**Populisms**
Monday 4.05-7.05 pm  
Grinter Hall 376  
Carlos de la Torre  
delatorre.carlos@latam.ufl.edu  
Office hours by appointment

**Course description**
This seminar explores the genealogy of the concept of populism and the theoretical debates on what it is and how to study it. We will compare historical and current experiences in Latin America, the U.S., and Europe focusing on the relationships between populism, democratization, and authoritarianism.

**Course Requirements and Grading Components**

- Participation 20%
- First exam on class readings 30%
- Final paper 50%

For the final paper you must talk to me to select a case study. You will use the theories and concepts that we learned in class and compare your case with experiences that we discussed in the course. Graduate students are expected to write a 15 pages paper, and undergraduates about 10.

**Participation**
Students are expected to attend class, complete the weekly reading assignments prior to each meeting, to participate actively in class discussions and exercises, and to attend the 72 annual conference Feb 29-March 1 2024.

**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
- F-
**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.

**Recommended short introductions**


Schedule of Topics and readings
All the readings are in Canvas

January 8
Introduction to the class

January 22
1) Waves


2) Concepts and theories
January 29
Political-strategic concepts

February 5
The Ideational perspective

Kirk Hawkins and Cristóbal Rovira, “The ideational approach to populism”
https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/latin-american-research-review/article/ideational-approach-to-populism/C57445C5C3F96F596C36D0565806E3CA

February 12
Performative approach

February 19
Laclau’s theory
Ernesto Laclau Populism what’s in a name

February 26

Fascism and populism


Federico Finchelstein. 2024. The Wannabe Fascists, University of California Press

Carlos de la Torre. 2022. “Fascism and Populism” in M Oswald ed., The Palgrave Handbook of Populism

March 4

Populism: gender, class, and leadership


Carlos de la Torre “Populist leadership” in Carlos de la Torre and Oscar Mazzoleni eds., Populism and Key Concepts in Social and Political Theory, Brill

March 18

First paper due

3) Cases and comparisons

March 25

Peronism

Maryssa Navarro, “The case of Eva Perón” Signs 3 (1) 1977, 229-240

Natalia Milanesio, 2014. “A man like you: Juan Domingo Perón and the Politics of Attraction in Mid-Twentieth-Century Argentina, Gender and History 26 (1)

April 1

Chavism

Margarita López Maya, “Leftwing populism in power. The Venezuelan Experience in Michael Bernhard, Carlos de la Torre and Amie Krepel, ed., Still the Age of Populism? 

April 8
Bolsonarismo


April 15
Trumpism


Joseph Lowndes, “Populism and race in the United States”, in Carlos de la Torre ed., The Routledge Handbook of Populism, chapter 12,