

Spring 2017: U.S. Intervention in Latin America

(Chc-Lat 150 / Hist 166 / IS 177D / Pol Sci 142J)

Dr. Robert Duncan (rhduncan@uci.edu)

Office: SST 433 / MWF 12:00-12:30 & by appt.

TA: Jason Palmer (palmerjc@uci.edu)

Course Description:

This course explores the political, economic, social, and cultural ties that bind Latin America to the United States. It focuses on the varied forms of US intervention from the early 19th century to the present day and the Latin American response to such contact. The class covers the development of relations in the context of expansionism, imperialism, the Cold War, and post-Cold War periods.

Case studies include Mexico, Guatemala, Cuba, Chile, and Central America. Among the topics and themes are manifest destiny, trade, culture, race, drugs, immigration, and human rights. Students are expected to attend lectures, discussion sections, and read all assigned materials. Lectures are supplemented with videos.



Books:

Kyle Longley, [In the Eagle's Shadow: The United States and Latin America](#) (2nd ed., 2009)

Requirements:

Each class will be a combination of lecture, discussion, and videos. Grading is based on a midterm (May 5 / 25%), one 5-6 page paper based on the readings (May 26 / 25%), a final (June 14 / 35%), and attendance as well as participation in discussion sections (15%). Exams will combine short identifications and longer essays based on the assigned readings and material covered in lecture. Students, therefore, must attend lectures, finish all readings by the assigned date, and be prepared for discussion.

Course Schedule

Week 1:

April 3 Introduction: Themes in US - Latin American Relations

April 5 New Republics, Expanding Horizons

April 7 The Expansionist Impulse

Readings:

- *Zea, Irene, "U.S. Hegemony on the American Continent" (1975) in John Hassett, ed., Looking North: Writings from Spanish America on the US (University of Arizona, 2012), pp. 90-108.*
 - *Malanson, Jeffrey J. "The Congressional Debate over U.S. Participation in the Congress of Panama, 1825–1826," Diplomatic History 30:5 (2006), pp. 813-838.*
 - *Rathbun, Lyon. "The Debate over Annexing Texas and the Emergence of Manifest Destiny," Rhetoric & Public Affairs 4:3 (2001), pp. 459-493.*
 - *Longley, pp. 1-40*
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Week 2:

April 10 Manifest Destiny and the War with Mexico

April 12 The Move towards Empire: Cuba and the United States

April 14 Establishing an Empire: the Spanish American War

Readings:

- *Zimmermann, Warren. "Jingoes, goo-goos, and the rise of America's empire," The Wilson Quarterly, 22:2 (Spring 1998), pp. 42-65.*
 - *Pérez, Louis A. "Incurring a Debt of Gratitude: 1898 and the Moral Sources of United States Hegemony in Cuba," The American Historical Review 104:2 (1999), pp. 356-398.*
 - *Longley, pp. 42-114*
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Week 3:

April 17 Building a Canal

April 19 Business Expansionism

April 21 Taking Sides: US Intervention in Mexico

Readings:

- Ricard, Serge. "The Roosevelt Corollary," *Presidential Studies Quarterly*, 36:1 (2006), pp. 17-26.
 - O'Brien, Thomas F. *The Century of U.S. Capitalism in Latin America* (University of New Mexico Press, 1999), pp. 36-56.
 - Roosevelt, Theodore. *An Autobiography* (Charles Scribner's Sons, 1920), chapter 14.
 - Sandos, James A. "Pancho Villa and American Security: Woodrow Wilson's Mexican Diplomacy Reconsidered," *Journal of Latin American Studies* 13:2 (1981), pp. 293-311.
 - Longley, pp. 114-159
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Week 4:

- April 24 1910s - 1920s: Interventions and Occupations
- April 26 Good Neighbors, FDR, and WWII
- April 28 Changing Priorities: the Cold War in Latin America

Readings:

- McPherson, Alan. "Personal Occupations: Women's Responses to U.S. Military Occupations in Latin America," *The Historian*, 72:3 (2010), pp. 568-598.
 - Ugarte, Manuel, "An Open Letter to the President of the United States" (1913) in John Hassett, ed., *Looking North: Writings from Spanish America on the US* (University of Arizona, 2012), pp. 45-51.
 - Burton, Julianne. "Don (Juanito) Duck and the Imperial-Patriarchal Unconscious: Disney Studios, the Good Neighbor Policy, and the Packaging of Latin America," in Andrew Parker, ed., *Nationalisms & Sexualities* (Routledge, 1992), pp. 21-41.
 - Roorda, Eric Paul. "Genocide Next Door: The Good Neighbor Policy, the Trujillo Regime, & the Haitian Massacre of 1937," *Diplomatic History* 20:3 (Summer 1996), pp. 301-319.
 - Longley, pp. 159-217
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Week 5:

- May 1 The Bolivian Revolution
- May 3 Confronting Communism in Guatemala

May 5 Midterm Exam

Readings:

- o Brockett, Charles D. "An Illusion of Omnipotence: U.S. Policy Toward Guatemala, 1954-1960," Latin American Politics and Society 44:1 (Spring 2002), pp. 91-119.
 - o Streeter, Stephen M. "Interpreting the 1954 U.S. Intervention in Guatemala: Realist, Revisionist, and Postrevisionist," The History Teacher, 34:1 (2000), pp. 61-74.
 - o Lehman, Kenneth. "Revolutions and Attributions: Making Sense of Eisenhower Administration Policies in Bolivia and Guatemala," Diplomatic History 21:2 (Spring 1997), pp. 185-213.
 - o Longley, pp. 217-227
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Week 6:

May 8 Cuba I: Making a Revolution

May 10 Cuba II: Playa Girón

May 12 Cuba III: The Missile Crisis

Readings:

- o Gleijeses, Piero. "Ships in the Night," Journal of Latin American Studies 27 (Feb. 1995), pp. 1-42.
 - o McKeown, Timothy J. "The Cuban Missile Crisis and Politics as Usual," The Journal of Politics, 62:1 (2000), pp. 70-87.
 - o Sherwin, Martin J. "One Step from Nuclear War: The Cuban Missile Crisis at 50," Prologue Magazine, 44:2 (Fall 2012).
 - o Zelikow, Philip. "American Policy and Cuba, 1961-1963," Diplomatic History, 24:2 (2000), pp. 317-334.
 - o Longley, pp. 235-248
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Week 7:

May 15 Containment and Economic Development

May 17 Containment and Authoritarian Regimes

May 19 Chile: Popular Unity, Allende, and Pinochet

Readings:

- Latham, Michael. "Ideology, Social Science, and Destiny: Modernization and the Kennedy-Era Alliance for Progress," *Diplomatic History* 22:2 (Spring 1998), pp. 199-229.
 - Rabe, Stephen G. "The Johnson Doctrine," *Presidential Studies Quarterly*, 36:1 (2006): 48-58.
 - Wright, Thomas. *Latin America in the Era of the Cuban Revolution* (Praeger, 2001), pp. 57-72.
 - Falcoff, Mark. "Kissinger & Chile: the myth that will not die," *Commentary*, 116:4 (2003), pp. 41-49.
 - Kim, Jaechun. "Democratic Peace and Covert War: A Case Study of the U.S. Covert War in Chile," *Journal of International and Area Studies*, 12: 1 (June 2005), pp. 25-47.
 - Longley, pp. 227-235, 249-277
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Week 8:

May 22 The Carter Interlude

May 24 Nicaragua: the Sandinista National Liberation Front

May 26 From Grenada to El Salvador

Readings:

- Colby, Jason M. "A Chasm of Values and Outlook: The Carter Administration's Human Rights Policy in Guatemala" *Peace and Change*, 35: 4 (2010), pp. 561-593.
- Kirkpatrick, Jeane. "Dictatorships and Double Standards," *Commentary* 68 (1979), pp. 34-45.
- Peace, Roger. "Winning Hearts and Minds: The Debate Over U.S. Intervention in Nicaragua in the 1980s," *Peace and Change*, 35: 1 (2010), pp. 1-38.
- Reagan, Ronald. "Remarks on Central America and El Salvador," *Speech*, March 10, 1983.
- Longley, pp. 277-324

Week 9:

- May 29 Memorial Day
- May 31 End of the Cold War
- June 2 The Drug War

Readings:

- *Livingstone, Grace. "America's Backyard," (Zed Books, 2009), chapter 7, pp. 101-119.*
 - *Gilboa, Eytan. "The Panama Invasion Revisted," Political Science Quarterly 110:4 (1995), pp. 539-562.*
 - *Rouse, Stella M. "The Drug-Laden Balloon: U.S. Military Assistance and Coca Production in the Central Andes," Social Science Quarterly, 87:3 (2006), pp. 540-557.*
 - *Longley, pp. 324-345.*
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Week 10:

- June 5 Trade, NAFTA, and Neo-Liberalism
- June 7 Immigration and Politics
- June 9 Conclusions

Readings:

- *Wise, Timothy A. "The Cost to Mexico of U.S. Corn Ethanol Expansion," Global Development and Environment Institute, Tufts University Working Paper No. 12-01 (May 2012).*
- *Henderson, Timothy J. "Mexican Immigration to the United States," in William H. Beezley, ed., A Companion to Mexican History and Culture, (Blackwell Publishing, 2011), pp. 604-15.*
- *Dosal, Paul J. "The Latinamericanization of American Foreign Policy," Journal of Developing Societies 21 (2005), pp. 253-269.*
- *Sabatini, Christopher. "Will Latin America Miss U.S. Hegemony?" Journal of International Affairs 66:2 (Spring/Summer 2013), pp. 1-14.*
- *Reid, Michael. "Obama and Latin America: A Promising Day in the Neighborhood," Foreign Affairs 94:5 (2015), pp. 45-53.*
- *Longley, pp. 345-369*