

## **Course Description**

This course introduces Latin American politics. Specifically, we will investigate why a region so rich and diverse geographically, socially, and economically has struggled to consolidate democracy and economic prosperity. During the first half of the course we will examine theories of development in a historical context, including modernization theory, dependency theory, corporatism, bureaucratic authoritarianism, and neoliberalism. In the second half of the course we will analyze three case studies in light of these theories: Argentina, Brazil, and Venezuela.

This course is designed to serve you in several ways. First, it will enrich your understanding of politics and development (or lack thereof) in Latin America and beyond. Second, the course will highlight how politics and economics interact to shape relationships of power. Third, it will stress the value of comparison for understanding complex social problems. Ultimately, I hope you will be challenged to deepen your intellect and expand your worldview—outcomes that will serve you regardless of the major or career path you choose.

## **Course Grades and Requirements**

Course grades will be based on the following requirements:

- **15-page Research Paper**      50% as follows:

First Draft	10%	(due Wednesday, March 8)
Peer Review	5%	(due Thursday, March 9)
Final Draft	35 %	(due Monday, March 13)
- **In-Class Final Exam**      40%      (Wednesday, March 15)
- **Class Participation**      10%      (Includes participation in one debate)

The research paper constitutes the largest portion of your grade. Its purpose is to hone your research and writing skills and deepen your understanding of a topic that excites you. Subject to my approval, you are free to choose any topic broadly related to Latin American politics. To ensure a quality final product, I expect you to research and develop your paper over the course of the block. I will support you throughout this process by designating some class time for independent work, overseeing a peer review process, and being available to discuss your project on an individual basis.

The final exam will be held on the last class day (Wednesday, March 15<sup>th</sup>). You will be given three hours to write two short essays in response to questions I provide. The exam will be closed book. In each essay you will be expected to critically engage with major themes discussed in the course and provide evidence based on what you have learned.

Finally, this course relies heavily on your active participation in class discussion. This requires that you carefully read the assignments every day and come to class prepared to discuss the main argument, assess its merits, articulate your critiques, and raise related issues and questions. In addition, you will be expected to prepare for and participate in one in-class debate.

While the workload for the course is substantial, my primary objective is to make it interesting, useful, and enjoyable for all of you. I will do my best to incorporate topics and countries of particular interest to students in the class and will draw on a range of methods to promote understanding, including discussion, debate, cutting-edge research, and guest speakers.

### **Meeting Time and Attendance Policy**

We will meet daily at 9:15 a.m. and end at 12:00 p.m. unless otherwise indicated. Attendance is mandatory and will be strictly enforced. Repeated absences will affect your participation grade and could expose you to a NC.

### **Office Hours**

Every day from 1 to 3 p.m. or by appointment  
Email: [caitlin.andrews@coloradocollege.edu](mailto:caitlin.andrews@coloradocollege.edu)  
Phone: xxx-xx-xxxx  
Cell Phone: xxx-xxx-xxxx

### **Required Texts**

- Klaren, Peter J. and Thomas J. Bossert, eds. *Promise of Development: Theories of Change in Latin America*. Boulder: Westview Press, 1986.
- Franko, Patrice. *The Puzzle of Latin American Economic Development, 3rd Edition*. New York: Rowman and Littlefield, 2007.
- Skidmore, Thomas E., Smith, Peter H., and James N. Green. *Modern Latin America, 8th Edition*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2014.
- de Jesus, Carolina Maria. *Child of the Dark*. Trans. David St. Clair. Signet, 2003.

Supplemental readings will be made available through Canvas and/or the library website.

## Recommended Style Manual

Please consult a style manual to answer writing and citation questions. Copies of various style manuals are available in the Writing Center. I prefer, but do not require, the Chicago style. Copies of the following manual are available for viewing in the PS department and you might consider buying yourself a copy (\$18).

- Turrabian, Kate, L. *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses and Dissertations, Eighth Edition*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2013.

**The Honor Code applies to all course work. You should include, and sign, the full honor code statement on all of your written work for the course.**

## Class Schedule

Mon, Feb. 20:	Course Introduction
Tues, Feb. 21: Readings:	The Colonial Legacy Skidmore, Smith, and Green Chapter 2 de Jesus pp. 17-89
Wed, Feb. 22: Readings:	The Transformation of Latin America Skidmore, Smith, and Green Chapters 12-13 de Jesus pp. 90-159
Thurs, Feb. 23: Readings:	Theories of Development in Latin America Modernization Theory Klaren and Bossert Chapters 1-5
Fri, Feb. 24: Readings:	Dependency Theory Klaren and Bossert Chapters 6-8

### **CLASS ENDS EARLY: RESEARCH DAY**

Mon, Feb. 27: Readings:	Corporatism Klaren and Bossert Chapter 10 Franko Chapter 3 Stepan, Alfred. 1978. <i>State and Society: Peru in Comparative Perspective</i> . Princeton: Princeton University Press, 3-59.
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**DEBATE #1: Resolved. Latin America's position in the global context is primarily responsible for its development challenges.**

Tues, Feb. 28: Bureaucratic Authoritarianism  
Readings: Klaren and Bossert Chapters 12-13  
Franko Chapter 4

Wed, Mar. 1: Transition to Democracy and Neoliberalism  
Readings: Huntington, Samuel. 1984. "Will More Countries Become Democratic?" *Political Research Quarterly* 99 (2): 193-218.  
Kingstone, Peter. 2011. "Neoliberalism and its Discontents." In *The Political Economy of Latin America*, ed. Peter Kingstone. New York: Routledge, 45-90.  
Harvey, David. 2005. "The Neoliberal State." In *A Brief History of Neoliberalism*. New York: Oxford University Press, 64-86.  
Baker, Andy. 2003. "Why is Trade Reform so Popular in Latin America?" *World Politics* 55 (3): 423-455.  
Skim Franko pp. 107-140, 145-178, 235- 277, 379-427

Thurs, Mar. 2: Responses to Neoliberalism: The Left Turn  
Readings: Corrales, Javier. 2012. "Neoliberalism and its Alternatives." Prepared for the *Handbook of Latin American Politics*, ed. Peter Kingstone and Deborah Yashar. New York: Routledge, 133-157.  
Roberts, Kenneth. 2008. "The Mobilization of Opposition to Economic Liberalization." *Annual Review of Political Science* (11): 327-349.  
Weyland, Kurt. 2010. "The Performance of Leftist Governments in Latin America" In *Leftist Governments in Latin America*, ed. Kurt Weyland, Raul Madrid, and Wendy Hunter. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1-27.

**DEBATE #2. Resolved. On balance, neoliberal policies have produced greater prosperity than harm in Latin America.**

Fri, Mar. 3: Argentina  
Readings: Skidmore, Smith, and Green Ch. 9  
Mani, Kristina. 2015. "The Argentine Military in Democracy." *CMI Working Paper*.  
Engstrom, Par. 2013. "Addressing the Past, Avoiding the Present, Ignoring the Future? Ongoing Human Rights Trials in Argentina." *Paper presented at the Latin American Studies Association Forum*, 1-7.

**CLASS ENDS EARLY: WRITING DAY**

Mon, Mar. 6: Argentina (continued)  
Readings: Levitsky, Steven. 2001. "Organization and Labor-Based Party Adaptation: The Transformation of Argentine Peronism in Comparative Perspective." *World Politics* 54 (1): 27-56.  
Auyero, Javier. 1999. "From the Client's Point of View." *Theory and Society* (28): 297-334.  
Rossi, Federico. 2015. "Beyond Clientelism: The Piquetero Movement and the State in Argentina." In *Handbook of Social Movements Across Latin America*, ed. Paul Almeida and Allen Cordero Ulate. New York: Springer, 2015, 117-128.

Tues, Mar. 7: Brazil  
Readings: Skidmore, Smith, and Green Ch. 11  
Sweet, Cassandra. 2014. "Brazil Woke Up Stronger?" *Revista de Ciencia Política* 34 (1): 59-78.

**MARCH 8<sup>TH</sup>: FIRST DRAFT OF PAPER DUE AT 9:15 A.M.**

Wed, Mar. 8: Brazil (continued)  
Readings: Sugiyama, Natasha and Wendy Hunter. 2013. "Whither Clientelism?" *Comparative Politics* 46 (1): 43-62.  
Saad-Filho, Alfredo. 2015. "Social Policy for Neoliberalism." *Development and Change* 46 (6): 1227-1252.  
Viola, Eduardo and Matías Franchini. 2014. "Brazilian Climate Politics 2005 to 2012." *WIREs Clim Change* (5): 677-688.  
Hochstetler, Kathryn and Eduardo Viola. 2012. "Brazil and the Politics of Climate Change." *Environmental Politics* 21 (5): 753-771.

**MARCH 9<sup>TH</sup>: PEER REVIEW DUE AT 9:15 A.M.**

Thurs, Mar. 9: Venezuela  
Readings: Skidmore, Smith, and Green Ch. 8  
Morgan, Jana. 2007. "Partisanship During the Collapse of Venezuela's Party System." *Latin American Research Review* 42 (1): 78-98.

- Fri, Mar. 10: Venezuela (continued)  
Readings: Ellner, Steve. 2011. "Venezuela's Social-Based Democratic Model." *Journal of Latin American Studies* 43 (3): 421-449.  
Corrales, Javier and Michael Penfold. 2015. "Power Grabbing and the Rise of a Hybrid Regime in Venezuela." In *Dragon in the Tropics* by Javier Corrales and Michael Penfold. Washington, DC: Brookings Institution Press, 15-47.  
Corrales, Javier. 2013. "Un Maduro Más Duro? Venezuela After Chávez." *Berkeley Review of Latin American Studies*, 16-24.  
Smilde, David. 2015. "The End of Chavismo?" *Current History*, 49-55.

**MARCH 13<sup>TH</sup>: FINAL DRAFT DUE AT 4:00 P.M.**

Mon, Mar. 13: Course Review

Tues, Mar. 14: Study Day

Wed, Mar. 15: **IN-CLASS FINAL EXAM**