

HILA 102: LATIN AMERICA IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY  
Michael Monteón  
858-534-4792  
HSS 6044  
Office Hours: Tuesday, 1-3pm  
TA: Guillermo Gallardo

## **PURPOSE**

This class will devote the major part of the lectures and readings to the study of Latin America since 1900. At the beginning of the first class, I asked you to choose five topics that you found interesting; the most votes went to comparative revolutions, military regimes, urbanization, the media, and religion. There was a broad range of topics that you wanted covered but the Cuban Revolution and Che Guevara led the list, with US influence, and women's rights close behind. So I have arranged the five topics below – more or less in chronological order.

## **ELECTRONICS AND OTHER EMBARRASMENTS**

No cell phones, beepers, or other devices should be going off during this class. If you are tired or need to read a newspaper or receive a phone call, do not come to class.

## **PAPERS**

**MID-TERM AND FINAL EXAMS:** Two take-home papers will be assigned in this class. The mid-term will be due Thursday, Week V, and will count 30 per cent of the grade. The final will be due on the date and time assigned for the final exam by the administration; it will count 50 per cent. Full instructions about the papers will be on the class assignments handed out on Weeks IV and IX, respectively. Remember you are expected to have read or started to read at least two books by the mid-term and five by the final (see below). The final paper counts in fulfillment of the Eleanor Roosevelt College requirement on doing a ten-page paper. You must also participate in class, see below.

## **DISCUSSION**

**REQUIREMENT:** This requirement will count 20 per cent of the grade. I will hand out 15 cards at the beginning of the course; you may hand them back for class participation (one card per class), through discussion of the readings on the “discussion” area of the web site, through office hours with the reader, or through periodic “chats” on the website, or a class presentation (up to 10 cards). **DISCUSSION WEB SITE:** This is still a novelty for me and so I will only count five cards in this form of discussion. A question will be logged on each

discussion week and you will be asked to write a paragraph – no more – on your answer. Each answer will count one card. You may only post your comments on a discussion page not the e-mail or “chat” pages. Use the e-mail for issues you want to raise but do not want the class to see. All comments on the discussion site must be accompanied by your full name.

TA REVIEW SESSIONS: Attending review sessions run by the TA, Guillermo; each session counts one card.

CHATS: I will hope to run at least two chats, one before the mid-term and one before the final discussing the questions there. Anyone who wishes may log in at the assigned time and this will give you one card for each chat.

PRESENTATIONS: I am usually generous in grading presentations; they will count between 6-10 cards. First come, first served. The presentation must be about Argentina but the topic you pick can relate to any period, subject (including personal experiences there), and area. You must schedule your presentation at least a week ahead of time and have the subject approved by me. I will then schedule you a date; no change of dates. No more than one presentation will be allowed during a class period. Do not expect to give a presentation by approaching me in week seven. I will try to keep week ten free of any presentations.

## **ASSIGNED TEXTS**

To reduce the expense of book buying, I have placed the texts on reserve in the library. All the assigned texts are on sale at the Groundwork Bookstore. You are required to read the Peter Winn essay. You must also read four of the six titles I have put in the Choice list. We will go over the books on the second day of class.

Required of everyone

Winn, Peter. Americas: The Changing Face of Latin America and the Caribbean (University of California Press, 1999). ISBN 0520221818

Choose 4 of the following

1. McPherson, Alan. Yankee No! Anti-Americanism in U.S.-Latin American Relations (Harvard University Press, 2003). ISBN 0674011818
2. Guillermoprieto, Alma. Dancing With Cuba: A Memoir of the Revolution (Vintage, 2005). ISBN 0375725814
3. Delgado, Fraser. Everynight Life: Culture and Dance in Latino/a America (Duke University Press, 1997). ISBN 0822319195
4. Htun, Mala. Sex and the State in Latin America: Abortion, Divorce and Family under Latin American Democracies and Dictatorships (Cambridge University Press, 2003). ISBN 0521088794
5. Andrews, George Reid. Afro-Latin America, 1800-2000 (Oxford University Press, 2004). ISBN 0195152336

6. John Dinges, The Condor Years: How Pinochet and His Allies Brought Terrorism to Three Continents (New York: New Press, 2004) ISBN 1565845862

## LECTURES

### Week I: Timelines of Latin America

- A. Basic structure of the past
- B. The early century and its components
  - 1. Oligarchies
  - 2. Popular beliefs -- religion
  - 3. Military power

Read: Peter Winn, entire book.

### Week II: The Rise and Fall of Populism

- A. Why Populism?
  - 1. Vargas
  - 2. Cárdenas
  - 3. Gaitan and Perón
- B. Collapse of ISI
  - 1. Industrial problems and population
  - 2. Hyperinflation and class conflict

Read: George Reid Andrews, chaps. 1-5

### Week III: Comparative Revolutions

- A. The Political Origins of Revolution
  - 1. Basic Theories
  - 2. Communist Theories
  - 3. Reality
- B. Mexico and Cuba

Read: Alma Guillermoprieto, entire book and/or Alan McPherson entire book – next two weeks

### Week IV: The End of the Cold War

- A. Sandinista Assumptions
  - 1. The international setting
  - 2. Socialism and the economy
- B. Is a revolution possible?

MID-TERM IS HANDED OUT

### Week V: Military Power and State Development

- A. The officer class in the 1920s and 1960s
- B. The Doctrine of National Security

MID-TERM IS DUE AT START OF THURSDAY'S CLASS

Read: John Dinges, entire book

Week VI: Military Regimes and the Cold War

- A. Response to the end of ISI?
- B. Militaries and the Debt Crisis
  - 1. Chile
  - 2. Argentina and Brazil

Read: Mala Htun, entire book over next two weeks

Week VII: Urbanization and Social Evolution

- A. Religion and urban practices, 1900-1940
- B. The cityscape and urban labor, 1940s-70s

Read: George Reid Andrews, chaps. 5-conclusion

Week VIII: The Massification of Culture

- A. The media and popular consumption
- B. The media and contemporary politics – is this democracy?

Read: Celeste Fraser Delgado and José Esteban Muñoz anthology, covers not only dance but media images and the popular imagination

Week IX: Neo-liberal fantasies

- A. The informal sector
- B. The Chilean model

FINAL EXAM IS HANDED OUT – DUE AT TIME AND DATE ASSIGNED BY REGISTRAR

Week X: What is left?

- A. The Colombian model
- B. Review