

International Relations Program Winter 18

Course title:	International Politics of Latin America
Language of instruction:	English
Professor:	Andrea C. Bianculli
Professor's contact and office hours:	abianculli@ibei.org; office hours by appointment
Course contact hours:	45
Recommended credit:	3 US credits-6 ECTS credits
Course prerequisites:	None
Language requirements:	None

Course focus and approach

How do countries in Latin America relate with each other and with the rest of world? What institutional structures are used to promote regional cooperation and to participate in an increasingly interconnected world? This course engages students with the debates concerning the main dynamics of the Latin American international relations, with a focus on the last three decades but with attention to the legacies of earlier political, economic and social developments affecting the region. The course is structured around interactive lectures, student presentations, and class and group discussions.

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Course description

After a general introduction on the development of international relations in Latin America, both from a theoretical and empirical standpoint, attention will be given to the institutional design of regional forms of cooperation, and how these have broadened from the more traditional economic and political arenas to social issues, as in the case of the OAS, MERCOSUR, UNASUR, and ALBA. The course will also critically examine the relations of Latin America with third partners, including the United States, the European Union, and China, together with the recent turn towards South-South cooperation. Along the course, theoretical debates will be documented with a number of empirical case studies, while also examining the challenges and opportunities that Latin America faces in a world dominated by shifting political and economic balances and changing interaction patterns between countries and regions.

Learning objectives

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Explain and analyze the historical trajectory of Latin American international strategies
- Explain and appraise the origins, development and current challenges of regional cooperation in contemporary Latin America

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- Identify and assess the different approaches and strategies that countries in the region are displaying to address regional and global transformations
- Undertake a research project on an issue related to the core course material

Course workload

The course comprises weekly lectures, student presentations, and class and group discussions. Students are expected to read the assigned readings in advance and be ready to intervene in class and group discussions. They will also be required to make at least one group presentation, and present a two-step research paper.

Teaching methodology

The course comprises weekly sessions. The first hour of each session will involve a lecture to situate the week's themes and issues within the broader context of the course and clarify concepts and arguments. The second part of the session will take the form of seminar-style group discussions, debates, and presentations on the topic. Students should read and think about the required readings prior to each class and are expected to actively participate in class discussions.

Assessment criteria

The final grade will be a weighted average of five different elements:

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|-----------------------------------|-----|
| • Active participation in class | 15% |
| • In-class presentation | 25% |
| • First research paper (proposal) | 25% |
| • Final research paper | 35% |

Absence policy

After the add/drop, all registrations are considered final and **EAP Absence Policy** begins to apply. For the academic year 2011-2012, such policy is as follows:

Attending class is mandatory and will be monitored daily by professors. Missing classes will impact on the student's final grade as follows:

<i>Absences</i>	<i>Penalization</i>
<i>Up to two (2) absences</i>	<i>No penalization</i>
<i>Three (3) absences</i>	<i>1 point subtracted from final grade (on a 10 point scale)</i>
<i>Four (4) absences</i>	<i>2 points subtracted from final grade (on a 10 point scale)</i>
<i>Five (5) absences or more</i>	<i>The student receives an INCOMPLETE ("NO PRESENTAT") for the course</i>

The PEHE/HESP attendance policy does not distinguish between justified or unjustified absences. The student is deemed responsible to manage his/her absences.

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Emergency situations (hospitalization, family emergency...) will be analyzed on a case by case basis by the Academic Director of the program.

Classroom norms

- No food or drink is permitted in class
- Students will have a ten-minute break after one-hour session
- ‘Digital-etiquette’ reminders:
 - All cellular phones and other devices must be switched off or put on silent before class begins
 - The use of devices for non-course related activities (texting, emailing, using social-networking applications and sites, and playing games) is not allowed
 - Laptops and notebooks are welcome since they may be required to carry out activities in class
- Students must be punctual and come to class fully prepared

Weekly schedule

The weekly schedule provided below also includes the required readings for each session.

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Week 1. Latin America in the world

- Presentation of the course: syllabus, teaching methodology, readings, course requirements and assessment criteria.
- Defining Latin America, and its place and role in the international system.
- No required readings.

Week 2. Latin America and the study of international politics: Theory and practice

- How is the world understood and analyzed in Latin America?
- Latin American contributions to international relations theory.
- Russell, Roberto and Juan Gabriel Tokatlian. 2015. Grand Strategy, in Jorge I. Domínguez and Ana Covarrubias (Ed.) Routledge Handbook of Latin America in the World. New York and London: Routledge, pp. 58-73.
- Tickner, Arlene B. 2003. Hearing Latin American Voices in International Relations Studies, *International Studies Perspectives* 4(4): 325-350.

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Week 3. The international political economy of Latin America

- Thinking ‘development’ in Latin America.
- From import substitution industrialization to the debt crisis and the Washington Consensus.
- Latin America after the turn of the century: Is the region promoting a new developmentalism?
- Hirschman, Alexander O. 1968. The Political Economy of Import-Substituting Industrialization in Latin America. *The Quarterly Journal of Economics* 82(1): 1-32.
- Menaldo, Victor. 2015. The New Political Economy of Natural Resources in Latin America, *Latin American Politics and Society* 57(1): 163-173.

Week 4. Regional cooperation in Latin America

- Brief historical overview of regional cooperation in Latin America.
- From old to new regionalism: What is ‘new’ in the New Regionalism in Latin America?
- Gómez-Mera, Laura. 2008. How ‘New’ Is the ‘New Regionalism’ in the Americas? The Case of Mercosur, *Journal of International Relations and Development* 11(1): 279-308.
- Malamud, Andrés. 2010. Latin American Regionalism and EU Studies, *Journal of European Integration* 32(6): 637-657.

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Week 5. Human rights and democracy under the Organization of American States (OAS)

- The Inter-American system in historical perspective.
- Democracy and human rights promotion under the OAS.
- What challenges does the OAS face today?
- Arceneaux, Craig and David Pion-Berlin. 2007. Issues, Threats, and Institutions: Explaining OAS Responses to Democratic Dilemmas in Latin America, *Latin American Politics and Society* 49(2): 1-31.
- Sikkink, Kathryn. 2014. Latin American Countries as Norm Protagonists of the Idea of International Human Rights, *Global Governance* 20(3): 389-404.

Week 6. A new multilateralism in Latin America?

- A new era of regional cooperation? Post-liberal, post-trade or post-hegemonic?
- Comparative analysis of new regional and multilateral initiatives: ALBA-TCP; UNASUR, CELAC and the Pacific Alliance.
- New regional organizations: Partners or rivals to the OAS?

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- Kennedy, Denis and Brian Beaton. 2016. Two Steps Forward? Assessing Latin American Regionalism through CELAC, *Latin American Policy* 7: 52–79.
- Tussie, Diana. 2014. Reshaping Regionalism and Regional Cooperation in South America, *Pensamiento Propio* 39: 109-136.

Week 7. Latin American relations with the United States and Europe

- The United States and Latin America during the Cold War: elements of continuity and change.
- The EU in Latin America: From its region-to-region approach to a new bilateral impetus.
- Recent changes and current challenges in US- and EU-Latin American relations.
- García, María. 2015. The European Union and Latin America: ‘Transformative power Europe’ versus the Realities of Economic Interests, *Cambridge Review of International Affairs* 28(4): 621-640.
- Williams, Mark E. 2015. The United States and Latin America, in Jorge I. Domínguez and Ana Covarrubias (Ed.) *Routledge Handbook of Latin America in the World*. New York and London: Routledge, pp. 199-210.

Week 8. Emerging powers and the search for South-South cooperation

- Emerging powers and their political and economic role in international politics and development.
- From BRICS to IBSA and the G20.
- South-South cooperation: its origins and dynamics.
- Gray, Kevin and Barry K. Gills. 2016. South-South Cooperation and the Rise of the Global South, *Third World Quarterly* 37(4): 557-574.
- Jenkins, Rhys. 2010. China’s Global Expansion and Latin America, *Journal of Latin American Studies* 42(4): 809-837.

Week 9. The dynamics of foreign policy of Latin American states

- Understanding foreign policy in Latin America: Concepts and definitions.
- The foreign policy process across countries.
- How much convergence and how much divergence does there seem to be on foreign policy? Case studies: Brazil and Venezuela.
- Burges, Sean. 2007. Building a Global Southern Coalition: The Competing Approaches of Brazil’s Lula and Venezuela’s Chávez, *Third World Quarterly* 28(7): 1343-1358.
- Gardini, Gian Luca and Peter Lambert. 2011. *Latin American Foreign Policies: Between Ideology and Pragmatism*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan; Chapter 1.

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Week 10. Conference-like presentations

Week 11. Conclusion and in-class review sessions

Required readings: As above.

Recommended bibliography:

The following books provide good account of recent and contemporary developments in Latin America:

- Domínguez, Jorge I. and Ana Covarrubias (Eds.). 2014. Routledge Handbook of Latin America in the World. New York and London: Routledge.
- Hellinger, Daniel C. 2015. Comparative Politics of Latin America: Democracy at last? New York and London: Routledge.
- Horwitz, Betty and Bruce M. Bagley. 2016. Latin America and the Caribbean in the Global Context: Why care about the Americas? London: Routledge.
- Kingstone, Peter and Deborah J. Yashar (Eds.) 2012. Routledge Handbook of Latin American Politics. New York and London: Routledge.
- Santiso, Javier and Jeff Dayton-Johnson (Eds.). 2012. The Oxford Handbook of Latin American Political Economy. Oxford: Oxford University Press.