

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
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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

January 31 Maristella Svampa, *Neo-Extractivism in Latin America*, Cambridge University Press, 2019

Populism and fascism

February 7 Gino Germani, "Mas society, social class and the emergence of fascism"; Carlos de la Torre "Latin America" in Cristóbal Rovira Kalwasser, Paul Taggart, Paulina Ochoa Espejo, and Pierre Ostiguy, eds., *The Oxford Handbook of Populism*, Oxford University Press, 2017. Online Publication Date: Nov 2017 DOI: 10.1093/oxfordhb/9780198803560.013.8

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

February 21 Guillermo O'Donnell, "Delegative Democracy"; Enrique Peruzzotti, "Conceptualizing Kichnerismo" *PARteicipazione e CONflitto* 10 (1) 2017, 47-64

February 28 First essay due

March 7 no class

Race, ethnicity, coloniality

March 14 Pablo González Casanova, "Internal Colonialism and National Development", Rodolfo Stavenhagen, "Classes, Colonialism and Acculturation"

March 21 Aníbal Quijano, "Coloniality and modernity rationality" *Cultural Studies* Vol. 21, Nos. 2-3 March/May 2007, pp. 168 -178; Álvaro García Linera, *Indianism and Marxism: The Disparity between Two Revolutionary Rationales in Álvaro García Linera Plebeian Power*

March 28 Bolívar Echeverría, "Images of Whiteness", and "meditations on the Baroque" in Bolívar Echeverría *Modernity and Whiteness*, Cambridge: Polity Press, 2019.

April 4 Silvia Rivera Cusicanqui "Liberal democracy and *ayllu* democracy in Bolivia: The case of Northern Potosí" *The Journal of development Studies* 26 (4), 97-121; "Ch'ixinakax utxiwa: A Reflection on the Practices and Discourses of Decolonization"

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