

(PALAS 360) Political and Social Change
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Program in Argentine and Latin American Studies
Universidad de Belgrano
Course Syllabus 2018-1

Course Information

Monday- Wednesday 11:30-13:00

Hours of Instruction: 60

Instruction in English

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Course Description

This course focuses on political and social change and its instrumental role in the formation of national identity. Drawing mainly on historic sources, the course analyzes the cases of Mexico, Brazil, Chile, Cuba, Venezuela, Bolivia and Argentina. Students will get familiar not only with the political system and parties but also with the uprising of new social actors and protest movements and prospects resulting from the dialogue between states, societies and social forces. The course will also address the role citizenship and institutions play in democracy nowadays and the effect the succession of repressive military dictatorships had in relation to memory.

Course Requirements

Following UB policies, students need a minimum of 75% of attendance to be in good standing for the final exam. Students have to slide an electronic card every class to comply with attendance policy. Notice that classes missed for national holidays will not be recovered. No excuses will be granted for travelling. Students are expected to do close readings, participate in class, and perform one oral presentations in pairs and write a 2-3 page report. Wikipedia is not an acceptable source for research. UB holds to the view that plagiarism constitutes intellectual theft and is a serious breach of acceptable conduct. Any student caught plagiarizing will immediately be given a "no credit" for all courses taken in the semester. The requirements also include a midterm and a final exam. The teaching process, through theoretical and practical activities, seeks to stimulate active and reflexive, individual and group participation through critical reading.

Grading Policy

Completion of participation and presentations	30%
Midterm exam	30%
Approval of final exam	40%

For a better understanding of the comparable table for grading: check the student handbook (page 9) in orientation kit packet.

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Course Content:

Unit 1: The political system of a new society (1810-1920)

The crisis of the Spanish Colonial Empire, the Spanish heritage, and the formation of the new republics. The emergence of new regional political units: Caudillos, regional differences, ethnic groups, and the formation of a new society in the oligarchic republics. Modernization, urbanization, and democratization: European immigration, new ideologies and political parties, emerging social actors, and a modern identity.

Unit 2: Populism (1920-1970)

Local transformations within the impact of the international cyclical crises. The emergence of Populism: organized labor, imports substitution, Nationalism, and the State; the new middle classes. Peronismo, Varguismo, Ibañismo, and Cardenismo. Ideological dynamics within Populism: Revolution or Reform?

Unit 3: Authoritarianism

Limits to the social transformation within the context of the Cold War. Crisis in the industrialist alliance: military intervention, social repression, and the search for sustainable growth. The Doctrine of National Security: foreign military intervention and resistance movements. Wars of national/popular liberation

Unit 4: Redemocratization

New power relations in the emerging democracies through the structural transformation of globalization. The human rights movement and the heritage of State terrorism. The search for sustainable development. The new agenda: ecology, regional migration, drugs and money laundering, social polarization and exclusion.

Academic Calendar

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Week 1 / Unit 1

The Encounter: Tensions in the Colonial society

Lecture session: John Charles Chasteen, Born in Blood and Fire Chapter 1

Discussion session: John Charles Chasteen, Born in Blood and Fire Chapter 2
Bradford Burns, Latin America: Conflict and Creation Ch. 2

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Week 2 / Unit 1

The Crisis of independence

Lecture session: John Charles Chasteen, Born in Blood and Fire Chapter 3
Bradford Burns, Latin America: Conflict and Creation Chapter 2

Discussion session: John Charles Chasteen, Born in Blood and Fire Chapter 4
Bradford Burns, Latin America: Conflict and Creation Chapter 3

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Week 3 / Unit 1

Toward new political relations in the post-independence period

Lecture session: John Charles Chasteen, Born in Blood and Fire Chapter 5
Bradford Burns, Latin America: Conflict and Creation Chapter 4

Discussion session: John Charles Chasteen, Born in Blood and Fire Chapter 6

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Week 4 / Unit 2

Progress and the Neocolonial Order

Lecture session: John Charles Chasteen, Born in Blood and Fire Chapter 7

Discussion session: Bradford Burns, Latin America: Conflict and Creation Ch. 5

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Week 5 / Unit 2

Populism

Lecture session: **Holiday**

Discussion session: John Charles Chasteen, Born in Blood and Fire Chapter 8

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Week 6 / Unit 2

Populism

Lecture session: Daniel James, Resistance and Integration Introduction

Discussion session: Ian Roxborough, "Populism and Class Conflict;"
Steve Stein, "Populism and Social Control," Pp. 119-135

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Week 7 / Unit 2

Post-Populism and Authoritarianism

Lecture session: Leslie Bethell, "From the Second World War to the Cold War:
1944-1954," in Lowenthal (ed.), Exporting Democracy

Discussion session: John Charles Chasteen, Born in Blood and Fire Chapter 10

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Week 8 / Unit 2

Post-Populism and Authoritarianism

Lecture session: **Review exercise**

Discussion session: **Midterm**

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Week 9 / Unit 3

Authoritarianism

Lecture session: **Holiday**

Discussion session: Bradford Burns, Latin America: Conflict and Creation Ch. 6

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Week 10 / Unit 3

Revolution

Lecture session: John Charles Chasteen, Born in Blood and Fire Chapter 9

Discussion session: Bradford Burns, Latin America: Conflict and Creation Ch. 7

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Week 11/ Unit 3

Neoliberalism

Lecture session: John Charles Chasteen, Born in Blood and Fire Chapter 11

Discussion session: Bradford Burns, Latin America: Conflict and Creation Ch. 8

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Week 12 / Unit 4

Redemocratization

Lecture session: John Charles Chasteen, Born in Blood and Fire Chapter 11

Discussion session: Liria Evangelista, "The policy of human rights abuse,"
Monograph

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Week 13 / Unit 4

Redemocratization, Debt, and New Social Movements

Lecture session: John Walton, "Debt, Protest and the State in Latin America"

Discussion session: Sergio Serulnikov, "When Looting Becomes a Right: Urban
Poverty and Food Riots in Argentina," Monograph

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Week 14/ Unit 4

Redemocratization and Neo-Populism

Lecture session: Film "South of the Border"

Discussion session: Conclusions

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Week 15 / Unit 4

Lecture session: **Review exercise**

Discussion session: **Final exam**

Final Grade & Signature of *Hoja de situación* (attendance is mandatory)".

**Note: Students with a hold on the Student Visa will not be allowed to take
final exams, they have to go to the 17 Floor to clear the hold.**

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Bibliography

- John Charles Chasteen, Born in Blood and Fire: A Concise History of Latin America (New York: W. W. Norton, 2001)
- Bradford Burns, Latin America: Conflict and Creation (Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice Hall, 1993)
- John Charles Chasteen and Joseph S. Tulchin (eds.), Problems in Modern Latin American History: A Reader (Wilmington: Scholarly Res., 1994)
- Cardoso, Fernando Enrique & Enzo Faletto, Dependency and Development in Latin America Berkeley: University of California Press, 1979)
- Chomsky Aviva et al. The Cuba Reader. (Durham: Duke University Press, 2003)
- Galeano, Eduardo. Las venas abiertas de América Latina (Buenos Aires: Sudamericana, 1973)
- Halperín Donghi, Tulio. Contemporary History of Latin America (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1987)
- Gilbert Joseph and Timothy Henderson, ed. The Mexico Reader. (Durham: Duke University Press, 2002)
- Levine, Robert M & John Crocitti, ed. The Brazil Reader. (Durham: Duke University Press, 2003)
- Nouzeilles, Gabriela and Graciela Montaldo, ed. The Argentina Reader. (Durham: Duke University Press, 2002)
- Starn et al. The Peru Reader . (Durham: Duke University Press, 2005)
- Timothy P. Wickham-Crowley, Guerrillas & Revolution in Latin America, (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1992)