

University of California, Los Angeles
Department of Political Science
Political Economy of Latin America
Political Science 124C
2017 Winter Quarter
Syllabus

Meetings: Perloff 1102 M/W 4:00PM – 5:50PM
Course Website: <https://moodle2.sscnet.ucla.edu/course/view/17W-POLSCI124C-1>
Instructor - Email: Jesse Acevedo – jesseacevedo@ucla.edu
Office Hours: 4280 Bunche, M/W 2:00PM – 3:00PM

Course Description:

Latin America is home to (the often uneasy) marriage between politics and economics. For most of its history, the region has swung back and forth on policies regarding the size of the state and the role of the market for economic development. The debate on the role of the state and market is crucial to understanding Latin American political economy. This course will focus on how political actors and market forces influence policy-making and we will examine the consequences of those policy choices. The goal of the course is to understand the debates in political economy in Latin America, which will also allow you to understand similar issues that are pressing in the developed world (United States, Western Europe) and in the developing world (Africa, Asia, Middle East).

This course examines the political economy of Latin America in three parts. The first three weeks will cover the historical trajectory of Latin American political economy from the colonial period to the economic reforms of the late 20th century. The second part of the course will focus on the neoliberal era (late 20th century to present). Part 3 will cover contemporary issues that have generated interest in Latin American political economy such as corruption, crime, and inequality.

Grading

Your grade will be based on three in-class exams based on each part of the course. The exams ARE NOT cumulative. Only in case of illness or other extreme circumstances will the exams be offered at any other time than that scheduled. If you cannot take the exams on the assigned dates, do not sign up for the class.

<i>Exam</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Date</i>
I	Historical Trajectory	Monday, January 30
II	Neoliberal Era	Wednesday, February 22
III	Contemporary Issues	Wednesday, March 15

The final grade will be based on your performance in each exam. Your highest-graded exam will have the most weight (40%). Your lowest score will have the least weight according to the table below. There is no extra credit.

<i>Exam</i>	<i>Percent of Final Grade</i>
Highest Score	40
Median Score	35
Lowest Score	25

COURSE SCHEDULE

PART I: HISTORICAL TRAJECTORY

January 9: Course Overview. Legacies of Colonialism.

January 11: Import Substitution Industrialization

January 16: Martin Luther King Day (NO CLASS)

January 18: Debt Crisis and Introduction to Neoliberalism

January 23: Politics of Economic Reform (I)

January 25: Politics of Economic Reform (II)

January 30: EXAM I

PART II: THE NEOLIBERAL ERA

February 1: Trade Policy & Politics

February 6: Monetary Policy & Politics

February 8: Privatization Politics

February 13: The Left and the Commodity Boom

February 15: Indigenous Movements

February 20: Presidents' Day (NO CLASS)

February 22: EXAM II

PART III: CONTEMPORARY ISSUES

February 27: Clientelism

March 1: Corruption

March 6: Political Economy of Crime

March 8: Inequality and the Middle-Class

March 13: Migration and Remittances

March 15: EXAM III

COURSE SCHEDULE & READING ASSIGNMENTS

PART I: HISTORICAL TRAJECTORY

January 9: Course Overview. Legacies of Colonialism.

- Kingstone, Peter. *The political economy of Latin America: reflections on neoliberalism and development*. Routledge, 2011. (Chapter 1)
- Mahoney, James. *Colonialism and postcolonial development: Spanish America in comparative perspective*. Cambridge University Press, 2010. (Pages 20-34, 259-263)

January 11: Import Substitution Industrialization

- Kingstone, Peter. *The political economy of Latin America: reflections on neoliberalism and development*. Routledge, 2011. (Chapter 2)
- Roberts, Kenneth M. *Changing Course in Latin America*. Cambridge University Press, 2015. (Chapter 4)

January 16: Martin Luther King Day (NO CLASS)

- Kingstone, Peter. *The political economy of Latin America: reflections on neoliberalism and development*. Routledge, 2011. (Get ahead on chapter 3)

January 18: Debt Crisis and Introduction to Neoliberalism

- Kingstone, Peter. *The political economy of Latin America: reflections on neoliberalism and development*. Routledge, 2011. (Chapter 3, pp. 45-57)
- Weyland, Kurt. "Swallowing the Bitter Pill Sources of Popular Support for Neoliberal Reform in Latin America." *Comparative Political Studies* 31.5 (1998): 539-568.

January 23: Politics of Economic Reform (I)

- Kingstone, Peter. *The political economy of Latin America: reflections on neoliberalism and development*. Routledge, 2011. (Chapter 3, pp. 58-90)
- Teichman, Judith A. *The politics of freeing markets in Latin America: Chile, Argentina, and Mexico*. Univ of North Carolina Press, 2001. (Chapter 3 & 7)

January 25: Politics of Economic Reform (II)

- Kingstone, Peter. *The political economy of Latin America: reflections on neoliberalism and development*. Routledge, 2011. (Chapter 3, pp. 58-90)
- Stokes, Susan C. *Mandates and democracy: Neoliberalism by surprise in Latin America*. Cambridge University Press, 2001. (Chapter 2 & 3)

*****January 30: EXAM I*****

PART II: THE NEOLIBERAL ERA

February 1: Trade Policy & Politics

- Franko, Patrice M. *The puzzle of Latin American economic development*. Rowman & Littlefield, 2007. (Chapter 8)
- Baker, Andy. "Why is trade reform so popular in Latin America." *World Politics* 55.3 (2003): 423-455.
- The Economist. "A continental divide" May 18, 2013.

February 6: Monetary Policy & Politics

- Frieden, Jeffrey A. *Currency politics: The political economy of exchange rate policy*. Princeton University Press, 2016. (Chapter 5-6)
- Los Angeles Times. "In El Salvador, the dollar is no panacea." April 4, 2007.

February 8: Privatization Politics

- Franko, Patrice M. *The puzzle of Latin American economic development*. Rowman & Littlefield, 2007. (Pages 166-177)
- Murillo, M. Victoria. "Political bias in policy convergence: Privatization choices in Latin America." *World Politics* 54.04 (2002): 462-493.
- The Economist. "Why do Mexicans get so worked up about their oil?" November 27, 2013.

February 13: The Left and the Commodity Boom

- Kingstone, Peter. *The political economy of Latin America: reflections on neoliberalism and development*. Routledge, 2011. (Chapter 4)
- Weyland, Kurt, Raúl L. Madrid, and Wendy Hunter, eds. *Leftist governments in Latin America: successes and shortcomings*. Cambridge University Press, 2010. (Chapter 7)
- The Economist. "Life after the commodity boom" March 29, 2014.

February 15: Indigenous Movements

- Subcomandante Marcos. "The Southeast in Two Winds – A Storm and a Prophecy." January 27, 1994.
- Yashar, Deborah J. *Contesting citizenship in Latin America: The rise of indigenous movements and the post liberal challenge*. Cambridge University Press, 2005. (Chapter 3)

February 20: Presidents' Day (NO CLASS)

*****February 22: EXAM II*****

PART III: CONTEMPORARY ISSUES
readings to be determined

February 27: Clientelism

- Magaloni, Beatriz, Alberto Diaz-Cayeros, and Federico Estévez. "Clientelism and portfolio diversification: a model of electoral investment with applications to Mexico." *Patrons, clients, and policies: Patterns of democratic accountability and political competition* (2007): 182-205.
- Nichter, Simeon. "Vote buying or turnout buying? Machine politics and the secret ballot." *American political science review* 102.01 (2008): 19-31.
- Zucco, Cesar. "The President's New Constituency: Lula and the Pragmatic Vote in Brazil's 2006 Presidential Elections." *Journal of Latin American Studies* 40.1 (2008): 29.

March 1: Corruption

- Zechmeister, Elizabeth J., and Daniel Zizumbo-Colunga. "The varying political toll of concerns about corruption in good versus bad economic times." *Comparative Political Studies* 46.10 (2013): 1190-1218.
- The Economist. "Democracy to the rescue?" March 14, 2015.
- Petrobras scandal in Brazil (TBD)

March 6: Political Economy of Crime

- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). *Citizen security with a human face: Evidence and proposals for Latin America*. Human Development Report 2013-2014. (Selected excerpts)
- The Economist. "The tormented isthmus." April 14, 2011.
- Maurer, N. (2012). Criminal Organizations and Enterprise. *ReVista, the Harvard Review of Latin America*, XI(2):15–18.

March 8: Inequality and the Middle-Class

- Ferreira, Francisco HG, et al. *Economic mobility and the rise of the Latin American middle class*. World Bank Publications, 2012. (Selected excerpts)
- The Economist. "Gini back in the bottle" October 13, 2012.
- New York Times. "A win for Latin America's Middle Class" June 23, 2014.

March 13: Migration and Remittances

- Acosta, Pablo, Pablo Fajnzylber, and J. Humberto López. "How important are remittances in Latin America." *Remittances and development. Lessons from Latin America* (2008): 21-49.
- Burgess, Katrina. "Collective Remittances and Migrant-State Collaboration in Mexico and El Salvador." *Latin American Politics and Society* 54.4 (2012): 119-146.

*****March 15: EXAM III*****