

GOV 328L / LAS 337M (38410 & 39840)
INTRODUCTION TO LATIN AMERICAN GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS
(Fall 2022)

Prof. Raúl Madrid

Office: Batts 3.112

Course meetings: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 3:30 – 5:00 p.m. in Mezes B0.306

Office hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 2:00-3:30 p.m.

E-mail: rmatrid@austin.utexas.edu

Tel: (512) 232-7246

Teaching Assistant: Diego Vega (diegovega@utexas.edu)

Office hours:

This course will provide a basic introduction to the evolving politics of Latin America. We will explore the roots of the major political and economic trends that have swept Latin America during the last century. The trends analyzed range from populism and revolutionary movements to democratization and neoliberal reform. We will also examine the politics of ethnicity, gender, religion, crime and development in the region. The first section focuses on Latin American political history. The second section examines recent waves of authoritarianism and democracy. The third section analyzes some of the main social and economic issues currently facing the region. Although the course will focus on issues affecting Latin America as a whole, some lectures and readings will examine how these trends affected individual countries.

REQUIREMENTS:

Grades will be assessed based on three in-class examinations, a research paper, and 12 quizzes. There is no final exam for this course, and attendance will not be used in determining your final grade. The first two in-class examinations will be each worth 25 points and will consist of multiple choice and short answer or essay questions. These in-class examinations will not be cumulative—they will only cover the lectures delivered and readings assigned since the previous exam. The third exam will be worth 15 points and will consist exclusively of multiple-choice questions. The research paper, which is also worth 15 points, must focus on a contemporary issue in Latin American politics. The quizzes, which will be on Canvas, will be worth 2 points each.

Quizzes cannot be made up, but I will drop two of the 12 quizzes in calculating your final grade, so the quizzes will be worth a total of 20 points. In order to calculate your final grade, I will sum all of the points you have received in the class and convert the points into letter grades using the following scale:

93-100 = A

90-92 = A-

87-89 = B+

83-86 = B

80-82 = B-

77-79 = C+

73-76 = C

70-72 = C-
67-69 = D+
63-66 = D
60-62 = D-
Below 60 = F

I will round up scores of 0.5 and higher and round down scores of less than 0.5. I do not allow extra credit assignments and no exceptions will be made to the above system of converting points into letter grades. Students who wish to contest a grade must do so in writing within two weeks of the day on which I returned the exam or paper.

Religious holidays: Students who need to miss a class due to a religious holiday should notify me at least fourteen days prior to the holiday. If you must miss a class, an examination, a work assignment, or a project in order to observe a religious holy day, you will be given an opportunity to complete the missed work within a reasonable time after the absence.

Disability accommodations: Students with disabilities may request appropriate accommodations from the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement, Services for Students with Disabilities, 471-6259, <http://www.utexas.edu/diversity/ddce/ssd/>

Policy on Scholastic Dishonesty: Students who violate University rules on scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and/or dismissal from the University. Since such dishonesty harms the individual, all students, and the integrity of the University, policies on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced. For further information on academic integrity and plagiarism please visit the Student Judicial Services Web site: http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/acint_student.php

Sharing of Course Materials is Prohibited: No materials used in this class, including, but not limited to, lecture hand-outs, videos, assessments (quizzes, exams, papers, projects, homework assignments), in-class materials, review sheets, and additional problem sets, may be shared online or with anyone outside of the class unless you have my explicit, written permission. Unauthorized sharing of materials promotes cheating. It is a violation of the University's Student Honor Code and an act of academic dishonesty. I am well aware of the sites used for sharing materials, and any materials found online that are associated with you, or any suspected unauthorized sharing of materials, will be reported to Student Conduct and Academic Integrity in the Office of the Dean of Students. These reports can result in sanctions, including failure in the course.

Class Recordings: Class recordings are reserved only for students in this class for educational purposes and are protected under FERPA. The recordings should not be shared outside the class in any form. Violation of this restriction by a student could lead to Student Misconduct proceedings.

TEXTS:

Carey, Henry, ed. Understanding Contemporary Latin America. 5th Edition. Boulder: Lynne

Riener Publishers, 2022.

Munck, Gerardo L. and Juan Pablo Luna. Latin American Politics and Society: A Comparative and Historical Analysis. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2022.

Additional readings will be available on Canvas, as noted below.

This course is part of the Longhorn Textbook Access (LTA) program, which is designed to make textbooks more affordable. The following is a description of how the program works reproduced nearly verbatim from an email the program distributed to faculty:

Each enrolled student is automatically enrolled in the program to start. This program is OPTIONAL; however, you must ACTIVELY OPT-OUT if you do not wish to participate, in order to not be billed. LTA ensures you are receiving your course materials at a reduced price, however, purchasing your course materials through LTA is not required; you can purchase required course materials anywhere. Opting out of LTA will disconnect your access to the course materials..., but where you purchase the required materials is your decision.

If you need access to the required materials, they will be available to you in a digital format through the “My Textbooks” tab in your class’s Canvas site on or before the first class day. To opt-out, go to Canvas and select “My Textbooks” and then “opt-out.” If you are opted-in at the end of the 5th class day (August 26th), you will be billed for these materials through your “What I Owe” page. You can opt-out and opt-in as many times as you’d like up until the end of the 12th class day (September 6th). You have through the 20th class day (September 16th) to pay your What I Owe bill.

For information on opting-out, billing, and the LTA program, visit universitycoop.com/longhorn-textbook-access

If you have additional questions, please contact LTAhelp@universitycoop.com

WEEKLY READINGS

Week 1 (Aug. 23 and 25) Introduction to Latin America: People, Geography, and Politics

Munck and Luna, “Introduction,” pp. 1-13.

Munck and Luna, “Latin America in Perspective: Lessons and Prospects,” pp. 547-551.

Carey, Ch. 1 "Introducing Latin America," pp. 1-10.

Carey, Ch. 2 "Latin America: A Geographical Preface," pp. 11-38.

Carey, Ch. 14 “Looking Forward,” pp. 435-451.

Aug. 26: Quiz 1 (focuses on the syllabus)

I. LATIN AMERICAN POLITICAL HISTORY

Week 2 (Aug. 30 and Sept. 1) Pre-20th Century Latin America

Carey, Ch. 3 "The Historical Context," pp. 39-90

Munck and Luna, Ch. 1 "The State and State Capacity," pp. 17-44.

Munck and Luna, Ch. 2, "Nation-Building, Race and Ethnicity," pp. 49-78.

Sept. 2: Quiz 2

Week 3 (Sept. 6 and 8) Populism and Industrialization

Munck and Luna, Ch. 3 "Political Regimes and Democracy," pp. 82-117.

Munck and Luna, Ch. 4 "Development Models and Socioeconomic Welfare," pp. 123-159.

Carey, Ch. 6 "The Economies of Latin America," pp. 143-184.

Sept. 9: Quiz 3

Weeks 4-5 (Sept. 13, 15 and 20) Revolutionary Movements

Crahan, Margaret E. and Peter H. Smith. "The State of Revolution." In Alfred Stepan, ed. Americas: New Interpretative Essays. Oxford University Press, 1992, pp. 79-108. ([Canvas](#)).

Wickham-Crowley, Timothy. "Winners, Losers and Also-Rans: Toward a Comparative Sociology of Latin American Guerilla Movements." In Susan Eckstein, ed. Power and Popular Protest. Berkeley, CA: UC Press, 1989, pp. 132-181. ([Canvas](#)).

Sept. 21: Quiz 4

Sept. 22: 1st Examination

II DEMOCRACY AND AUTHORITARIANISM IN LATIN AMERICA

Weeks 6-7 (Sept. 27 and 29 and Oct. 4) Military regimes

Collier, David. "Overview of the Bureaucratic-Authoritarian Model." In Collier, ed. The New Authoritarianism in Latin America. Princeton University Press, 1979, pp. 19-32. ([Canvas](#)).

Valenzuela, Arturo. "Chile: Origins, Consolidation, and Breakdown of a Democratic Regime." In Larry Diamond, Juan J. Linz, and Seymour Martin Lipset, eds. Politics in Developing Countries: Comparing Experiences with Democracy. Boulder: Lynne Rienner, 1990, pp. 39-87. (**Canvas**)

Stepan, Alfred. "Political Leadership and Regime Breakdown: Brazil." In Linz and Stepan eds., The Breakdown of Democratic Regimes: Latin America. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1978, pp. 110-137. (**Canvas**)

Oct. 5: Quiz 5

Week 7-8 (Oct. 6, 11 and 13) Democracy and Democratization in Latin America

Carey, Ch. 4 "Latin American Politics," pp. 91-120.

Munck and Luna, Ch. 5 "Democracy and the Quality of Democracy," pp. 165-197.

Munck and Luna, Ch. 9 "Transitional Justice," pp. 310-345.

Oct. 15: Quiz 6

Week 9 (Oct. 18 and 20) Democratic Institutions

Munck and Luna, Ch. 7 "Political Parties and the Citizen-Politician Link," pp. 238-266.

John M. Carey, "Presidentialism and Representative Institutions." In Jorge Domínguez and Michael Shifter, eds. Constructing Democratic Governance in Latin America. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2003: 11-42. (**Canvas**)

Oct. 21: Quiz 7

Week 10 (Oct. 25 and 27) Consolidation of Democracy

Munck and Luna, Ch. 8 "The Protection of Civil Rights" pp. 273-304.

Munck and Luna, Ch. 12 "Social Rights in Law and Reality," pp. 431-460.

Oct. 28: Quiz 8

Nov. 1: 2nd Examination

III CONTEMPORARY ISSUES IN LATIN AMERICAN POLITICS

Week 11 (Nov. 3). Religion and politics in Latin America

Carey, Ch. 12 "Religion," pp. 367-390.

Pew Research Center. *Religion in Latin America: Widespread Change in a Historically Catholic Region*. Washington: Pew Research Center, 2014: Overview, pp. 4-29. ([Canvas](#))

Nov. 4: Quiz 9

Week 12 (Nov. 8 and 10). Crisis, reform and development in Latin America

Munck and Luna, Ch. 13 "Sustainable Development and Neoextractivism," pp. 464-485.

Munck and Luna, Ch. 14 "Basic Social Inclusion and Social Policy," pp. 489-515.

Munck and Luna, Ch. 15 "Unequal Democracies," pp. 517-542.

Nov. 11: Quiz 10

Week 13 (Nov. 15 and 17). Gender, Race and Ethnicity in Latin America

Carey, Ch. 9 "Social, Political and Cultural Identities," pp. 257-296.

Carey, Ch. 10 "The Roles of Women," pp. 297-336.

Munck and Luna, Ch. 6, "Political Inclusion and Institutional Innovations," pp. 201-233.

Nov. 18: Quiz 11

Week 14 (Nov. 22 and 24). Fall Break. No Class

Nov. 29. Research paper due on Canvas by 11:59 p.m.

Week 15 (Nov. 29). Crime and Corruption

Munck and Luna, Ch. 10 "High-Level Corruption," pp. 350-382.

Munck and Luna, Ch. 11 "The New Violence: Homicide, Drugs and the State," pp. 386-422.

Nov. 30: Quiz 12

Dec. 1: 3rd Examination