

## ***THE THEORY AND PRACTICE OF POLITICS IN LATIN AMERICA***

**FALL 2005**

**POL 233**

**Class Times: Tues/Thurs. 8:30-9:45am**

**Instructor: Russell Crandall**

**Office: Chambers 3011**

**Office Hours: T 2:15-3:30pm; W 10:00-11:30am; TT 2:15-3:30pm**

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### ***Background and Course Objectives***

This course provides a comprehensive survey of the contemporary nature of politics in Latin America. It will set up a contextual foundation of twentieth century Latin American history along with some theories of political systems upon which our analyses of contemporary Latin American political systems will be made. It will also explore the growing fusion between economics and politics in Latin America. The course will focus on several country case studies in particular, including: Chile, Peru, Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, and Cuba. This course assumes no prior knowledge of the region, although the introductory political science course *Comparative Politics* provides general preparation for this course.

### ***Course Requirements***

In addition to regular class participation, students will be required to sit for a mid-term review (**October 6**), final review, and complete several assignments. These assignments include: a research paper that draws upon some of the theories and concepts presented in the literature in order to address a current or past topic pertaining to Latin America (more specific guidelines will be provided in class) and a book review (due **October 20**). A bibliography for the research paper is due on **September 22**. The research paper is due **December 1**.

Late papers will receive one lower grade for each day the paper is late. (e.g. a paper turned in one day late goes from A to A-).

The success of this course will be due in good part to the involvement and enthusiasm of the students and for this reason **student participation is assumed**.

Students are *required* to read the “Americas” section of the weekly international news magazine *The Economist*.

Students can either subscribe ([www.economistacademic.com](http://www.economistacademic.com)) using code #1079 or make a copy of the library’s copy and bring it to class each week.

In addition to the twice-weekly class meetings, we will meet periodically during the semester in order to view several films. Viewing these films is mandatory and the dates are noted on the class schedule. Each screening will begin at 8 p.m. Students must see the films on their own time if they cannot make the scheduled screening.

### ***Materials***

Books and articles are on reserve in the library. Please keep in mind that not all reserves are available on electronic reserve. If you cannot locate the reserve as an electronic file most likely it is on physical reserve in the library.

Students should purchase the following books that are available in the college bookstore.

Burkholder, Mark and Johnson, Lyman. *Colonial Latin America*. 4<sup>th</sup> edition. Oxford, 2001.

Linz, Juan. *The Breakdown of Democratic Regimes: Crisis, Breakdown, and Re-equilibration*. Johns Hopkins, 1978.

Allende, Isabel. *The House of the Spirits*. Knopf, 1985.

Skidmore, Thomas and Smith, Peter. *Modern Latin America*. 6<sup>th</sup> Edition. Oxford, 2005.

Franko, Patrice. *The Puzzle of Latin American Development*. 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition. Rowman & Littlefield, 2004.

Crandall, Russell, Paz, Guadalupe, and Roett, Riordan. *Mexico's Democracy at Work: Political and Economic Dynamics*. Lynne Rienner, 2004.

### ***Grading Break-Down***

Mid-Term Examination	20%
Final Examination	20%
Research Paper	30%
Book Review	20%
Participation	10%

### ***Course Schedule***

#### **Tuesday August 23**

Introduction.

#### ***Historical Context: Conquest to Independence to the 20<sup>th</sup> Century***

#### **Thursday August 25**

Burkholder, Mark and Johnson, Lyman. *Colonial Latin America*. Chs. 1-2.

Film: *Aguirre: The Wrath of God*

#### **Tuesday August 30**

Burkholder, Mark and Johnson, Lyman. *Colonial Latin America*. Chs. 3-5.

Fuguet, Alberto. "Magical Neoliberalism." *Foreign Policy*. July/August 2001.

**Thursday September 1**

Burkholder, Mark and Johnson, Lyman. *Colonial Latin America*. Ch. 8.

**Wednesday September 7 (\*\*note date, 1345hrs)**

Skidmore, Thomas and Smith, Peter. *Modern Latin America*. Ch. 2.

Film: *Fitzcaraldo*

*Latin American Politics in Theoretical Perspective*

**Thursday September 8**

Linz, Juan. *The Breakdown of Democratic Regimes*. pp. 3-49.

Linz, Juan and Stepan, Alfred. *Problems of Democratic Consolidation: Southern Europe, South America, and Post-Communist Europe*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1996. pp. 1-15.

**Tuesday September 13**

Linz, Juan. *The Breakdown of Democratic Regimes*. Finish.

*Economic Reform and Consolidation*

**Thursday September 15**

Sachs, Jeffrey. *Social Conflict and Populist Policies in Latin America*.

Crandall, Russell. "Latin America's Populist Temptation." *In the National Interest*. 2004.

**Tuesday September 20**

Franko, Patrice. *The Puzzle of Latin American Economic Development*. Chs. 2-4.

**Thursday September 22**

Roett, Riordan and Crandall, Russell, "Confining Conditions: New Guidelines for Latin American Leaders." *Harvard International Review* (Summer 1999).

Roett, Riordan and Crandall, Russell. "The Global Economic Crisis, Contagion, and Institutions: New Realities in Latin America and Asia." *International Political Science Review* (July 1999).

Franko. *The Puzzle of Latin American Economic Development*. Ch. 6.

**Research paper bibliography due**

**Tuesday September 27**

Franko. *The Puzzle of Latin American Economic Development*. Chs. 10, 14.

**Thursday September 29**

Franko. *The Puzzle of Latin American Economic Development*. Chs. 11, 12, 13, 15.

*Country Studies*

**Tuesday October 4**

Smith, Peter. "The Breakdown of Democracy in Argentina 1916-1930."

Skidmore and Smith. "Argentina."

Rohter, Larry. "Now the Dirtiest of Wars Won't be Forgotten." *New York Times*. June 18, 2003.

Film: *The Official Story* (8pm)

### **Thursday October 6**

#### **Mid-term review**

### **Thursday October 13**

Steven Levitsky, "Argentina: From Crisis to Consolidation (and Back)," in Dominguez & Shifter, eds. *Constructing Democratic Governance*, pp. 244-268.

"In Argentina, Tough Mayor Shows How to Clean House." *The Wall Street Journal*. July 1, 2003.

### **Tuesday October 18**

Skidmore and Smith. "Chile."

Rhodes, Andrew. "Militares Militantes? Chilean Civil-Military Relations." pp. 1-45.

### **Thursday October 20**

Chile "No Vote" video.

Book Discussion: *House of the Spirits*

#### **Book review due**

### **Tuesday October 25**

Skidmore and Smith. "Peru"

Hilton, Isabel. "Letter from Peru: The Government is Missing." *New Yorker*. April 2001.

Crandall, Russell. "Peru Treats the Wounds of Its Anti-Terrorist Fight." *Wall Street Journal*. January 31, 2003.

Peru Campaign 2000 video (in class)

### **Thursday Tuesday October 27**

Skidmore and Smith. "Brazil"

Skidmore, Thomas. "Brazil's Persistent Income Inequality: Lessons from History." *Latin American Politics and Society*, Vol. 46, No. 2, Summer 2004, pp. 133-147.

Film: *Four Days in September*

### **Tuesday November 1**

"Former Emerging-Market Star Loses Ground to Asia." *Wall Street Journal*. 24 May 2005.

"Make or Break: A Survey of Brazil" *The Economist*. February 22, 2003.

"Land Rush." *Wall Street Journal*. July 10, 2003.

Film: *City of God*

### **Thursday November 3**

Skidmore and Smith. "Mexico."

Crandall. Chs. 1-3.

Film: *Y Tu Mama Tambien*

**Tuesday November 8**

Crandall et al. Chs. 4, 5, 7, 9.

“In Latin America, Rich-Poor Chasm Stifles Growth.” *Wall Street Journal*.

Film: *American Experience: Fidel Castro*

**Thursday November 10**

Skidmore and Smith. “Cuba”

Guillermoprieto, Alma. *Looking for History: Dispatches From Latin America*. 87-152.

Cuba Video Presentation (in class)

Film: *Before Night Falls*

**Tuesday November 15**

Skidmore and Smith. “Central America.”

“Guatemalans Being to Seek War Redress.” *Wall Street Journal*.

**Thursday November 17**

Skidmore and Smith. “Caribbean.”

Film: *The Agronomist*

**Tuesday November 22**

Skidmore and Smith. “Colombia.”

“War and Drugs in Colombia.” International Crisis Group Report. January 2005.

Arnsion, Cynthia, ed. “The Social and Economic Dimensions of Conflict and Peace in Colombia.” Woodrow Wilson Center. October 2004.

“Coca, Drugs, and Social Protest in Bolivia and Peru.” *International Crisis Group*. 2005.

**Tuesday November 29**

Weyland, Kurt. “Neoliberalism and Democracy in Latin America: A Mixed Record.”

*Latin American Politics and Society*, Vol. 46, No. 1, Spring 2004, pp. 135-152.

“A Break in the Clouds.” *Inter-American Dialogue Report*. July 2005.

Chalker, Adam and Crandall, Russell. “Its Own Clash: Latin America and Western Civilization.” *In the National Interest*. 2004.

Film: *Motorcycle Diaries*

**Thursday December 1**

Vargas Llosa, Alvaro. “The Killing Machine.” *The New Republic*. July 2005.

**Research paper due.**

