on a research paper under the instructor's supervision throughout both semesters. Final papers/research papers will be due at the course's last meeting.

Note:

-Graduate students: academic work for graduate students enrolled at the 7000-level is expected to have a higher and deeper quality. In addition, the length of their papers should be 6-7 pages for the short papers and 13-15 pages for the final paper.

-Late papers will not be accepted. Please note that the University and the Faculty of Arts' regulations on cheating and plagiarism (2009-2010 Undergraduate Calendar, p. 29) will be strictly enforced:

“The common penalty in Arts for plagiarism in a written assignment, test, or examination is F on the paper and F for the course. For the most serious acts of plagiarism, such as the purchase of an essay or cheating on a test or examination, the penalty can also include suspension for a period of up to five years from registration in courses taught in a particular department in Arts or from all courses taught in this Faculty. The Faculty also reserves the right to submit student work that is suspected of being plagiarized to Internet sites designed to detect plagiarism.”

-Students who wish to appeal a grade given for term work must do so within 10 working days after the grade for the term work has been made available to them. Uncollected term work will become the property of the Faculty of Arts and will be subject to confidential destruction.

Students' overall performance in the course will be evaluated as follows:

- Six short papers: 48% (8% each)
- Attendance and participation: 25%
- Final paper/Research paper: 27%

Dates for each assignment are specified in the schedule listed below.

Evaluation of work will be provided by the voluntary withdrawal date, March 19th, 2010.

Grading Scale

A+ = 4.5	C+ = 2.5
A = 4	C = 2
B+ = 3.5	D = 1
B = 3	F = 0

READINGS

The following books are required readings and will be available for purchase at the bookstore and on reserve at the library:

-Mariano Plotkin, *Mañana es San Perón: A Cultural History of Perón's Argentina* (SR Books, 2003)

-Matilde Zimmermann, *Sandinista. Carlos Fonseca and the Nicaraguan Revolution* (Duke University Press, 2003)

-Laura Briggs, *Reproducing Empire. Race, Sex, Science, and U.S. Imperialism in Puerto Rico* (University of California, 2002)

-Thomas Wright, *State Terrorism in Latin America. Chile Argentina, and International Human Rights* (Rowman and Littlefield, 2007)

-Eduardo Telles, *Race in Another America. The Significance of Skin Color in Brazil* (Princeton, 2005)

-Mala Htun, *Sex and the State. Abortion, Divorce, and the Family Under Latin American Dictatorships and Democracies* (Cambridge, 2003)

-George Collier and Elizabeth Quaratiello, *Basta! Land and the Zapatista Rebellion in Chiapas* (Food First Books, 3rd ed., 2005)

-Deborah Yashar, *Contesting Citizenship in Latin America. The Rise of Indigenous Movements and the Postliberal Challenge* (Cambridge, 2005)

Greg Grandin, *Empire's Workshop. Latin America, The United States, and the Rise of the New Imperialism* (Owl Books, 2007)

For students unfamiliar with Latin American history, a useful recommended reading to complement the assigned material is Thomas Skidmore and Peter Smith, *Modern Latin America* (6th edition, Oxford University Press, 2004).

Additional material for the course will be available through UofM's electronic databases and e-reserve system or will be distributed by the instructor.

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS, READINGS, AND ASSIGNMENTS FALL 2009

September 15: Introduction

September 22: Cuba I

-Marifeli Pérez-Stable, *The Cuban Revolution. Origins, Course and Legacy* (Oxford University Press, 1999), Introduction, chapters 1-3 (pp. 3-81)

-John Foran, "Theorizing the Revolution," *Latin American Perspectives* 36:2 (March 2009), 16-30

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

September 29: Cuba II **Assignment 1-Option 1**

-Thomas Skidmore and Peter Smith, *Modern Latin America* (6th ed., Oxford University Press, 2006), chapter 9.

-Claes Brundenius, "Revolutionary Cuba at 50. Growth with Equity Revisited," *Latin American Perspectives* 36:2 (March 2009), 31-48.

-Helen Safa, "Hierarchies and Household Change in Postrevolutionary Cuba," *Latin American Perspectives* 36:1 (January 2009), 42-52.

-Alejandro de la Fuente, "The Resurgence of Racism in Cuba," *NACLA- Report on the Americas* 34:6 (May-June 2001), 29-34.

-Louis A Perez Jr, "Fear and loathing of Fidel Castro: Sources of US policy toward Cuba," *Journal of Latin American Studies*, 34 (May 2002), 227-254

-Piero Gleijeses, "The View from Havana: Lessons from Cuba's African Journey," in Gil Joseph and Daniela Spenser, eds., *In From the Cold. Latin America's New Encounter with the Cold War* (Duke University Press, 2008), 112-133.

-Luis Suárez Salazar, "The Cuban Revolution and the New Latin American Leadership: A View from Its Utopias," *Latin American Perspectives* 36:2 (March 2009), 114-127.

-Carlos Alzugaray Treto, "Continuity and Change in Cuba at 50. The Revolution at a Crossroads," *Latin American Perspectives* 36:3 (May 2009), 8-26.

October 5: Argentina I

-Plotkin, *Mañana es San Perón*, Introduction, chapters 1-4;

-Luis Alberto Romero, *A History of Argentina in the Twentieth Century* (Penn State University Press 2002), chapter 4 (91-130);

-Daniel James, *Resistance and Integration. Peronism and the Argentine Working Class, 1946-1976* (Cambridge University Press, 1994), chapter 1 (7-40)

October 12: no class, Thanksgiving

October 19: Argentina II **Assignment 1 Option 2**

- Plotkin, *Mañana es San Perón*, chapters 5-8, Conclusion

- Eduardo Elena, "What the People Want: State Planning and Political Participation in Peronist Argentina, 1946–1955," *Journal of Latin American Studies*, 37:1 (Feb. 2005), 81–108

October 26: Nicaragua: Guerrillas and Revolution I

- Zimmermann, *Sandinista*, chapters 1-5

November 3: Nicaragua: Guerrillas and Revolution II **Assignment 2 Option 1**

- Zimmermann, *Sandinista*; chapters 6-10; documentary: War on Nicaragua

- Roger Burbach, "Et Tu, Daniel? The Sandinista Revolution Betrayed," *NACLA Report on the Americas*, 42:2 (March/April 2009), 33-7, 43.

November 10: Puerto Rico: Gender, Science, and US Imperialism **Assignment 2, Option 2**

- Briggs, *Reproducing Empire* (entire).

November 17: The Cold War **Assignment 3- Option 1**

- Selections from Joseph and Spenser, *In From the Cold: Gil Joseph, "What We Know and Should Know : Bringing Latin America More Meaningfully into Cold War Studies;"* Seth Fein, "Producing the Cold War in Mexico: The Public Limits of Cover Communications;" Victoria Lengland, "Birth Control Pills and Molotov Cocktails: Reading Sex and Revolution in 1968 Brazil."

- Frances Stonor Saunders, *The Cultural Cold War. The CIA and the World of Arts and Letters* (The New Press, 1999) Introduction, chapters 2, 6, and 9

- Jean Franco, *The Decline and Fall of the Lettered City. Latin America in the Cold War* (Harvard University Press, 2002), chapter 1 (pp. 21-56).

November 24: Argentina and Chile: Military dictatorships and Transitions to Democracy I

- Wright, *State Terrorism*, Intro, chapters 1-4

December 1: Argentina and Chile: Military dictatorships and Transitions to Democracy II

- Wright, *State Terrorism*, chapters 5-6, film: Las Madres. **Assignment 3 – Option 2**

December 8: Chile: Labor, dictatorship and democracy

selections from Peter Winn' *Victims of the Chilean Miracle. Workers and Neoliberalism in the Pinochet Era, 1973-2002* (Duke, 2004)

WINTER 2010

January 12: Latin American economic and social development

-Kelly Hoffman and Miguel Angel Centeno, "The Lopsided Continent: Inequality in Latin America," *Annual Review of Sociology*, 29 (2003), 363-390 (available in JSTOR)

-Alejandro Portes and Kelly Hoffman, "Latin American Class Structures: Their Composition and Change During the Neoliberal Era," *Latin American Research Review* 38, 1 (2003): 41-82 (Available in JSTOR)

-Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLAC), "Social Panorama of Latin America 2008 - Briefing Paper" (available online)

January 19: Brazil: Race I **Assignment 1-Option 1**

-Telles, *Race in Another America*, Intro and chapters 1-5.

January 26: Brazil: Race II

-Telles, *Race in Another America*, chapters 6-10 and conclusion.

February 2: Gender: comparative perspectives **Assignment 1, Option 2**

-Htun, *Sex and the State* (entire)

February 9: Women: Contemporary and indigenous developments **Assignment 2, Option 1**

-Susan Kellogg: *Weaving the Past: A History of Latin America's Indigenous Women from the Prehispanic Period to the Present* (Oxford University Press: 2005), chapters 4 on Mesoamerica and 5 on South and Central America.

-Andrew Canessa, "Sex And The Citizen: Barbies And Beauty Queens In

The Age Of Evo Morales," *Journal of Latin American Cultural Studies*, 17:1 (2008), 41 – 64.

-Joe Bandy and Jennifer Bickham Mendez, "A Place of Their Own? Women Organizers in the Maquilas of Nicaragua and Mexico"

February 16: no class, Winter break.

February 23: Latin America and the new American imperialism **Assignment 2, Option 2**

-Greg Grandin, *Empire's Workshop*.

March 2: Mexico: crisis, neoliberal adjustment, and rebellion

-Collier and Quaratiello, *Basta!*

-Documentary, *The Sixth Sun*.

March 9: The Andean countries: Indigenous movements and political change I **Assignment 3, Option 1**

-Yashar, *Contesting Citizenship*, chapters 1-4.

March 16: The Andean countries: Indigenous movements and political change II

-Yashar, *Contesting Citizenship*, chapters 5 to end

-Selections from A. Kim Clark and Mark Becker, eds., *Highland Indians and the State in Modern Ecuador* (University of Pittsburgh Press, 2007): Shannan Mattiace, "From *Indigenismo* to Indigenous Movements in Ecuador and Mexico" (196-208); José Antonio Lucero, "Barricades and Articulations: Comparing Ecuadorian and Bolivian Indigenous Politics" (209-233), José Antonio Lucero and María Elena García, "In the Shadows of Success: Indigenous Politics in Peru and Ecuador (234-247)

March 23: Venezuela: the Bolivarian Revolution **Assignment 3, Option 2**

- Daniel Hellinger, "Venezuela", in Harry Vanden and Gary Prevost, *Politics of Latin America. The Power Game* (2nd. ed., Oxford, 2006), pp. 468-495

-Selections from Steve Ellner and Miguel Tinker Salas, eds., *Venezuela : Hugo Chávez and the Decline of an "Exceptional Democracy,"* (Rowman & Littlefield Pub., 2007)

-Alvaro Vargas Llosa, "The Return of the Idiot," *Foreign Policy*, 160 (May/June 2007), 54-61.

March 30: Selections on contemporary social movements (TBA)

April 7: last class-**Final Papers due today.**