

NOTE: THE SYLLABUS IS FROM THE LAST TIME GOV49 (WHICH IS NOW ALSO CROSS-LISTED AS LACS 51) WAS TAUGHT, IN 2009. IT PROVIDES AN IDEA ABOUT THE SUBJECT MATTER, BUT IT WILL BE SUBSTANTIALLY UPDATED FOR THE W15 VERSION OF THE COURSE. REVISIONS WILL BE ONGOING UNTIL THE BEGINNING OF W15 TERM.

Gov.49: Politics in Latin America

Winter 2009

Tuesday + Thursday, 10:00-11:50am

Rockefeller Hall 3

Prof. John Carey

Office: Silsby 218A

Office Hours: Wed. 11am-noon, Th. 1:30-2:30pm

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This course is an introduction to the political development and the current context of politics in Latin America. It combines material on historical and theoretical topics with material on the current politics of specific countries, particularly in the Andean region, which has experienced turbulent politics in recent years. The central theme of the course is to evaluate the development and performance of democracy in Latin America. We consider the impact of political culture, economic development, representative institutions, and the legacies of authoritarian and revolutionary regimes on the contemporary politics of the region.

Requirements

Students are required to attend classes and to read the material assigned for each class on the syllabus.

Grades will be calculated based on the following assignments:

4-6 Quizzes	20%
Midterm exam	15%
Final exam	30%
1 Research paper	35%

Quizzes

Over the course of the quarter, I will give four to six pop quizzes at the beginning of class. These should take just a few minutes, and will consist of a few basic questions about the readings on the syllabus for that day -- main arguments, key facts, results, conclusions, etc. I will not ask about obscure stuff, but rather stuff that should be evident if you have done the reading for class reasonably carefully. Filling in your name will count as one question (assuming you get it right), which is to say you'll get some credit for showing up. To minimize inequities resulting from

students missing a quiz due to sickness, other unforeseen absence, or something that prevents you from doing the reading before a class, each student's lowest quiz grade (e.g. a zero, if you happen to miss a class when we have a quiz) will be dropped before the quiz grade average is calculated.

Exams

The midterm and the final will consist of some mixture of questions that require short answers – possibly including multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank, or brief identification/definition/explanation of a term or concept – as well as an essay. The short-answer sections of the exams will be given in class. The essay sections will be available on the Blackboard site during fixed time periods to be announced.

Final Papers

Each student will also produce a final paper (maximum length: 3,000 words), due on the last day of class, on a topic of her/his choice. ***Paper topics must be submitted for approval by February 27.*** To get a paper topic approved, you should propose a topic, as well as at least three bibliographic resources, by email. You are, of course, encouraged to talk (or email) with me about paper topic ideas before you submit a topic for approval. We will discuss strategies for identifying and designing a viable research paper topic in class throughout the term.

Readings

The following books are available for purchase at Wheelock Books:

Colburn, Forrest D. 2002. *Latin America at the end of politics*. Princeton UP

De Soto, Hernando. 2000. *The Mystery of Capital*. New York: Basic Books.

Smith, Peter H. 2005. *Democracy in Latin America: Political change in comparative perspective*. New York: Oxford University Press.

The rest of the materials are available electronically, under the Documents link of the Gov.49 BB site. Reading assignments are indicated by author's last name in the schedule of classes and assignments below. Full citations for each reading follow below that, in the order they are assigned. If you have trouble getting an assigned reading from the BB site, many of them (particularly journal articles) are available in full-text electronically via your Dartmouth account. Go the EResources link from the library's website and search using the information in the citation.

In addition to the assigned readings, you will also find on the BB site supplementary readings and resources, including the United Nations Development Program's 2005 report on democracy in Latin America. The report is long, and I have not assigned you to read the text. However, it contains a huge amount of current and worthwhile data on Latin American politics and public opinion, much of which I will draw on in lectures. You might find it worthwhile to download the report (<http://democracia.undp.org/Default.asp?Idioma=2>), look through it, and have it on hand over the course of the term.

Schedule of classes and assigned readings

Date	Subject	Reading
Jan.6	Course Introduction	
Jan.8	Liberalism & post-liberal politics?	Colburn; Arditi
Trajectories of Latin American political development		
Jan.13	Cycles of democracy and authoritarianism	Smith Intro and chapters 1-4
Jan.15	Roots of political culture	Bolivar; Dealy; Coatsworth
Jan.20	Political economy	NSW; de Soto chapters 1-3
Jan.22	Rule of law	De Soto chapters 4-7
Jan.27	Military authoritarianism and anti-communism	Loveman chapters 6-7
Jan.29	State capacity (Hillel Soifer guest lecture)	Soifer
Challenges to Liberal Democracy		
Feb.3	Politics of revolution in Cuba	Guevara; Dominguez; Aguirre
Feb.5	Cuba: Looking ahead	Economist 2008; Anderson 2006; Erikson 2008
Feb.10-11	Mid-term exam: Short answer section in class, first half hour, on 2/10. Essay available on BB site during X-hour, 3:00-3:50pm, 2/11.	Assigned readings and lecture materials up through 2/5
Feb.10	Chavez and the Bolivarian Revolution	Coppedge; Reid 7; Anderson 2008
Feb.12	Chavismo and social policy in Venezuela	Rodriguez; Weisbrot
Feb.17	Bolivia: Morales and indigenous politics	Barr
<i>Feb.18 X-Hour</i>	<i>Bolivia: Documentary, Cocalero (93 minutes) to be shown in Dartmouth Hall 105 during X-hour. (See note with bibliographic listing for alternative viewing.)</i>	<i>Cocalero (film)</i>
Feb.19	Bolivia: Communalism and the new constitution	Eaton 2007; Lazarte,
Feb.24	Peru: Fujimori and the presidential threat	Smith 5-6; Conaghan
Performance of Latin American Democracies		
<i>Feb.25 X-hour</i>	Elections, Plebiscites, and 'popular' interruptions	Smith 7; Marsteintredet & Berntzen
Feb.26	Social welfare, poverty, and equity	Smith 8-9; Reid 10; Brown & Hunter
March 3	Personal security: State and private violence	Smith 10; Brinks; Eaton 2006
March 5	No class – Prof. Carey out of town	
March 10	Prospects for future	Smith 12 & Epilogue; Reid 11&12
March 14, 11:30am-2:30pm	Short answer section in classroom. Essay available on BB site during FXM time slot.	All of the above

Readings Available on BB Site and/or Online

- Arditi, Benjamin. 2008. "Arguments about the left turns in Latin America: A post-liberal politics?" *Latin American Research Review* 43(3):33-58.
- Bolivar, Simon. 1815. "Jamaica Letter."
- Bolivar, Simon. 1819. "Angostura Address."
- Dealy, Glen Caudill. "Two Cultures and Political Behavior in Latin America." Roderic Ai Camp, ed. *Democracy in Latin America: Patterns and Cycles*. Wilmington, DE: Scholarly Resources, Inc:49-66.
- Coatsworth, John. 1978. "Obstacles to Economic Growth in Nineteenth-Century Mexico." *The American Historical Review* 83(1):80-100.
- North, Douglass C., William Summerhill, and Barry Weingast. 2000. "Order, Disorder, and Economic Change: Latin America vs. North America." Bruce Bueno de Mesquita and Hilton Root, eds. *Governing for Prosperity*. New Haven: Yale University Press.
- Loveman, Brian. 1999. *For La Patria: Politics and the Armed Forces in Latin America*. Scholarly Resources Books:165-226 (chs.6,7).
- Soifer, Hillel. 2009. "The institutional origins of state infrastructural power: Historical evidence from Latin America." Unpublished paper.
- Guevara, Ernesto (Che). 1965. "Man and socialism in Cuba (Letter from Major Ernesto Che Guevara to Carlos Quijano, editor of the Montevideo weekly magazine *Marcha*)" <http://www.marxists.org/archive/guevara/1965/03/man-socialism.htm>
- Dominguez, Jorge I. 2002. "Government and Politics." Hudson, Rex A., ed. *Cuba: A country Study*, 4th edition. Washington DC: Library of Congress.
- Aguirre, Benigno E. 2002. "Social control in Cuba." *Latin American Politics & Society* 44(2):67-98.
- The Economist*. 2008. "The Cuban Revolution at fifty: Heroic myth, prosaic failure." December 30.
- Anderson, Jon Lee. 2006. "Castro's last battle: Can the revolution outlive its leader? The New Yorker, July 24.
- Erikson, Daniel P. 2008. *The Cuba Wars*. New York: Bloomsbury Press. Chapters 2,3,4, pp.27-105.

- Coppedge, Michael. 2000. "Popular Sovereignty versus Liberal Democracy in Venezuela." Draft chapter for Jorge I. Domínguez and Michael Shifter, eds., *Constructing Democratic Governance* (Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press.)
- Reid, Michael. 2007. *Forgotten continent: The battle for Latin America's soul*. New Haven: Yale University Press. Selected chapters.
- Anderson, Jon Lee. 2008. "Fidel's heir: The influence of Hugo Chavez." *The New Yorker* (June 23).
- Rodriguez, Fernando. 2006. "An empty revolutions: The unfulfilled promises of Hugo Chavez." *Foreign Affairs* (March/April).
- Weisbrot, Mark. 2008. "An empty research agenda: The creation of myths about contemporary Venezuela." Center for Economic and Policy Research.
- ReVista*. 2008 (Fall). Selections: Colette Capriles, Teodoro Petkoff, Steve Ellner
- Barr, Robert. 2005. "Bolivia: Another Uncompleted Revolution." *Latin American Politics & Society* 47(3):69-90.
- Cocalero*. 2006. Alejandro Landes, director; Julia Solomonoff and Alejandro Landes, producers. Fall Line Films. (Film will be shown in X-Hour in Dartmouth Hall 105, but is also available in streaming video from Jones Media for students who cannot watch during the X-Hour slot, or who need to finish the last 20 minutes at another time. On BB site, go to Course Tools/Library Course Reserves, then click on QuickTime version.)
- Eaton, Kent. 2007. "Backlash in Bolivia: Regional autonomy as a reaction against indigenous mobilization." *Politics & Society* 35:71-102.
- Lazarte R., Jorge. 2008. "Citizen and communal representation." *La Razón* (La Paz, Bolivia). December 10.
- Conahan, Catherine. 2001. "Making and unmaking authoritarian Peru: Reelection, resistance, and regime transition." *The North-South Agenda*, paper 47, University of Miami: Dante B. Fascell North-South Center. <http://www.ciaonet.org/wps/coc21/coc21.pdf>
- Marsteintredet, Leiv and Einar Berntzen. 2008. "Reducing the perils of presidentialism in Latin America through presidential interruptions." *Comparative Politics* 41(1):83-105.
- Brown, David S. and Wendy Hunter. 2004. "Democracy and human capital formation: Education spending in Latin America, 1980 to 1997." *Comparative Political Studies* 37(7):842-864.
- Eaton, Kent. 2006. "The Downside of decentralization: Armed clientelism in Colombia's civil war." *Security Studies* 15(4):533-562.

Brinks, Daniel. 2003. "Informal institutions and the rule of law: The judicial response to state killings in Buenos Aires and Sao Paulo in the 1990s." *Comparative Politics* 36(1):1-19.