

HIST 382 - Spring 2019

Latin America, 1910 to the Present

Instructor: Professor Carlos Aguirre

Office and Phone number: 333 McKenzie Hall, 346-5905

Office hours: Thursdays, 10-12 am or by appointment

E-mail: caguirre@uoregon.edu

Web page: <http://uoregon.edu/~caguirre/home.html>

Graduate assistant: Aziza Baker (abaker12@uoregon.edu)

Office: 340K McKenzie Hall

Office hours: M-T, 12:00-1:00 pm.

Description of the Course

This course is the third part of the Latin American History survey, covering the period from 1910 (the beginning of the Mexican Revolution) to the present. It pays particular attention to the political and social transformations that have affected the development of the region (revolutions, populism, military dictatorships, social movements, US intervention, democratic consolidation, and more). By the end of the term students will have a more thorough and nuanced understanding of the historical roots behind both the challenges and promises that Latin American countries confront today.

Course policies

1. Students are expected to attend lectures consistently. A passing grade will be difficult to achieve without regular attendance. Students must also consistently read the assigned materials.
2. The course instructor and graduate assistant will hold regular office hours every week. Students are encouraged to visit them to discuss pertinent issues or get additional information about the course's themes, policies, and grades.
3. A common form of academic dishonesty, plagiarism, will not be tolerated. Students must become familiar with the University of Oregon guidelines about this issue. More information will be offered in class.
4. An atmosphere of mutual respect, tolerance, and fairness will be enforced in the classroom. Students must behave in ways proper to an academic environment: no talking, eating, chatting, text-messaging, or newspaper reading will be allowed. Students who need to bring a laptop computer or tablet to take lecture notes must seat in the front row and may not engage in internet browsing during class time. Failure to comply with this policy will force the instructor to ban the use of laptop computers and tablets in the classroom. The use of any other electronic devices is not permitted during class.
5. Course incompletes will be granted ONLY in cases of extreme need and ONLY to

students that have an acceptable record of class attendance and get at least a C in the mid-term. Students that need an “incomplete” grade must make arrangements with the instructor on or before the last week of classes.

6. No late homework will be accepted, except in cases of health-related and other types of emergency that could be documented.

7. Students that miss one of the quizzes may use the only make-up quiz opportunity that will be offered, which is scheduled for June 5. NO ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES TO MAKE-UP WORK WILL BE OFFERED.

8. The instructor DOES NOT post power-point slides on Canvas. Students are expected to take notes during lectures. If you miss a class meeting, it is your responsibility to try to get lecture notes from a classmate, or to meet with the instructor or the graduate assistant to go over the content of that class.

Evaluations

Course evaluations will include the following:

- Map quiz (5 points)
- 4 quizzes (10 points each, 40 points total)
- Midterm exam (25 points)
- Final exam (30 points)

What you can expect to learn in this course

- A basic knowledge of the history of Latin America between 1910 and the present, including major social processes and events such as immigration, urbanization, populism, military dictatorships, revolutions, and US intervention.
- The ethnic, cultural, and linguistic diversity of the peoples of Latin America.
- How to think critically about the past and how to connect the political, economic, social, and cultural forces that shaped it.
- A clear understanding of some of the most important controversies surrounding Latin American history over the last century.
- How to interpret primary sources and how to assess their value to illuminate historical themes or episodes.

Required Readings

The following books are available for purchase at the U of O Bookstore and on reserve at Knight Library:

William H. Beezley & Colin M. MacLachlan, *Mexicans in Revolution, 1910-1946: An introduction* (University of Nebraska Press, 2009).

Mariano Plotkin, *Mañana Es San Peron. A Cultural History of Peron's Argentina* (Scholarly Resources, 2003).

Aviva Chomsky, *A History of the Cuban Revolution* (Wiley-Blackwell, 2011).

Stephen G. Rabe, *The Killing Zone. The United States Wages Cold War in Latin America* (Oxford University Press, 2015).

In addition, a number of articles and primary documents will be available electronically through Canvas

Schedule of Lectures and Readings

Note: Readings are to be completed before each class meeting

Week 1

04/01 Introduction to the course / Latin America through 1900

04/03 MAP QUIZ / Mexico: From Porfiriato to Revolution

Reading: Beezley & McLachlan, 1-46; *Document 1: Plan de Ayala*

Week 2

04/08 Change and continuity in post-revolutionary Mexico (1920-40)

Reading: Beezley & McLachlan, 47-171

04/10 Mexico, 1940-2000: The perfect dictatorship? (QUIZ # 1)

Reading: Williams, "Traversing the Mexican Odyssey"

Week 3

04/15 The era of populism, part 1: Getulio Vargas and Estado Novo in Brazil

Readings: Levine, "The Estado Novo, 1937-1945"; Levine, "Populism, Vargas Style, 1945-1954"

04/17 The era of populism, part 2: The rise of Perón in Argentina

Reading: Plotkin, *Mañana es San Perón*, pp. 1-84.

Week 4

04/22 Perón and Peronism, 1945-1955

Reading: Plotkin, *Mañana es San Perón*, pp. 85-202; *Document 2: The Twenty Truths of the Peronist Justicialismo.*

04/24 The Cold War and its impact in Latin America: Guatemala 1954

Reading: Rabe, *The Killing Zone*, 1-58.

Week 5

04/29 Cuba: The making of a revolution (QUIZ # 2)

Reading: Chomsky, *A History of the Cuban Revolution*, 1-74

05/01 Cuba after 1960: Radicalization and Reforms within the Revolution

Readings: Chomsky, *A History of the Cuban Revolution*, 75-173; Rabe, 59-80;
Document 3: Cuba is a Socialist Nation

Week 6

05/06 Take home midterm due / The Heightening of Conflict: Che Guevara and Guerrilla Warfare

Readings: Wright, "Rural Guerrilla Warfare" and "Urban Guerrilla Warfare"; Rabe, 80-85; *Document 4: Two, Three, Many Vietnams*

05/08 Cold War, United States Intervention, and State-Terror (1964-1990)

Reading: Rabe, 86-127.

Week 7

05/13 The Dirty War in Argentina

Reading: Rabe, 147-149; Armony, "Producing and Exporting State Terror: The Case of Argentina"

05/15 Chile: The Socialist Experiment (QUIZ # 3)

Reading: Hite, "Chile's Revolutionary Generation"

Week 8

05/20 Pinochet's Chile, 1973-1990

Readings: Kornbluh, "Destabilizing Democracy"; Rabe, 127-149; *Document 5: National Security Council Meeting (9/13/73)*

05/22 Women and Resistance in Chile

Reading: Temma Kaplan, "Reversing the Shame and Gendering the Memory"

Week 9

05/27 Memorial Day. No class.

05/29 Peru: From Military Nationalism to Maoist Revolution (1968-2000) (Quiz # 4)

Readings: Klaren, "The Military Revolution of 1968"; Starn, "Maoism in the Andes"

Week 10

06/03 Revolution and Counterrevolution in Central America

Reading: Readings: Rabe, 150-205; *Document 6: The Fear of Communism*

06/05 Latin America Today: Challenges and Promises / Review for final exam / Make-up Quiz

Final exam: Wednesday, June 12, 10:15-12:15