

**UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA  
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE**

**POLI332 001 – LATIN AMERICAN POLITICS AND GOVERNMENTS**

Term 2 (January 6-April 8, 2014), T R 9:30 am –11 am

Room: Chem C-124

**Instructor: Agustín Goenaga**

**E-mail: [agoenaga@alumni.ubc.ca](mailto:agoenaga@alumni.ubc.ca)**

**Office: Buchanan C419**

**Office Hours: Tues & Thur 11:15 am -1 pm**

**TA: Zará Toledo Orozco**

**E-mail: [zarai.toledo@alumni.ubc.ca](mailto:zarai.toledo@alumni.ubc.ca)**

**Papers and Exams:**

Book Review: 20%

Due at the beginning of the Thursday lecture of the week in which the book is assigned (see course schedule below).

Outline of Term Paper: 10%

March 13, 2014

Term Paper: 30%

March 25, 2014

Final Exam: 40%

TBA during Exam Week

**Course website: <http://blogs.ubc.ca/latinamerica/>**

**Course description:** This course offers an overview of the political and economic development of Latin America. The course is structured in two parts. In the first half, we cover general topics that have dominated scholarly debates in the region: colonialism and its legacies; the wars of independence and Latin American state formation during the 19<sup>th</sup> century; the role of the military and the period of bureaucratic authoritarianism; corporatism and labour movements; transitions to democracy; export-oriented economic models, import-substitution industrialization, neoliberalism, and the developmental state; the quality of democracy, delegative democracies and competitive authoritarianism; indigenous politics, social movements, and the “Left Turns” of the 2000s. In the second half of the course, we will explore some cases and their contemporary issues in more depth: Mexico, Brazil, Argentina, Chile, Peru, Colombia, Bolivia, Venezuela, Central America and Cuba.

The course will focus particularly on the challenges and opportunities for democratic governance that the region is facing today. We will address this topic by exploring four general lines of inquiry: first, a long-term view of the development of Latin American states and civil societies; second, an analysis of the ways in which economic interests influence politics in the region; third, an assessment of the role played by social movements and popular mobilization in the expansion or curtailment of democracy; and, finally, a discussion about the new democratic institutions and practices that have emerged in Latin America during the last decade.

### **Required Texts:**

1. Domínguez, Jorge I. & Michael Shifter. 2013. *Constructing Democratic Governance in Latin America* (4<sup>th</sup> Edition). Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press.
2. One of the following books is required for the book review. There are some copies of these books at the UBC bookstore. You can alternatively buy them through amazon.com in a print or kindle version. Depending on the availability of the titles, copies of these books will be on 3-hour reserve at Koerner Library.
  - Mahoney, James. 2010. *Colonialism and Postcolonial Development: Spanish America in Comparative Perspective*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
  - Centeno, Miguel Ángel. 2002. *Blood and Debt: War and Nation-State in Latin America*. Philadelphia: Penn State University Press.
  - Collier, Ruth Berins. 1999. *Paths toward Democracy: The Working Class and Elites in Western Europe and South America*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press
  - Schneider, Ben Ross. 2013. *Hierarchical Capitalism in Latin America: Business, Labor, and the Challenges of Equitable Development*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
  - Levitsky, Steven & Lucan Way. 2010. *Competitive Authoritarianism: Hybrid Regimes after the Cold War*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
  - Levitsky, Steven & Kenneth M. Roberts. 2011. *The Resurgence of the Latin American Left*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press.
3. All the other readings are available through the UBC Library website.

### **Objectives of the course:**

1. To familiarize the students with the evolution of the main debates in comparative politics regarding Latin America.
2. To provide the students with a long-term view of the political and economic processes that determined the region's level of development and that shape current affairs in Latin American countries.
3. To help students develop analytical skills for reading scholarly works, assessing the validity of theoretical arguments based on qualitative and quantitative evidence, identifying different positions in academic debates, and writing a research paper addressing questions of economic development and democratic performance of contemporary Latin American governments.

## **Course policies:**

*Attendance:* Attendance is expected of students in all classes. The University accommodates students with disabilities who have registered with the Disability Resource Centre. The University accommodates students whose religious obligations conflict with attendance, submitting assignments, or completing scheduled tests and examinations. Please let your instructor know in advance if you will require any accommodation on these grounds. All assignments must be completed and handed in. Students who do not attend regularly or fail to hand in an assignment may be disallowed from writing the final exam.

Read the university calendar so that you are aware of no-penalty drop dates, requirements for medical authorization (to defer an exam, for example) and other procedures that may affect you.

### Student Development & Services

Brock Hall, Room 1203  
1874 East Mall  
Tel: 604.822.5844  
TTY: 604.822.9049  
Email: [access.diversity@ubc.ca](mailto:access.diversity@ubc.ca)

*Appeals:* students who wish to appeal grades assigned to their academic work may do so. The initial appeal should be made to the TA or to the course instructor. If the student remains unsatisfied with this process, he/she may proceed to the head of the department or further to a formal committee established in accordance with University policies.

*Late Assignments:* Late papers will be penalized 5% per day. The only exceptions are for students who have a medical, compassionate, or other legitimate reason for being late and can produce supporting documentation. Term papers should be submitted by electronic means to Turnitin.com where they will be analyzed for plagiarism.

*Academic Dishonesty:* Any form of academic dishonesty will be severely penalized according to UBC guidelines. Please review the UBC Calendar for the university policy on cheating, plagiarism, and other forms of academic dishonesty. The Library also has a helpful web page on plagiarism. See: <http://learningcommons.ubc.ca/guide-to-academic-integrity/>

## **Using Turnitin.com:**

In this course you will be required to submit your book review and the term paper in electronic form. The electronic material will be submitted to a service to which UBC subscribes, called TurnItIn. This is a service that checks textual material for originality. It is increasingly used in North American universities. It is the policy of the Department of Political Science that written assignments in undergraduate courses will be submitted to TurnItIn.

Log on to **www.turnitin.com**. You will be asked to create a “user profile” with ID

(use your email address) and password. Once your profile is created, you will be able to add courses to it for assignment review. If you have already created a profile for another course you do not need to create a new one; just add this course to your existing account. To add this course, you will need the “course ID” which is **7445647** and “course password,” which is **Democracy**. Now you will be able to submit assignments to Turnitin.com for review.

For each assignment, you will be asked to provide your name and student number, as well as some details about your assignment. This information will be used only to identify your submission to your instructor. Please ensure that there is no identifying information included in the text of your assignment. In particular, do not leave your name and student number on each page of your essay (as is common). Just have a simple page number. When preparing your essay, please create three separate files. The first file is for your title page with your name, course number and essay title on it. The second file is the main body of your essay. The third file is your bibliography. Please submit only the second file, the main body of your essay, to Turnitin.com. When you prepare the paper copy to hand in to class, you can print the other two files together with the main body of the essay and combine all three to hand it. Simply confirm the submission, and TurnItIn will issue a receipt (via e-mail).

**Please ensure you have removed your name and student number from everything you submit to Turnitin.**

Your instructor and TA can help you with the Turnitin process if you have difficulties. Create your profile and add this course to your account early in the term so that it can be efficiently submitted on or before the due date. Difficulties on or after the due date will not be accepted as a reason for a late paper.

**You must also submit a paper copy to your instructor at the beginning of the lecture when the assignment is due (see Course Schedule below).**

## **Course Schedule and Readings:**

### **WEEK 1: PRESENTATION & INTRODUCTION TO LATIN AMERICAN POLITICS**

*Tuesday, January 7, 2014. Presentation*

**No readings assigned.**

*Thursday, January 9, 2014. Introduction to Latin American Politics*

#### **Required readings:**

- Domínguez & Schifter, “Introduction: New Issues in Democratic Governance”

### **WEEK 2: COLONIALISM AND ITS LEGACIES: INSTITUTIONS, CULTURE & ECONOMIC STRUCTURE**

*Tuesday, January 14, 2014. Colonialism: Political and Economic Institutions*

#### **Required readings:**

- McLeod, Murdo J. 1984. “Aspects of the internal economy of colonial Spanish America: labour; taxation; distribution and exchange”. Chapter 7 of *The Cambridge History of Latin America. Volume II. Colonial Latin America*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, pp. 219-264 (available through UBC Library website).

**OR**

- Lockhart, James. 1984. “Social organization and social change in colonial Spanish America”. Chapter 8 of *The Cambridge History of Latin America. Volume II. Colonial Latin America*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, pp. 265-320 (available through UBC Library website).

*Thursday, January 16, 2014. Colonialism and Its Legacies: Economic Development*

#### **Required readings:**

- Lange, Matthew, James Mahoney, and Matthias vom Hau. 2006. “Colonialism and Development: A Comparative Analysis of Spanish and British Colonies”, in *American Journal of Sociology*, 111 (5), March 2006, pp. 1412-62 (available through UBC Library website).

#### **Book for Review:**

Mahoney, James. 2010. *Colonialism and Postcolonial Development: Spanish America in Comparative Perspective*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

### **WEEK 3: STATE-BUILDING DURING THE 19<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY**

*Tuesday, January 21, 2014. Economy and Society in Post-Independence Latin America*

#### **Required readings:**

- Halperín Donghi, Tulio. 1985. "Economy and Society in Post-Independence Spanish America". Chapter 8 of *The Cambridge History of Latin America. Volume III. From Independence to c. 1870*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, pp. 299-346 (available through UBC Library website).

*Thursday, January 23, 2014. The Origins of Latin American State Weakness*

#### **Required readings:**

- Centeno, Miguel Ángel. 1997. "Blood and Debt: War and Taxation in Nineteenth-Century Latin America", in *American Journal of Sociology*, Volume 102, Number 6 (May 1997), pp. 1565-1605 (available through UBC Library website).

#### **Book for Review:**

Centeno, Miguel Ángel. 2002. *Blood and Debt: War and Nation-State in Latin America*. Philadelphia: Penn State University Press.

### **WEEK 4: 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY: BUREAUCRATIC AUTHORITARIANISM & CORPORATISM**

*Tuesday, January 28, 2014. The Military and Bureaucratic Authoritarianism*

#### **Required readings:**

- Rouquié, Alain. 1994. "The military in Latin American politics since 1930". Chapter 4 of *The Cambridge History of Latin America. Volume VI. Latin America since 1930: Economy, society and politics*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, pp. 233-305 (available through UBC Library website).

*Thursday, January 30, 2014. Corporatism and Import Substitution Industrialization*

#### **Required readings:**

- Love, Joseph L. 2005. "The Rise and Decline of Economic Structuralism in Latin America: New Dimensions" in *Latin American Research Review*, Vol. 40, No. 3, pp. 100-125 (available through UBC Library website).

- Prebisch, Raúl. 1959. "Commercial Policy in the Underdeveloped Countries" in *The American Economic Review*, Vol. 49, No. 2, pp. 251-273 (**SKIM**) (available through UBC Library website).

**Book for Review:**

Collier, Ruth Berins. 1999. *Paths toward Democracy: The Working Class and Elites in Western Europe and South America*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press

**WEEK 5: POLITICAL ECONOMY OF LATIN AMERICA AFTER THE COLD WAR**

*Tuesday, February 4, 2014. The Washington Consensus and Neoliberalism*

**Required readings:**

- Weyland, Kurt. 2004. "Assessing Latin American Neo-Liberalism: Introduction to a Debate" in *Latin American Research Review*, Vol. 39, No. 3, pp. 143-149 (available through UBC Library website).
- Huber, Evelyn & Fred Solt. 2004. "Successes and Failures of Neoliberalism" in *Latin American Research Review*, Vol. 39, No. 3, pp. 150-164 (available through UBC Library website).
- Walton, Michael. 2004. "Neoliberalism in Latin America: Good, Bad, or Incomplete" in *Latin American Research Review*, Vol. 39, No. 3, pp. 165-183 (available through UBC Library website).

*Thursday, February 6, 2014. Developmental States, Neo-Extractivism and Emerging Powers*

**Required readings:**

- Domínguez & Schifter, Chapter 4. "Natural Resources Boom and Institutional Curses in the New Political Economy of South America"

**Book for Review:**

Schneider, Ben Ross. 2013. *Hierarchical Capitalism in Latin America: Business, Labor, and the Challenges of Equitable Development*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

## **WEEK 6: TRANSITIONS TO DEMOCRACY & THE QUALITY OF DEMOCRACY**

*Tuesday, February 11, 2014. Transitions to Democracy*

### **Required readings:**

- Bermeo, Nancy. 1990. "Rethinking Regime Change" in *Comparative Politics*, Vol. 22, No. 3, pp. 359-377 (available through UBC Library website).
- Collier, Ruth Berins & James Mahoney. 1997. "Adding Collective Actors to Collective Outcomes: Labor and Recent Democratization in South America and Southern Europe" in *Comparative Politics*, Vol. 29, No. 3, pp. 285-303 (available through UBC Library website).

*Thursday, February 13, 2014. The Quality of Democracy*

### **Required readings:**

- O'Donnell, Guillermo. 1994. "Delegative Democracy", in *Journal of Democracy* 5 (1), pp. 55-69 (available through UBC Library website).
- Levitsky, Steven & Lucan Way. 2002. "The Rise of Competitive Authoritarianism" in *Journal of Democracy*, Vol. 13, No. 2, pp. 51-65 (available through UBC Library website).

### **Book for Review:**

Levitsky, Steven & Lucan Way. 2010. *Competitive Authoritarianism: Hybrid Regimes after the Cold War*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

## **MID-TERM BREAK**

## **WEEK 7: LEFT-TURNS, SOCIAL MOVEMENTS, AND INDIGENOUS POLITICS**

*Tuesday, February 25, 2014. Social Movements and Indigenous Politics*

### **Required readings:**

- Yashar, Deborah. 1998. "Contesting Citizenship: Indigenous Movements and Democracy in Latin America" in *Comparative Politics*, Vol. 31, No. 1, pp. 23-43 (available through the UBC Library website).
- Donna Lee Van Cott. 2007. "Latin America's Indigenous Peoples." *Journal of Democracy* 18(4): 127-142 (available through the UBC Library website).



*Thursday, February 27, 2014. "Left-Turns"*

**Required readings:**

- Castañeda, Jorge G. 2006. "Latin America's Left Turn" in *Foreign Affairs*, Vol. 85, No. 3, pp. 28-43 (available through the UBC Library website).
- Cameron, Maxwell A. 2009. "Latin America's Left Turns: Beyond Good and Bad" in *Third World Quarterly*, Vol. 30, No. 2, pp. 331-348 (available through the UBC Library website).
- Ardití, Benjamín. 2008. "Arguments about the Left Turns in Latin America: A Post-Liberal Politics?" in *Latin American Research Review*, Vol. 43, No. 3, pp. 59-81 (SKIM) (available through the UBC Library website).

**Book for Review:**

Levitsky, Steven & Kenneth M. Roberts. 2011. *The Resurgence of the Latin American Left*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press.

**\*\*\*LAST DAY TO SUBMIT A BOOK REVIEW IS FEBRUARY 27, 2014\*\*\***

**WEEK 8: MEXICO & BRAZIL**

*Tuesday, March 4, 2014. Mexico*

**Required readings:**

- Domínguez & Schifter, Chapter 10. "Mexico: Democratic Advances and Limitations"

*Thursday, March 6, 2014. Brazil*

**Required readings:**

- Domínguez & Schifter, Chapter 7. "Brazil: Democracy in the PT Era"

**WEEK 9: ARGENTINA & CHILE**

*Tuesday, March 11, 2014. Argentina*

**Required readings:**

- Domínguez & Schifter, Chapter 5. "Argentina: Democratic Consolidation, Partisan Dealignment, and Institutional Weakness"

*Thursday, March 13, 2014. Chile*

**Required readings:**

- Domínguez & Schifter, Chapter 8. “Chile: Beyond Transitional Models of Politics”

**WEEK 10: BOLIVIA & VENEZUELA**

*Tuesday, March 18, 2014. Bolivia*

**Required readings:**

- Domínguez & Schifter, Chapter 6. “Bolivia: Keeping the Coalition Together”

*Thursday, March 20, 2014. Venezuela*

**Required readings:**

- Domínguez & Schifter, Chapter 12. “Venezuela: Political Governance and Regime Change by Electoral Means”

**\*\*\*TERM PAPER IS DUE ON MARCH 25, 2014\*\*\***

**WEEK 11: PERU & COLOMBIA**

*Tuesday, March 25, 2014. Peru*

**Required readings:**

- Domínguez & Schifter, Chapter 11. “Peru: The Challenges of a Democracy without Parties”

*Thursday, March 27, 2014. Colombia*

**Required readings:**

- Domínguez & Schifter, Chapter 9. “Colombia: Democratic Governance Amidst an Armed Conflict”

## **WEEK 12: CENTRAL AMERICA & CARIBBEAN**

*Tuesday, April 1, 2014. Central America*

### **Required readings:**

- Wolf, Sonja. 2010. “Maras Transnacionales: Origins and Transformations of Central American Street Gangs” in *Latin American Research Review*, Vol. 45 No. 1, pp. 256-265 (available through UBC Library website).
- Bryan, Anthony T. 2012. “Democracy and Security: Observations from Mexico, Central America, and the Caribbean” in *Latin American Policy*, Vol. 3, No. 1, pp. 88-101 (**SKIM**) (available through UBC Library website).

*Thursday, April 3, 2014. The Caribbean: Cuba*

### **Required readings:**

- Corrales, Javier. 2004. “The Gatekeeper State: Limited Economic Reforms and Regime Survival in Cuba, 1989-2002” in *Latin American Research Review*, Vol. 39, No. 2, pp. 35-65 (available through UBC Library website).
- Benjamin-Alvarado, Jonathan & Gregory A. Petrow. 2012. “Stability, Transition, and Regime Approval in Post-Fidel Cuba” in *Political Science Quarterly*, Vol. 127, No. 1, pp. 73-103 (**SKIM**) (available through UBC Library website).

## **WEEK 13: CONCLUSION**

*Tuesday, April 8, 2014. Conclusion*

### **Required readings:**

- Domínguez & Schifter, Conclusion

## Assignments and Exams:

The evaluation of the course will include four components:

Book Review (20%)  
Outline for term paper (10%)  
Term Paper (30%)  
Final Exam (40%)

**BOOK REVIEW:** This assignment is worth 20% of the final mark. You will need to choose ONE of the books assigned for the first 7 weeks of the course to write a review. The review must be **4 pages long (double-spaced, Times New Roman, Size 12, normal margins)**. Points will be deducted if the review is significantly shorter or longer.

The review must include a summary of the main argument of the book and a critical assessment of its contribution to the literature. You do not need to cite any sources other than the book under review. You can consult other book reviews from academic journals if you want to make sure you understand the argument correctly, but you will be evaluated on the originality and accuracy of your assessment.

You must submit your book review to Turnitin.com and send an electronic copy to the instructor ([agoenaga@alumni.ubc.ca](mailto:agoenaga@alumni.ubc.ca)) and the TA (Zaraí Toledo Orozco: [zarai.toledo@alumni.ubc.ca](mailto:zarai.toledo@alumni.ubc.ca)) before the Thursday lecture of the week for which the book is assigned.

The last day to submit a book review is February 27, 2014. Late reviews will be penalized according to the policies outlined in this syllabus.

**TERM PAPER:** The term paper will be worth 40% of the total grade (10% outline + 30% final draft).

Papers must be **10-12 pages long (double-spaced, Times New Roman, Size 12, normal margins)**.

Students will choose one Latin American country and answer ONE of the following questions:

- A. What explains this country's current level of economic development in relation to the rest of Latin America?**
- B. What explains this country's features of democratic governance (i.e., the strengths and weaknesses of the quality of democracy in the country)?**

The following factors will be taken into account in the evaluation of the paper:

1. Originality, clarity and persuasiveness of the argument.
2. Use of empirical evidence to support the argument.
3. Structure, clarity, and professionalism of the writing style.

The paper is due at the beginning of the lecture on **TUESDAY, MARCH 25, 2014**. Students should hand in a **hardcopy of their paper AND** submit an **electronic version to Turnitin.com**. Assignments, late and otherwise, may not be given to the Department

staff nor will staff date-stamp assignments. Please don't ask them to. Late papers, unless justified with proper documentation, will be penalized 5% of the grade per day.

Students must present **outlines (maximum one page)** of their papers by e-mail to the instructor for comments and suggestions **by TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 2014. The outline is mandatory and worth 10% of the total grade.** Outlines presented after that date might not receive comments on time and will not receive any marks.

**Final Exam:** There will be a final exam during the exam period in April, as scheduled by the University. The final exam will include content covered during the course. Please note that for the final exam, students may not have any electronic devices on the desk with them, except a watch. This means cell phones are not allowed on desktops and may not be consulted. Nor may students use headphones of any kind, such as those connected to an iPod.