*The primary task of a useful teacher is to teach his students to recognize* inconvenient *facts—I mean the facts that are inconvenient for their party opinions* (Max Weber). Critical thinking is essential. One cannot be a good global citizen without being a critical thinker and understanding basic current events.

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INTA 2XXX: Government, Politics, and Society of Latin America

There are no prerequisites for this course

This course fulfills the Social Science and Global Perspective GEN ED requirements at Georgia Tech.

**Course Description**: This course introduces students to the culture, society, and politics of Latin America. We will use film, music, and literature to supplement academic work in our journey through Latin America. The course covers a broad range of issues, topics, and places of this fascinating and dynamic region:

• historical forces that shape contemporary life

• culture and cultural production, including religion, literature, music, sport, and film

• contours of ethnicity, multiculturalism, and gender relations

• political development

• contemporary issues

**Learning Outcomes:**

*Student will demonstrate the ability to describe the social, political, and economic forces that influence social behavior.*

*Student will demonstrate the ability to describe the social, political, and economic forces that influence the global system.*

*Cultural and ethical awareness.  Students will become more aware of the diversity of cultural and ethical systems in the world.  Able to understand and articulate key issues with respect for a range of different variables.*

*Students will demonstrate mastery of Latin American geography and be able to describe how geography shapes societal and political outcomes*

**Required Texts:** All students must purchase 3 books. Additional readings will be added to TSQUARE.

Chasteen, John . 2011. *Born of Blood and Fire: A Concise History of Latin America* *3rd Ed.* Norton.

Guillermoprieto, Alma. 1994. *The Heart that Bleeds*. Vintage.

Arocena, Felipe and Kirk Bowman (AB). 2014. *Lessons from Latin America: Politics, Culture, Development.* Toronto University Press.

**List of Graded Assignments:**

Midterm: 35%

Novel Written Assignment: 15%. Students are to read one novel by a Latin American author set in the region and write a five page paper that merges the novel with one of the topics covered in class. A rubric can be found in the Resources tab of TSQUARE as well as a list recommended novels. Students can also select their own novel and please feel free to discuss with professor at office hours. Book can also be an appropriate book of non-fiction such as *At the Tomb of the Inflatable Pig.* Please discuss with professor.

5 pop quizzes: 15

Final Exam: 35% (Final exam given at time as shown on GT calendar)

**Attendance Policy**

Attendance is mandatory as is reading before class. There will be 7 short pop quizzes at the beginning of class on reading. The two lowest scores will be dropped and the remaining 5 quizzes will count as 15% of your final grade.

**ADAPTS**

The professor will work with ADAPTS so that all students have an equal opportunity for success. For information on ADAPTS, see <http://www.adapts.gatech.edu/>

**Honor Code Statement:**

Plagiarizing is defined by Webster’s as “to steal and pass off (the ideas or words of another) as one's own: use (another's production) without crediting the source.”If caught plagiarizing, you will be dealt with according to the GT Academic Honor Code.

For more information see: <http://www.honor.gatech.edu/plugins/content/index.php?id=9>

**Week by week schedule**

• Week 1: The Geography of Latin America (article uploaded on TSQUARE) and Chasteen Chapter 1 (First Stop, the Present).

• Week 2: Chasteen: Chapters 2 (Encounter) and 3 (Colonial Crucible)

• Week 3: Chasteen: Chapters 4 (Independence) and 5 (Postcolonial Blues)

• Week 4: Chasteen: Chapters 6 (Progress) and 7 (Neocolonialism)

• Week 5: Chasteen: Chapters 8 (Nationalism) and 9 (Revolution)

• Week 6: Chasteen: Chapters 10 (Reaction) and 11 (Neoliberalism)

• Week 6: Guillermoprieto: Bogotá 1989; and Managua 1990

• Week 7: Guillermoprieto: Mexico City 1990; and Lima 1990

• Week 8: Guillermoprieto: Medellín 1991; and Buenos Aires 1991; and Rio 1991

• Week 9: Guillermoprieto: La Paz 1992; and Panama City 1992; and Mexico City 1992

• Week 10: Guillermoprieto: Lima 1993; and Rio 1993; and Bogotá 1993

• Week 11: Arocena and Bowman: Introduction: Ch. 1. Would you like to go to South America; and Ch. 2. Gender and Representation

• Week 12: Arocena and Bowman: Ch. 3. Counting the Votes and Aggregating Political Preferences; and Ch. 4. Demilitarization and Peace Promotion

• Week 13: Arocena and Bowman: Ch. 5. The Awakening of Indigenous Culture: The Case of Bolivia; and Ch. 6. Brazil: Where Were the Blacks?

• Week 14: Arocena and Bowman: Ch. 7. Latin Immigration into the United States: The Paradigm Shift from the Theory of Assimilation to the Theory of Multiculturalism; and Ch. 8. The Delayed Revolution and the Rise of the South.

• Week 15: Arocena and Bowman: Ch. 9. Retirement with Dignity: Lessons and Political Weapons from Pension Reform in Chile and Beyond; and Ch. 10. Global Lessons from the Beautiful Game; and Conclusions