Course description and requirements
This course will introduce you to several key themes in the history of modern Latin America, including:

--the legacy of the independence wars
--attempts to construct the post-colonial state
--the development of neo-colonial economic relationships
--modernization and its discontents
--twentieth century nation building
--US policy and reaction to the Cuban revolution and the crises in Central America
--military dictatorships in the 1970s and 1980s
--Chávez, Morales, and the resurgence of populism
--challenges facing Latin America today

This is a lecture/discussion survey. Do the readings to participate in and pass the class. Your final grade will be determined as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Two quizzes</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One in-class exam</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>One six-page paper</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final exam</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participation/attendance/presentation</td>
<td>20%</td>
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Guidelines for written work
An “A” paper or essay is clearly written and well organized. Most importantly, it contains a central argument supported by a well-chosen variety of examples drawn from the assigned readings. Such work demonstrates that the student has grappled with the issues raised in the course, synthesized the readings, discussions, and lectures, and formulated a compelling, independent argument. “B” work demonstrates that the student has wrestled with some of the issues in the course. Yet “B” work mainly provides a summary of ideas and information already covered. A typical “C” paper provides a recap of the historical narrative but offers little in terms of analysis and relies on an inadequate number of sources. Work that receives a grade lower than “C” typically does not respond adequately to the assignment, is marred by frequent errors, unclear writing, poor organization, lack of sources, or some combination of these problems. All grades are final.

In-class presentations
Students will pair up, then read and present one or two outside readings (see below). These PowerPoint presentations may not exceed six minutes and must not consist of more than six slides! After the presentation(s), the presenters will field questions for a couple of minutes. The material covered by the student presenters will appear on quizzes and tests.

Nuts and bolts

--No make-up quizzes or exams unless you have a compelling medical emergency.

--Written work will be docked 1/3 of a letter grade each weekday that it is late.

--Frequent absences will hurt your grade.

--All grades are final, including the final grade.

--Texting in class is high school behavior and will not be tolerated.

----Those who plagiarize will receive an F for the course and their case will be turned over to Student Judicial Affairs. Please ask me if you have questions about plagiarism.
I am happy to write letters of recommendation for students who have completed two classes with me and have earned a “B+” or better in both classes.

**Course readings**

Please purchase the following *immediately*. If you do not plan to purchase the books, you should drop the class. Used copies should be available at the campus bookstore and online.


**Recommended reading**


**News sources (to help you stay informed about Latin America and the rest of the world)**

Print: *New York Times*

Radio: KCHO 91.7; Morning Edition (6:00-9:00 AM) and All Things Considered (5:00-7:00 PM).

Internet: [www.bbc.co.uk](http://www.bbc.co.uk); [www.huffingtonpost.com](http://www.huffingtonpost.com); in Spanish try [www.jornada.unam.mx](http://www.jornada.unam.mx) and [www.elpais.es](http://www.elpais.es).

On the English-language press in Latin America see [http://legacy.ncsu.edu/classes/hc300001/lapress.htm](http://legacy.ncsu.edu/classes/hc300001/lapress.htm).

**Course calendar**

**Late-colonial life and the wars for independence**

1-26

Introduction

1-28


- Fernando Ortiz, “’Transculturation’ and Cuba,” 26-27.

2-2

Chasteen, 93-117.

Selections from TCR:


2-9

- Juan Manuel de Rosas, “The Caudillo’s Order,” 75-79
- Domingo F. Sarmiento, “Civilization or Barbarism?” 80-90
- Juan Bautista Alberdi, “Immigration as a Means to Progress,” 95-101
- Esteban Echeverria, “The Slaughterhouse,” 107-114

In class presentation: Jeffrey M. Shumway, “‘Sometimes Knowing How to Forget is Also Having Memory’: The Repatriation of Juan Manuel de Rosas and the Healing of Argentina in Death, Dismemberment, and Memory ed. Lyman L. Johnson (Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 2004), 105-140.

Discussion. Post three discussion questions on Vista by 9:00 PM the night before.

Post-colonial blues
2-11

Quiz
2-16
Chasteen, 149-177.


Turn-of-the-century modernization, race, and nation
2-18


2-23
Chasteen, 179-211.
In-class presentation on Evo Morales, Bolivia’s president.

2-25
Selections from TCR:
José Martí, “José Martí’s ‘Our America’,” 122-127.
President Theodore Roosevelt, “The Platt Amendment,” 143-149.

Discussion. Post three discussion questions on Vista by 9:00 PM the night before.

3-2
Chasteen, 213-243.


3-4
In-class exam

Populism and the Age of Mass Politics

3-9 and 3-11 Lewis mandatory unpaid furlough days
If you feel cheated, contact your state senator, state legislator, and/or the governor’s office.
Please read the following:
   --Chasteen, 245-273.

Spring break

3-23


   “The Vargas Era,” 149-155.
   Getúlio Vargas, “New Year’s Address, 1938,” 186-189.
   “Five Lives Affected by Vargas-Era Reforms,” 206-221.

3-25
Video: “The Garden of Forking Paths”


Discussion. Post three discussion questions on Vista by 9:00 PM the night before.

The Cuban Revolution
4-1 Campus-wide mandatory unpaid furlough day. No class, but please read the following:

Cuba before Castro
Selections from TCR:
- Rosalie Schwartz, “The Invasion of the Tourists,” 244-252.
- Oscar Lewis, et. al., “A Prostitute Remembers,” 260-63

Paper due in History Department by noon on Monday, April 5.

4-6
The 26th of July movement
Selections from TCR:

The Revolution in action
Selections from TCR:


Video: “The Bay of Pigs”

4-8
Social revolution?
Selections from TCR:
Select Committee to Study Governmental Operations with Respect to Intelligence Activities, “The Assassination Plots,” 552-56.

In-class presentation:

Populism’s Requiem: Authoritarianism and its human cost
4-13
Chasteen, 275-305.

4-15

In-class presentation from The Argentina Reader (on reserve):
Richard Gillespie, “Montoneros: Soldiers of Perón,” 377-385

4-20
Feitlowitz, 63-109.

In-class presentations on Chile:

Report on Michele Bachelet, Chile’s former president.

Quiz
4-22
Feitlowitz, 149-192.

In-class presentations on Brazil:

Benjamin and Mendonca, Benedita da Silva, 53-99.

Video: Excerpts from “Capital Sins”
4-27
Feitlowitz, 193-255.

More in-class presentations on Brazil:
Benjamin and Mendonca, Benedita da Silva, 101-137.

Benjamin and Mendonca, Benedita da Silva, 139-171.

Discussion. Post three discussion questions on Vista by 9:00 PM the night before.

Contemporary issues in Latin America
4-29

**Video: “The Fall of Fujimori”**

5-4
Grandin, 52-120.


5-6
Grandin, 121-158.


**Video: Excerpts from “The Revolution will Not be Televised.”**

5-11
Grandin, 159-195.

*In-class presentation:* the massacre of El Mozote:
http://globetrotter.berkeley.edu/people/Danner/1993/truthelmoz01.html

5-13
Grandin, 196-244.

*In-class presentation* on Daniel Ortega, former *comandante* and current president of Nicaragua.

**Discussion.** Post three discussion questions on Vista by 9:00 PM the night before.

5-18
**Final exam** at 2:00 PM.