LAS 6220 Issues and Perspectives in Latin American Studies
University of Florida Spring 2022
Meets Mondays, Periods (4:10 to 7:10 pm),
Grinter 376
Professor Carlos de la Torre
Director, Center for Latin American Studies
Office Location: Grinter 319
Office Hours: by appt.
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Course Description

This course introduces graduate students to political and social theory produced by Latin American scholars. We will read the work of some classic and contemporary social and political theorists, philosophers, and social scientist focusing on three broad debates: 1) dependency, development, and natural resource extraction; 2) populism and fascism; and 3) race, ethnicity, coloniality. We will reconstruct the dialogues of Latin American scholars with Western currents of social and political thought to ask ourselves, what it means to do theory from Latin America? The course privileges class discussion and its success will depend on the informed contributions of the participants.

Course Requirements and Grading Components

Participation and presentations 20%
First paper 40%
Final Paper 40%

Participation
Students are expected to attend class, complete the weekly reading assignments prior to each meeting, and to participate actively in class discussions and exercises.

Final Paper
We will have two papers based on the readings.

Students are encouraged to attend the three major international conferences that the Center would host in Spring 2022

Amazon February 22-24
Ethnography March 30 April 2
Populism April 29-30
Grading Scale
A 94-100
A- 90-93
B+ 87-89
B 84-86
B- 80-83
C+ 77-79
C 74-76
C- 70-73
D+ 67-69
D 64-66
D- 60-63
E- E below 60

Class Policies Attendance
This is a graduate seminar that meets once a week; students are expected to attend all class meetings and be prepared to discuss the assigned readings each week.

Disruptions
Class participants should make every effort to avoid behavior that may disrupt class proceedings, such as chronic tardiness or early departures, or the eruptions of mobile phones. The use of laptops or tablets in class for non-class-related purposes is frowned upon.

Late Assignments
Late assignments will be accepted pending a satisfactory explanation (documentation may be requested) but will incur the following penalties: ½ letter grade if submitted within 24 hours after the deadline; one letter grade if submitted within a week of the deadline; two letter grades if submitted more than one week after the deadline.

Emergencies
Students should inform the instructor of emergencies or events that may affect their participation in this class as soon as possible. The instructor will work with students to make up any missed assignments due to events or circumstances beyond their control. Appropriate documentation may be requested.

Students with Disabilities
Reasonable accommodations will be made for students with disabilities. Students with disabilities should register with the Disability Resource Center of the Dean of Students office, who will work with you and the instructor to make appropriate arrangements. Contact the Disability Resource Center at 352-392-8565, at accessuf@dso.ufl.edu or go by their office in 0020 Reid Hall.

Academic Honesty UF Students are expected to abide by the Student Conduct Code, which may be found at http://www.dso.ufl.edu/studentguide/studentconductcode.php Students should not receive unauthorized assistance in completing their assignments and should refrain from
plagiarism (intellectual theft that represents the work of others as one’s own). Students should not submit the same paper for more than one class. Violations will be handled accordingly.

**Schedule of Topics and Readings**

January 10, Introduction to the class

**Development, Dependency and Neo-Extractivism**

January 24 Fernando Henrique Cardoso and Enzo Faletto, *Dependency and Development in Latin America*, Berkeley University of California Press, pp. 1-149


**Populism and fascism**


February 14 Ernesto Laclau “Populism what’s in a name”; Paula Biglieri and Luciana Cadahia, Seven Essays on Populism, pp. 1-41


February 28 First essay due

March 7 no class

**Race, ethnicity, coloniality**


April 11, Sales Augusto dos Santos, The Metamorphosis of Black Movement Activists into Black Organic Intellectuals; Silvio Torres-Saillant “One and Divisible: Meditations on Global Blackness”, Mara Viveros, “Social mobility, whiteness and whitening in Colombia”

April 18, Open class

April 25 second paper due