

SOCS 5030.03 Politics of Latin America
Professor Daniel Hellinger
Fall II 2004
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Objectives:

1. Students will develop an understanding of the historical, economic, and cultural influences in Latin American politics.
2. Students will develop an appreciation for the economic and social issues that remain sources of division in Latin America after transitions.
3. Students will develop an appreciation theoretical ideas drawn from the field of comparative politics, as applied to Latin America.

A major focus of this course will be consideration of issues left unresolved after transitions from military rule, the end of civil wars in Central America, and the prospect of change in Cuba.

Text: Vanden and Prevost, Latin America: The Power Game
Ellner and Hellinger, Venezuelan Politics in the Chávez Era

Graduate Students only: Latin American Perspectives, Vol. 31,
Number 1 (January 2004)
(Additional readings as listed below.)

Requirements and Grading

INTL 5600: Midterm Take-Home Essay, Final Exam (take home and in-class) Book Review
COSC 5030: Midterm Take-Home Essay, Final Exam, Curriculum Design
INTL 4400: Midterm and Final Take-Home Essays, Final Exam

Schedule of readings and classes

October 20

Comparative Politics, Pedagogy, and Area Studies (Graduate Students Only)

Assignment: Bray, "A New Latin Americanist Pedagogy" and "Latin American Studies in the Twenty-first Century"; Pino, "A Twenty-first-Century Agenda for Teaching the Modern History of Latin America"; Calderón, "Lessons from an Activist Intellectual", all from *Latin American Perspectives*, vo. 31, no. 1 (Jan. 2004)

In class: Lectures on the subdiscipline of Comparative Politics and on the nature of area studies. Discussion on teaching Latin America. Video on Culture in Latin America

October 27

Latin America's search for justice, peace, development, stability
Vanden and Prevost, pp. 1-73, 177-228

Human Rights and Wrongs in post-transition Argentina

Vanden and Prevost pp. 399-432 (Argentina)

Eric Hershberg, "Why Argentina Crashed and Is Still Crashing,"

Andrés Gaudin, "Cutbacks Threaten Argentina's Children"

Roger Burbach, "Throw Them All Out, Argentina's Grassroots Rebellion"

All in *NACLA, Report on the Americas*, 36, no. 1, July/Aug. 2002, on e-reserve

Lectures on theories and approaches to development, the idea of dependency.

Video on Argentina. Discussion about contemporary issues in Argentina.

November 3

Gender, Religion, Class and Race: Sources of conflict in Latin America

Vanden and Prevost, 74–145

Democratic Breakdown: Chile
Vanden and Prevost, 437–482 (Chile)

30 Years Later: Reconciliation or Impunity?
NACLA Report on the Americas, July/August 2003, selections, on e-
reserve

Video: In women's hand
Lecture: Democratic Breakdown and Transition

November 10

Approaches to Development: Import Substitution, Populism,
Neoliberalism

Brazil's Worker President
Vanden and Prevost pp. 483–511 (Brazil)
Readings on Lula, Brazil's worker president
Hellinger, Draft chapter on Development, on e-reserve

Video: "Capital Sins" (on Brazil)
Lecture: Populism, Import Substitution, and Neoliberalism

November 17

The Cuban Revolution
Vanden and Prevost, pp. 357–398

Lecture: Historical Background on Venezuela
Revolution and Pluralism

November 24

Venezuela's Crisis
Ellner and Hellinger, pp. 1–146, 161–178, 197–214

Possible film: "The Revolution will Not be Televised"
Or, Video on the Nicaraguan Revolution

December 1

Revolution and US Intervention: Central America
Vanden and Prevost, pp. 253–285, 325–356

Video: "Fire in the Mind"

December 8

Mexico, Migration and Conflict
Vanden and Prevost, 285–324 (Mexico)
Additional readings to be assigned

Video on Migration and Development in Mexico
Lecture: NAFTA and Development

December 15

Democracy, Civil Society and the Market in Latin America
To be assigned

Ellner and Hellinger, 113

Take home essay due on December 17