

Room: 006 Gambrell Hall
Dates: 01/15/19 - 04/25/19
Time: T & Th 11:40 PM-12:55 PM

Professor: Matthew Wilson
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Office: 337 Gambrell Hall
Office Hours: Th 1:00 PM-2:30 PM
& by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course provides a broad coverage of the political landscape of countries in Latin America. It involves comparing and contrasting institutions and aspects of government performance in different countries, and analyzing their differences against the backdrop of social and demographic attributes. The first part of the course introduces students to the dominant actors in Latin American politics and situates them within a general history of development in the region; the second part examines specific countries in greater detail and provides students with the contextual information to understand the governments and politics of Latin America. The goal of the course is to characterize the politics of the region as a whole, and at the same time to elucidate the unique paths of political development that each country has taken.

EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES:

As a result of the class, students will be able to:

- Identify dominant actors and issues in Latin American politics
- Demonstrate a working knowledge of history and context in Latin America
- Discuss research on a topic related to governments and politics in Latin America

REQUIRED READING MATERIALS:†

- Kline, Harvey F., Christine J. Wade, and Howard J. Wiarda. 2018. *Latin American Politics and Development*. New York: Routledge. Ninth edition.
- Reid, Michael. 2017. *Forgotten Continent: A History of the New Latin America*. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press.

†Additional required readings may be made available online or through the library.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS: Students are expected to

- (1) read assigned materials before the start of each class;
- (2) attend all lectures and participate in in-class exercises;
- (3) complete two in-class exams (mid-term and final);
- (4) participate in a group presentation (*More information will be provided separately.*)
- (5) submit a research paper (*More information will be provided separately.*)

GRADES:

Two exams @ 20% (40%); Presentation (20%); Research paper (30%); Participation (10%)
(*Student's participation grade is determined by pop-quizzes and in-class responses*)
A: 90-100; B+: 87-89; B: 80-86; C+: 77-79; C: 70-76; D+: 67-69; D: 60-66; F: 0-59

CLASS RULES:

1. The use of cell phones is not permitted.
2. Computers are allowed to take notes only.
3. Please do not read outside materials.
4. Sleeping in class is not allowed.
5. Grades will not be changed if an issue is reported after two weeks have passed.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Students are responsible for knowing both university and course schedules.

The academic calendar is available at: https://www.sc.edu/about/offices_and_divisions/registrar/academic_calendars/2018-19_calendar.php.

Information on undergraduate academic regulations is available at:

<http://bulletin.sc.edu/content.php?catoid=78&navoid=2264>.

FINE PRINT:

Academic Integrity. I will enforce rigorous standards of academic integrity in all aspects of this course. For the detailed policy of the University of South Carolina regarding the definitions of acts considered to fall under academic dishonesty and possible ensuing sanctions, see the University Honor Code: https://www.sc.edu/about/offices_and_divisions/student_conduct_and_academic_integrity/documents/honor_code.pdf. Should you have any questions about possibly improper research citations or references, or any activity that may be interpreted as academic dishonesty, please see me before the assignment is due to discuss the matter.

Personal Integrity. I am committed to creating and fostering a positive learning and working environment based on open communication, mutual respect, and inclusion. I will not tolerate discrimination and harassment on the basis of identity or status, including race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender, age, disability, sexual orientation, genetics, or veteran status. For more information on the University Student Non-Discrimination and Non-Harassment Policy, see https://www.sc.edu/about/offices_and_divisions/equal_opportunities_programs/documents/student_non-discrimination_and_non-harassment_policy.pdf. If you want to speak to someone about an incident involving harrasment, sexual assault, or interpersonal violence, you can call 803-777-8248 to talk to a trained interpersonal violence advocate.

Accommodation. If you are a person with a disability and anticipate needing any type of accommodation in order to participate in this class, please advise me and make appropriate arrangements with the Student Disability Resource Center (telephone: 803-777-6142, email: sasds@mailbox.sc.edu, or stop by LeConte College Room 112A). All accommodations must be approved through the Office of Student Disability Services. For more information, see https://sc.edu/about/offices_and_divisions/student_disability_resource_center/.

Adverse Weather Commitment. In the event of inclement or threatening weather, everyone should use their best judgment regarding travel to and from campus; safety should be the main concern. If you cannot get to class because of adverse weather conditions, you should contact me as soon as possible. Similarly, if I am unable to reach our class location, I will notify you of any cancellation or change as soon as possible to prevent you from embarking on any unnecessary travel. If you cannot get to class because of weather conditions, I will make allowances relative to required attendance policies, as well as class activities. For weather-related news and announcements, see <https://sc.edu/uofsc/weather/>.

CLASS SCHEDULE:

<i>Date</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Assigned reading</i>
I. Overview		
15 January	Introduction	Kline et al., chapter 1
17 January	History	Kline et al., chapter 2
22 January	Interest groups and parties	Kline et al., chapter 3
24 January	Institutions and government	Kline et al., chapter 4
29 January	Economy	Kline et al., chapter 5
II. Country histories		
31 January	Mexico	Kline et al., chapter 18
05 February	Central America, I	Kline et al., chapters 22-24
07 February	Central America, II	Kline et al., chapters 20-21, 25
12 February	Islands	Kline et al., chapter 19, 26-27
14 February	Northern South America	Kline et al., chapters 11,13
19 February	the Andes	Kline et al., chapters 12, 16-17
21 February	Southern Cone, I	Kline et al., chapters 8, 10
26 February	Southern Cone, II	Kline et al., chapters 14-15
28 February	Brazil	Kline et al., chapter 9
05 March	[<i>Midterm exam</i>]	
III. Current events		
07 March	"The Forgotten Continent"	Reid, chapter 1
12 March	<i>Spring break (no classes)</i>	
14 March	<i>Spring break (no classes)</i>	
19 March	"The Latin American Conundrum"	Reid, chapter 2 ‡
21 March	"The Seed of Democracy"	Reid, chapter 3 ‡
26 March	"Cold War and Revolution"	Reid, chapter 4 ‡
28 March	"Failed Reformers"	Reid, chapter 5 ‡
02 April	"From the Washington Consensus"	Reid, chapter 6 ‡
04 April	"The Venezuelan Disaster"	Reid, chapter 7 ‡
09 April	"The Stumbles of Reformers"	Reid, chapter 8 ‡
11 April	"Changing Societies"	Reid, chapter 9 ‡
16 April	"The Defective State"	Reid, chapter 10 ‡
18 April	"The Stubborn Resilience"	Reid, chapter 11 ‡
23 April	"The Loneliness of Latin America"	Reid, chapter 12 ‡
25 April	Course conclusion and exam prep	
May 7, 12:30 p.m.	[<i>Final exam</i>]	

‡ *presentation days*