



DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE  
FACULTY OF ARTS

***POLI 473 LEC 01***  
***States Regimes Latin America***  
***Winter 2019***

**INSTRUCTOR:** Dr. Roberta Rice

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**OFFICE HOURS:** Tues. 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

**COURSE DAY/TIME:** Tues./Thurs. 9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

**COURSE PRE-REQUISITES:** POLI 359

**COURSE LOCATION:** EDC 284

**COURSE WEBSITE:** <http://d2l.ucalgary.ca>

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course sheds light on the causes and consequences of Latin America's cycles of dictatorship and democratic rule as well as the region's struggles for social justice and inclusion. The first section of the course provides an overview of the region's history and broad patterns of political and economic development. We will examine conquest and colonial rule, the drive to independence, state formation and nation building, the impact of US intervention, and the installation of brutal military dictatorships. We will do this through a selection of Latin American country cases, including Mexico, Guatemala, Chile, Costa Rica, and Cuba. The second section of the course focuses on the move toward electoral democracy and the challenges of democratic consolidation in a free-market context. It also details the various theories and practices of social movements. Special attention will be paid to the tensions between extra-systemic forms of organizing and participation in electoral politics as means of social change. Case studies include revolutionary organizations in El Salvador and Peru, urban rioters in Argentina, the rural landless in Brazil, and Indigenous movements in Bolivia and Ecuador.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES & LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

The purpose of the course is to train students to think critically about the region's politics and society and to analyse substantive issues in the field of Latin American politics. As a learning outcome, students will develop the capacity to assess both old and new problems, such as political and criminal violence, social inequality, economic development, the legacies of dictatorship, as well as the construction of democratic institutions and inclusive citizenship.

**REQUIRED TEXTBOOK:**

David Close. Latin American Politics: An Introduction (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2017), 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. Available for purchase at the University Bookstore. A copy has also been placed on reserve at the TFDL.

Electronic journal articles and course reserve chapters are available on our D2 course page (<http://d2l.ucalgary.ca>).

**RECOMMENDED READINGS:**

In addition to our required readings, you are strongly encouraged to follow current events in the region. Suggested sources for current events include: *The Los Angeles Times*; *The New York Times*; *The Washington Post*; *The Economist*; *Time*, and *Newsweek*. You may also want to consult the following website for recent news on the region:

[http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world/latin\\_america/](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world/latin_america/). For an alternative media website dedicated to activism and politics in Latin America see: <http://www.upsidedownworld.org>.

The following websites offer useful statistical data on the region:

- [www.lanic.utexas.edu/](http://www.lanic.utexas.edu/)
- <http://www.iadb.org/>
- <https://www.cepal.org/en>
- [www.oas.org](http://www.oas.org)

The following journals are excellent academic sources on the region:

- Canadian Journal of Latin American and Caribbean Studies*
- Latin American Research Review*
- Journal of Latin American Studies*
- Latin American Politics and Society*
- Latin American Perspectives*
- NACLA Report on the Americas*
- Bulletin of Latin American Research*
- Journal of Democracy*

**COURSE COMPONENT WEIGHTS AND DUE DATES:**

COMPONENT	WEIGHTING	DUE DATES
Mid-Term Exam	20	February 14
Research Essay Draft	20	March 14
Final Research Essay	30	April 11
Final Examination	30	Scheduled by the Registrar
Total	100%	

**COURSE SCHEDULE & TOPICS:**

DATE	TOPIC	READINGS
Jan. 15-Feb. 7	Part I: Latin America in Historical and Political Perspective	See reading list below
Feb. 26-Apr. 4	Part II: Latin America and the Politics of the Dispossessed	See reading list below

## COURSE FORMAT AND EXPECTATIONS

The class will be taught in a lecture-style format. Teaching methods will include lectures, documentaries and class discussions. Students are expected to attend all class sessions and complete the assigned readings before they are discussed in class. Student participation in lecture discussions and activities is highly encouraged.

## MID-TERM EXAM

The closed-book mid-term exam will be held during regular class hours on Thursday, February 14, 2019. It will include a mix of short answer and essay questions and will test your familiarity with the lecture and reading material as well as your ability to apply what you have learned. No exam aides allowed. A study guide will be made available in class.

## RESEARCH ESSAY DRAFT

The purpose of this assignment is to provide you with instructor feedback during the preparation of your final research essay. The essay draft is also intended to assist you in selecting your essay question, locating sources, and organizing your ideas in a timely fashion. Essay drafts should be approximately 5-6 double-spaced pages plus a rough bibliography. Your essay draft should provide evidence of research underway. It should sketch out the introduction of your essay, outline the main thesis statement, establish the plan of the essay, and provide some case study details (such as key quotes or examples to be used in the final essay). Both the research essay draft and the final research essay assignments will be discussed in detail in lecture session.

## FINAL RESEARCH ESSAY

Please choose one of the following essay questions. The essay should be approximately 10-12 double-spaced pages plus the bibliography. Ensure that you state your argument in the introduction, provide an overview of the literature on your topic, support your assertions with evidence, and conclude by summarizing your findings and outlining any questions or avenues for future research. Make sure to fully answer all components of the question. You must cite sources either in footnotes, endnotes or embedded in the text and provide a bibliography. Please note that you must incorporate at least two sources from the course syllabus in your essay. And remember, if you use another author's words, you must enclose them in quotes and cite the source. If you use another author's ideas, you must cite the source. Essays that do not adhere to standard citation practice will NOT be accepted.

### Essay Questions:

Write an essay answering one (1) of the following questions:

1. Why is Latin America such a populist stronghold?
2. Why do revolutions hold such appeal in Latin America?
3. What impact does violent crime have on Latin American democracies?
4. What is the democratic contribution of Indigenous movements in Latin America?
5. What are the main legacies of Latin America's recent "Left Turn" governments?

## FINAL EXAMINATION

The closed-book, two-hour final exam will take place during the winter examination period, April 15-27, 2019. The exam will include a mix of short answer and essay questions and will test your familiarity with the lecture material and reading assignments after the mid-term exam. It will also test your ability to apply what you have learned. No exam aides allowed. A study guide for the exam will be made available in class.

GRADE SCALE: The following grading scale will be used:

A+ (91-100)	B+ (77-79)	C+ (67-69)	D+ (55-59)
A (85-90)	B (73-76)	C (63-66)	D (50-54)
A- (80-84)	B- (70-72)	C- (60-62)	F (0-49)

## EVALUATION CRITERIA FOR WRITTEN WORK

- 1) *Level of Style and Organization:* Your work must be completely free of grammatical, spelling and typographical errors. References can be in any style but the same format must be used consistently and they must be accurate. The organization of the paper should assist the reader by providing a readily understandable presentation of background information, research findings, analysis and conclusions.
- 2) *Adequacy of the Research:* Your findings should be derived from thorough research. Your work should be free of major factual errors or unsupported and/or undocumented assertions. You should link your findings to those of other scholars and draw meaningful conclusions based on your evidence.
- 3) *Cogency of the Argument:* Your written work should have a clear focus and an argument that is logically constructed. Your analysis should display understanding of the topic and originality of thought.

## WRITING STATEMENT:

Written assignments are often required in Political Science courses, including this one, and the quality of writing skills, including but not limited to such elements as grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, clarity, citations, and organization, will be taken into account in the determination of grades. Students are encouraged to make use of the services offered through Writing Support Services in the Student Success Centre (3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library) or at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/writing-support>.

## LATE PENALTIES

Written assignments are due in hardcopy at the start of class. A penalty of 2% per working day will be applied to all late assignments up until a maximum of ten late days, after which late papers will not be accepted. Weekends count as one working day. Late assignments should be submitted to the Political Science office (SS 756) during business hours. After hours, papers may be submitted to the departmental drop-box outside of the main office on the 7<sup>th</sup> floor of Social Sciences. E-mailed assignments will not be accepted.

## INSTRUCTOR GUIDELINES

Students requiring assistance are encouraged to speak to the instructor during class or office hours. Email is a common form of communication but it is not always the most effective way of answering student questions.

Students are welcome to use laptops and other electronic note-taking devices in this course. Please be considerate of others and switch off all cell phones when you enter the classroom. Sending/receiving texts and browsing the Web is extremely disruptive to others and will not be tolerated.

## **IMPORTANT POLICIES AND INFORMATION:**

### Supporting Documentation and the Use of a Statutory Declaration

As stated in the University Calendar:

Students may be asked to provide supporting documentation for an exemption/special request. This may include, but is not limited to, a prolonged absence from a course where participation is required, a missed course assessment, a deferred examination, or an appeal. Students are encouraged to submit documentation that will support their situation. Supporting documentation may be dependent on the reason noted in their personal statement/explanation provided to explain their situation. This could be medical certificate/documentation, references, police reports, invitation letter, third party letter of support or a statutory declaration etc. The decision to provide supporting documentation that best suits the situation is at the discretion of the student. Students cannot be required to provide specific supporting documentation, such as a medical note.

Students can make a Statutory Declaration as their supporting documentation (available at [ucalgary.ca/registrar](http://ucalgary.ca/registrar)). This requires students to make a declaration in the presence of a Commissioner for Oaths. It demonstrates the importance of honest and accurate information provided and is a legally binding declaration. Several registered Commissioners for Oaths are available to students at no charge, on campus. For a list of locations to access a Commissioner for Oaths, visit [ucalgary.ca/registrar](http://ucalgary.ca/registrar)).

Falsification of any supporting documentation will be taken very seriously and may result in disciplinary action through the Academic Discipline regulations or the Student Non-Academic Misconduct policy.

This statement is accessible at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/n-1.html>

*Please note that while the form of supporting documentation provided is at the discretion of the student, the instructor has the discretion not to accept the supporting documentation if it does not corroborate the reason(s) given for the exemption/special request.*

### Absence From a Mid-term Examination:

Students who are absent from a scheduled term test or quiz for legitimate reasons are responsible for contacting the instructor via email within 48 hours of the missed test to discuss alternative arrangements. A copy of this email may be requested as proof of the attempt to contact the instructor. Any student who fails to do so forfeits the right to a makeup test.

### Deferral of a Final Examination:

Deferral of a final examination can be granted for reasons of illness, domestic affliction, and unforeseen circumstances, as well as to those with three (3) final exams scheduled within a 24-hour period. Deferred final exams will not be granted to those who sit the exam, who have made travel arrangements that conflict with their exam, or who have misread the examination timetable. The decision to allow a deferred final exam rests not with the instructor but with Enrolment Services. Instructors should, however, be notified if you will be absent during the examination. The Application for Deferred Final Exam, deadlines, requirements and submission instructions can be found on the Enrolment Services website at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-exams>.

### Appeals:

If a student has a concern about the course or a grade they have been assigned, they must first discuss their concerns with the instructor. If this does not resolve the matter, the student then proceed with an academic appeal. The first step in an academic appeal is to set up a meeting with the Department Head. Appeals must be requested within 15 days of receipt of the graded assignment.

### Student Accommodations:

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit [www.ucalgary.ca/access/](http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/).

Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor.

The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf>.

### University Regulations:

Students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the University policies found in the Academic Regulations sections of the Calendar at [www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-regs.html](http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-regs.html).

### Plagiarism And Other Forms Of Academic Misconduct:

Academic misconduct in any form (e.g. cheating, plagiarism) is a serious academic offence that can lead to disciplinary probation, suspension or expulsion from the University. Students are expected to be familiar with the standards surrounding academic honesty; these can be found in the University of Calgary calendar at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-5.html>.

Such offences will be taken seriously and reported immediately, as required by Faculty of Arts policy.

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP):

FOIP legislation requires that instructors maintain the confidentiality of student information. In practice, this means that student assignment and tests cannot be left for collection in any public place without the consent of the student. It also means that grades cannot be distributed via email. Final exams are kept by instructors but can be viewed by contacting them or the main office in the Department of Political Science. Any uncollected assignments and tests meant to be returned will be destroyed after six months from the end of term; final examinations are destroyed after one year.

Evacuation Assembly Points:

In the event of an emergency evacuation from class, students are required to gather in designated assembly points. Please check the list found at [www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints](http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints) and note the assembly point nearest to your classroom.

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources:

For program planning and advice, visit the Arts Students' Centre in Social Sciences 102, call 403-220-3580 or email [artsads@ucalgary.ca](mailto:artsads@ucalgary.ca). You can also visit [arts.ucalgary.ca/advising](http://arts.ucalgary.ca/advising) for program assistance.

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit their office in the MacKimmie Library Block.

Important Contact Information:

Campus Security and Safewalk (24 hours a day/7 days a week/365 days a year)  
Phone: 403-220-5333

Faculty of Arts Undergraduate Students' Union Representatives

Phone: 403-220-6551

Email: [arts1@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts1@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts2@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts2@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts3@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts3@su.ucalgary.ca),  
[arts4@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts4@su.ucalgary.ca)

Students' Union URL: [www.su.ucalgary.ca](http://www.su.ucalgary.ca)

Graduate Students' Association

Phone: 403-220-5997

Email: [ask@gsa.ucalgary.ca](mailto:ask@gsa.ucalgary.ca)

URL: [www.ucalgary.ca/gsa](http://www.ucalgary.ca/gsa)

Student Ombudsman

Phone: 403-220-6420

Email: [ombuds@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ombuds@ucalgary.ca)

**Campus Mental Health Resources:**

SU Wellness Centre: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre/>

Campus Mental Health Strategy: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>



## COURSE SCHEDULE AND ASSIGNED READINGS

### **Jan. 10: Introduction and Course Overview**

*Textbook Reading:* Close, Chapter 1 (“Why Study Latin America?”), pp.3-28.

### **Part I: Latin America in Historical and Political Perspective**

### **Jan. 15/17: Conquest and the Legacies of Colonial Rule**

*Textbook Reading:* Close, Chapter 2 (“Why History Matters”), pp. 29-59.

*Course Reserve Chapter:* Harry E. Vanden and Gary Prevost, “The Other Americans,” in Politics of Latin America: The Power Game (New York: Oxford University Press, 2015), pp. 82-106.

### **Jan. 22/24: The Politics of ISI and Populism**

*Textbook Reading:* Close, Chapter 3 (“Latin American Political Elites”), pp. 61-94.

*Textbook Reading:* Close, Chapter 4 (“Political Traditions, Political Legacies, and Political Institutions: How Personal Rule and Political Violence Figure in Modern Latin American Politics”), pp. 95-128.

### **Jan. 29/31: U.S. Interventionism and Insecurity**

*Textbook Reading:* Close, Chapter 10 (“Latin American International Relations”), pp. 303-337.

*E-Journal Reading:* Patrick Timmons, “Trump’s Wall at Nixon’s Border,” in NACLA Report on the Americas, Vol. 49, No. 1 (2017), pp. 15-24.

### **Feb. 5/7: Democratic Breakdown and Military Rule**

*Textbook Reading:* Close, Chapter 7 (“Unconstitutional Political Change: Coups, Insurgencies, and Revolutions as Contentious Politics”), pp. 197-229.

*Course Reserve Chapter:* Katherine Isbester, “Costa Rica: An Ethos and a Strong State,” in The Paradox of Democracy in Latin America (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2011), pp. 183-205.

### **Feb. 12/14: Mid-Term Review and In-Class Exam**

*Note:* Mid-Term Exam will be held in class on Thursday, February 14<sup>th</sup>

### **Feb. 19/21: Winter Term Break (No Classes)**

## **Part II: Latin America and the Politics of the Dispossessed**

### **Feb. 26/28: Revolutionary Alternatives**

*E-Journal Reading:* John Foran, “Theorizing the Cuban Revolution,” in Latin American Perspectives, Vol. 36, No. 2 (March 2009), pp. 16-30.

*Course Reserve Chapter:* Cynthia McClintock, “Two Revolutionary Organizations: The FMLN and the Shining Path,” in Revolutionary Movements in Latin America (Washington: United States Institute of Peace, 1998), pp. 45-92.

### **Mar. 5/7: Re-Democratization and the Challenge of Consolidation**

*Textbook Reading:* Close, Chapter 8 (“Democracy and Democratization”), pp. 231-266.

*Textbook Reading:* Close, Chapter 9 (“Political Economy and Economic Policy in Latin America”), pp. 267-301.

### **Mar. 12/14: The Politics of the Urban Dispossessed**

*E-Book Chapter:* Henry Veltmeyer, “The Development Dynamics of Social Exclusion,” in On the Move: The Politics of Social Change in Latin America (Peterborough: Broadview Press, 2007), pp. 85-108.

*E-Journal Reading:* Javier Auyero, “Glocal Riots,” in International Sociology, Vol.16, No. 1 (March 2001), pp. 33-53.

*Note: Research Essay Draft due at the start of class on Thursday, March 14<sup>th</sup>*

### **Mar. 19/21: The Politics of the Rural Dispossessed**

*Course Reserve Chapter:* Roberta Rice, “Indigenous Mobilization and Democracy in Latin America,” in Latin American Democracy: Emerging Reality or Endangered Species?, edited by Richard L. Millett, Jennifer S. Holmes, and Orlando J. Pérez (New York: Routledge, 2015), pp. 201-212.

*E-Book Chapter:* Henry Veltmeyer, “Rural Struggles and the Land Question,” in On the Move: The Politics of Social Change in Latin America (Peterborough: Broadview Press, 2007), pp. 109-129.

### **Mar. 26/28: Capturing Local Level Power—Municipal Governing Strategies**

*Textbook Reading:* Close, Chapter 5 (“Political Institutions and the Machinery of Government”), pp. 129-160.

*E-Book Chapter:* Henry Veltmeyer, “Participatory Budgeting and Local Government,” On the

Move: The Politics of Social Change in Latin America (Peterborough: Broadview Press, 2007), pp. 71-84.

**Apr. 2/4: Capturing State Power—The Rise and Fall of Latin America’s Left Turn Governments**

*Textbook Reading:* Close, Chapter 6 (“Parties, Elections, and Movements”), pp. 161-196.

*Textbook Reading:* Close, Chapter 11 (“Latin America in Comparative Perspective”), pp. 339-362.

**Apr. 9/11: Concluding Remarks and Exam Review**

*Note: Research Essay due at the start of class on Thursday, April 11<sup>th</sup>*