Introduction to Latin America
LAS2001 | Fall 2017

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Office Hours: By appointment

Course Description:
Half a billion Latin Americans share the Western hemisphere with the U.S. and Canada and yet many Americans only know them through stereotypes reproduced in the media. Just who are the peoples making up this hazy region called Latin America? What events and processes have shaped the region? What is its relationship to other parts of the world? This course offers an introduction to Latin America that explores the social, geographical, and historical background and issues of the region, focusing on Iberian-colonized nations.

Texts and Readings:
*******All reading is to be done prior to watching video lectures*******

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Goals</th>
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<tr>
<td>Students will gain a broad introduction to Latin America, its history, peoples, cultures, and customs from a social science perspective.</td>
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<td>Students will explore and critique the role of ideologies and stereotypes about nations.</td>
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<td>Students will develop an understanding of hemispheric relations and how the U.S. has influenced and been influenced by Latin America.</td>
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<td>Students will learn about different forms of structural inequality in the region, including root causes, forms of resistance, and ongoing debates.</td>
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<td>Students will further student competence in international and social studies.</td>
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❖ **Required Text:** Harry Sanabria: *The Anthropology of Latin America and the Caribbean*. Pearson Allyn and Bacon
❖ **Additional Materials:** Posted on Canvas per module.

Course Requirements:
For the bulk of the course, we will cover one module per week. **Most** (not all) weeks are structured as follows:
Mondays/Tuesdays: Do the assigned reading and watch any associated videos or video lectures. Most readings are in Sanabria but not always. Take notes as you go along.

Wednesdays: Study your notes and take the weekly quiz. These quizzes reflect the content of assigned readings and videos. Quizzes are multiple-choice. Most quizzes have an allotted time of 25 minutes. No make-up quizzes will be given unless you have a without a university-approved excuse. The lowest quiz score (or missed quiz) of the semester will be dropped and will not affect your grade.

Thursdays: If there is a Discussion Post prompt, post to Discussion Board. Discussion groups are set from the beginning of the term and will remain the same throughout the semester. Beginning with Week 4, you will begin researching one country in particular as it pertains to specific themes and preparing a case study using guidelines posted in Canvas. Once that is underway, Case Study Assignments are due Thursdays.

Fridays: If there is a Discussion Post for the week, responses to Discussion board are due Fridays. Students will be expected to provide a meaningful response to two of their classmates’s posts. Comments should be a minimum of three sentences and will be graded based on analysis and reflection. In other words, it is not sufficient to state you agree or disagree with the comments. Instead, think of this as a way to advance the conversation, supporting your comments.

End of term: Prepare a final screencast presentation using your case study nation and incorporating feedback from your peers. Presentation will be uploaded to a streaming platform (youtube, screencast.com, vimeo, etc.)

Course Evaluation:

Quizzes:
There will be weekly quizzes to assess content assimilation. With the exception of the Syllabus Quiz (4 attempts) and the Map Quiz (2 attempts), quizzes can only be taken one time. After Week 1, all quizzes are due every Wednesday. You have 25 minutes for each quiz. No make-up quizzes will be given unless you have a university-approved excuse. The lowest quiz score will be dropped and will not affect your grade.

Discussion posts:
You are expected to participate in discussions. Guidelines posted on Canvas. Discussion prompts will be provided every other week and you must post, and reply, to the forum as instructed in Canvas. Late discussion posts will NOT be accepted.

Case Study: Beginning with Week 4, you will research one country in particular as it pertains to specific themes covered in the course and create assignments that will culminate in your end-of-term presentation. Case study assignments have two parts: first, there is a creative portion where you create original content highlighting something in your chosen country pertaining to one of the week’s topics. The second part is a brief explanation of your creative portion. This way, students will develop a more
complete understanding of one nation by examining it across multiple themes and topics covered in the class. Additional guidelines and examples will be posted in Canvas.

Presentation: Create a screencast presentation, complete with voiceover, about your Case Study nation. Presentations have three parts: overview, three in-depth topics, and final reflections. Only streaming presentations will be accepted. Additional guidelines and examples will be posted in Canvas.

Course Policies:
Academic Honesty: Many incidents of plagiarism result from students' lack of understanding about what constitutes plagiarism. All work you submit must be your own scholarly and creative efforts. A good working definition of plagiarism is “whereby another’s work is used or appropriated without any indication of the source, thereby attempting to convey the impression that such work is the student’s own.” Any work deemed to have met this definition will receive a grade of 0 along with a referral to the Dean of Students. For the University’s policy on academic honesty, please visit the Dean of Students Office (https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/proceduresacademicguide.php) page on academic honesty.

Netiquette: Discussions are meant to encourage thoughtful and open communication. Students are expected to treat one another with respect, even if disagreeing. This is an academic setting, not a blog post or social media.

Late Assignments: Assignments must be completed by 11:59 p.m. on the due date. Discussion Posts will NOT be accepted late and you will receive a “0” for the assignment. For other assignments, late penalties may be waived for the first hour after an assignment is due but after that late assignments will receive a deduction of 10% per 24-hour period. NO WORK ACCEPTED AFTER FIVE (5) CALENDAR DAYS.

Make-Up Policies: Make-up assignments and quizzes will be permitted if there is a university-approved excuse or at the discretion of the instructor.

Due Dates:
(1) M: Do the readings. Sometimes these are in Sanabria, but not always.
(2) Tu: Watch any associated video lectures and other assigned videos*.
(3) W: Study your notes. Take the Quiz. Prepare Case Study research.
(4) Th: Post in the Discussion Board. Submit Case Study Assignments.
(5) F: Reply to others’ posts in the Discussion Board.
**Grade Breakdown:** Your course work will be broken down in the following manner:

**Discussions:** 20%
**Case Studies:** 25%
**Quizzes:** 25%
**Presentation:** 30% (Draft & Final)

**Grading Scale**

A = 93 or above  
A- = 90 - 92  
B+ = 87 - 89  
B = 83 - 86  
B- = 80 - 82  
C+ = 77 - 79  
C = 73 - 76  
C- = 70 - 72  
D+ = 67 - 69  
D = 63 - 66  
D- = 60 - 62  
E = 59 or below

**University Policies & Campus Resources:**

**The Latin American Collection:** Located on the third floor of the Smathers Library (East), the Latin American and Caribbean Collection (LACC) holds approximately 500,000 volumes, over 50,000 microforms, thousands of current and historical serial titles, and a large number of digital resources. Students are encouraged to consult this extensive collection when working on their Case Study Assignments and Final Presentation. More information, including hours, is available here: [http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/lac/Index.aspx](http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/lac/Index.aspx).

**Students with disabilities:** Students with disabilities requiring classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office([https://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/](https://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/)). The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student, who must then provide this documentation to the instructor. You must submit this documentation prior to submitting assignments or taking quizzes or exams. Accommodations are not retroactive, therefore, students should contact the office as soon as possible in the term for which they are seeking accommodations.

**UF Counseling Services:**

Resources are available on-campus for students experiencing problems or lacking clear career and academic goals that interfere with their academic performance. You can contact UF Counseling and Wellness Center: [http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc](http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc); 352-392-1575, 301 Peabody Hall; Student Mental Health, Student Health Care Center, 352-392-1171; Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS), Student Health Care Center, 352-392-1161; and the University Police Department: 352-392-1111. For assistance with professional development and resume writing, you can consult the Career Resource Center, Reitz Union, 352-392-1601.

**Complaints:**

Should you have any complaints with your experience in this course please visit the distance education complaint page to submit a complaint. [http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process](http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process).

**Technical Resources:** UF Help Desk—Having technical problems with Canvas? Contact the UF Help Desk at [learning-support@ufl.edu](mailto:learning-support@ufl.edu) 352-392-HELP (4357) - select option 2 [https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml](https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml)
**REMEMBER:** Each week you should do the **readings** by 11:59 p.m **Monday**, watch associated **videos** by 11:59 p.m **Tuesday**, take the **quiz** by 11:59 p.m **Wednesday**, post **assignments** by 11:59 p.m **Thursday**, and, when applicable, **respond** to Discussions by 11:59 p.m **Friday**. This will occasionally overlap with holidays, so please manage your time wisely.

**Please note:**
You will find that sometimes the module numbers used on the syllabus will differ from those that show up on the video lectures. You will also find that some things referred to in the lectures do not correspond to readings/assignments. The course’s video lectures were recorded some time ago and so changes and improvements made to course reorganization have resulted in these changes. Do not be alarmed.

**Course Schedule:**
**Week 1: Begins 08/21** (Please note: Week 1 does not conform to regular schedule)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Content Areas</th>
<th>Assignment Details</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Course Introduction</td>
<td><em>(Module 0)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>What is Latin America? Geography</td>
<td><em>(Module 1)</em></td>
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**Read:**
Sanabria: Preface, Ch. 2  
Review Latin America Geography/Maps

**Watch:**
Introduction video  
[Geography of Latin America Video](#)

**Assignments/Assessments/Deadlines:**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Intro Discussion Post*</td>
<td>08/22 by 11:59 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Take the syllabus quiz (3 attempts)</td>
<td>08/22 by 11:59 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Take the map quiz (2 attempts)</td>
<td>08/23 by 11:59 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discussion Responses</td>
<td>08/24 by 11:59 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Take module 1 quiz* (1 attempt)</td>
<td>08/25 by 11:59 p.m.</td>
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*This week only: Discussion Post due **Tuesday**, response due **Thursday**; content quiz due **Friday**.

**Week 2: Begins 08/28**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Content Areas</th>
<th>Assignment Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-Columbian Era</td>
<td><em>(Module 2)</em></td>
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**Read:**
Sanabria Ch 3

**Watch:**
Mystery of Aztec & Maya Civilization (National Geographic Documentary)  
Module 2 Lecture videos

**Assignments/Assessments/Deadlines:**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Country Selection for Case Study</td>
<td>08/29 by 11:59 p.m.</td>
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</table>
Assessments/ Deadlines: Module 2 Quiz Discussion Post: Country Selection 08/30 by 11:59 p.m. 08/31 by 11:59 p.m.
Assessments/ Discussion Responses 09/01 by 11:59 p.m.

**Week 3: Begins 09/04**
Content Areas: Conquest, Colonization, Republics (Module 3)

Read: **Sanabria** Ch 4
Hillman Chapter posted on Canvas

Watch: Module 3 Lecture videos
*When Worlds Collide* (Note: The playback begins on the last minute of another program. It’s weird but it’s fine.)

Assignments/ Assessments/ Deadlines: Module 3 Quiz Discussion Post (When Worlds Collide) 09/06 by 11:59 p.m. 09/07 by 11:59 p.m.
Assignments/ Discussion responses 09/08 by 11:59 p.m.

**Week 4: Begins 09/11**
Content Areas: Religion (Module 4)

Read: **Sanabria** Ch. 7

Watch: Module 4 Lecture videos

Assignments/ Assessments/ Deadlines: Module 4 Quiz Case Study 1 (Module 3 or 4) 09/13 by 11:59 p.m. 09/14 by 11:59 p.m.

**Week 5: Begins 09/18**
Content Areas: Globalization and Tourism (Module 5)

Read: **Sanabria** Ch. 10

Watch: Module 5 lecture videos

Assignments/ Assessments/ Deadlines: Module 5 Quiz Discussion Post ([Ecotourism Game](#)) 09/20 by 11:59 p.m. 09/21 by 11:59 p.m.
Assignments/ Discussion Responses 09/22 by 11:59 p.m.

**Week 6: Begins 09/25**
Content Areas: Race and Ethnicity (Module 6)

Read: **Sanabria** Ch. 5
Watch: Module 6 video lectures  
*Black in Latin America Haiti and the DR*  
*Black in Latin America: Brazil*

Assignments/Assessments:  
Module 6 Quiz 09/27 by 11:59 p.m.  
Case Study 2 (Module 5 or 6) 09/28 by 11:59 p.m.

**Week 7: Begins 10/02**

Content Areas: Cultural Constructions of Gender (Module 7)

Read: **Sanabria** Ch. 6

Watch: Module 7 video lectures (including guest lecture)  
*Colombia’s Indigenous Trans-Women Beauty Pageant*

Assignments/Assessments:  
Module 7 Quiz 10/04 by 11:59 p.m.  
Discussion Post (Women in Politics) 10/05 by 11:59 p.m.  
Discussion Responses 10/06 by 11:59 p.m.

**Week 8: Begins 10/09**

Content Areas: Healthcare (Module 8)

Read: **Sanabria** Ch. 8

Watch: Module 8 video lectures  
Additional short videos on Healthcare (Canvas)

Assignments/Assessments:  
Module 8 Quiz 10/11 by 11:59 p.m.  
Case Study 3 (Module 7 or 8) 10/12 by 11:59 p.m.

**Week 9: Begins 10/16**

Content Areas: Social Movements (Module 9)

Read: **Sanabria** Ch. 12

Watch: Module 9 video lectures  
Additional short videos on SM (Canvas)  
*Zapatistas video*
Week 10: Begins 10/23
Content Areas: U.S. Interventions in Latin America (Module 10)
Read: Module 10 readings on Canvas
Watch: Module 10 videos
Assignments/Module 10 Quiz 10/25 by 11:59 p.m.
Assessments/Discussion: Film Post 10/19 by 11:59 p.m.
Deadlines: Discussion responses 10/20 by 11:59 p.m.

Week 11: Begins 10/30
Content Areas: Migration (Module 11)
Read: Module 11 readings on Canvas
Watch: Module 11 Lecture videos (including Guest Lecture)
Assignments/Module 11 Quiz 11/01 by 11:59 p.m.
Assessments/Discussion Post: Immigration 11/02 by 11:59 p.m.
Deadlines: Discussion responses 11/03 by 11:59 p.m.

Week 12: Begins 11/06
Content Areas: Popular Culture (Module 12)
Read: Sanabria Ch 11
Watch: Module 12 videos
Assignments/Module 12 Quiz 11/08 by 11:59 p.m.
Assessments/Case Study 5 (Module 11 or 12) 11/09 by 11:59 p.m.
Deadlines: Discussion responses 11/12 by 11:59 p.m.
(Responses due Sunday on account of the holiday)

Week 13: Begins 11/13
Content Areas: Food, cuisine, and cultural expression (Module 13)
Read:  **Sanabria** Ch. 9

Watch:  FOOD videos! (Yay!)

Assignments/Assessments/Deadlines:  
- Module 13 Quiz 11/15 by 11:59 p.m.  
- Discussion Post: Case Study Showcase 11/16 by 11:59 p.m.  
- Discussion responses 11/17 by 11:59 p.m.

**Week 14: Begins 11/20 (Thanksgiving Week)**  
This week, there are no modules or assignments due. Instead, use the week to work on your presentation, test out the necessary technical elements, etc. An outline and draft (yes, streaming video) will be due upon return.

**Week 15: Begins 11/27**  
Content Areas: Synthesis: Where is Latin America headed now?  
Read: Several readings from popular press posted on Canvas  
Watch: (short news videos posted on Canvas)

Assignments/Assessments/Deadlines:  
- Presentation Draft and Outline 11/27 by 11:59 p.m.  
- Discussion Post: Synthesis 11/30 by 11:59 p.m.  
- Discussion responses 12/01 by 11:59 p.m.

**Week 16: Begins 12/04**  
**FINAL PRESENTATIONS DUE**

Assignments  FINAL PRESENTATION 12/05 by 11:59 p.m.

Below are some links to presentations by previous students on YouTube. These vary in length, nation, and quality (and final grade!) but watching you should give you a good idea of what to shoot for.

**YouTube:**  
- Uruguay: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dEuc46VK62A](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dEuc46VK62A)  
- Bolivia: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_9d6zU29Zgo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_9d6zU29Zgo)  
- Mexico: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rjmC1MPRUH4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rjmC1MPRUH4) (this one is a little intimidating)  
- Cuba: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3f5IbO31zsk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3f5IbO31zsk)  
- Ecuador: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XrlXXjk15wk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XrlXXjk15wk)  
- Puerto Rico: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GGvT3fR_nQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GGvT3fR_nQ)  
- Argentina: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=azfRmEMxLFQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=azfRmEMxLFQ)
Cuba:  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3lnFX8bMQLQ&feature=youtu.be
Colombia:  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ySn9SYm9x7c&feature=youtu.be
Peru:  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5CkxSejIneM&t

**Jing Screencast:**
Cuba:
Part 1:  https://www.screencast.com/t/MXSSy7SGdU8
Part 2:  https://www.screencast.com/t/AFWMUmlJjrr4
Part 3:  https://www.screencast.com/t/Y9NEx9uprGhE

Jamaica:
Part 1:  http://www.screencast.com/users/breyflynch/folders/Jing/media/59c3bef0-562b-42f3-9edf-e4adabe49f01
Part 2:  http://www.screencast.com/users/breyflynch/folders/Jing/media/97e50623-3652-4427-b961-5b98f966609f
Part 3:  http://www.screencast.com/users/breyflynch/folders/Jing/media/6b3cf71b-e78e-4ba1-a50b-b2c667e7276c

Chile:
Part 1:  http://screencast.com/t/shDNaP1n
Part 2:  http://screencast.com/t/yJkGPh8l7
Part 3:  http://screencast.com/t/RSEmbc7EHxHT

**PUERTO RICO:**
Part 1: http://screencast.com/t/E0t0h3MyqN (Links to an external site.)Links to an external site.
Part 2: http://screencast.com/t/VsRqBZCLVG (Links to an external site.)Links to an external site.
Part 3: http://screencast.com/t/VusGVsfiziZGM (Links to an external site.)Links to an external site.