

# Spring 2019: U.S. Intervention in Latin America

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

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TA:

## 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 19<sup>th</sup> 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.



## Requirements:

Each class will be a combination of lecture, discussion, and videos. Grading is based on a midterm (May 3 / 25%), one 5-6 page paper based on the readings (May 24 / 25%), a final (June 12 / 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

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### Week 1:

- April 1 Introduction: Themes in US - Latin American Relations
- April 3 New Republics, Expanding Horizons
- April 5 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.
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## Week 2:

- April 8      Manifest Destiny and the War with Mexico
- April 10     The Move towards Empire: Cuba and the United States
- April 12     Establishing an Empire: the Spanish American War

## Readings:

- Guardino, Peter. "In the Name of Civilization and with a Bible in Their Hands: Religion and the 1846–48 Mexican-American War," Mexican Studies/Estudios Mexicanos 30:2 (Summer 2014), pp. 342-365.
  - Britton, John A. "The Confusion Provoked by Instantaneous Discussion: The New International Communications Network and the Chilean Crisis of 1891-1892 in the United States," Technology and Culture 48:4 (Oct. 2007), pp. 729-757.
  - 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.
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## Week 3:

- April 15     Building a Canal
- April 17     Business Expansionism
- April 19     Taking Sides: US Intervention in Mexico

## Readings:

- Ricard, Serge. "The Roosevelt Corollary," Presidential Studies Quarterly 36:1 (2006), pp. 17-26.

- Maurer, Noel and Yu, Carlos. "What T. R. Took: The Economic Impact of the Panama Canal, 1903-1937," The Journal of Economic History 68:3 (Sep., 2008), pp. 686-721.
  - 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.
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#### **Week 4:**

- April 22      1910s - 1920s: Interventions and Occupations
- April 24      Good Neighbors, FDR, and WWII
- April 26      Changing Priorities: the Cold War in Latin America

#### **Readings:**

- Suggs, Henry Lewis. "The Response of the African American Press to the United States Occupation of Haiti, 1915-1934," The Journal of African American History 87 (Winter 2002), pp. 70-82.
  - 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, Kyle. In the Eagle's Shadow (Harlan Davidson, 2009), pp. 166-195.
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#### **Week 5:**

- April 29      The Bolivian Revolution
- May 1        Confronting Communism in Guatemala
- May 3        Midterm Exam

## Readings:

- Fraser, Andrew. "Architecture of a broken dream: The CIA and Guatemala, 1952–54," Intelligence and National Security, 20:3 (Sept. 2005), pp.486-508.
  - Streeter, Stephen M. "Interpreting the 1954 U.S. Intervention in Guatemala: Realist, Revisionist, and Postrevisionist," The History Teacher, 34:1 (2000), pp. 61-74.
  - Lehman, Kenneth. "Revolutions and Attributions: Making Sense of Eisenhower Administration Policies in Bolivia and Guatemala," Diplomatic History 21:2 (Spring 1997), pp. 185-213.
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## Week 6:

- May 6 Cuba I: Making a Revolution
- May 8 Cuba II: Playa Girón
- May 10 Cuba III: The Missile Crisis

## Readings:

- Merrill, Dennis. Negotiating Paradise: U.S. Tourism and Empire in Twentieth-Century Latin America (University of North Carolina Press, 2009), chapter 3, pp. 103-140.
  - Gleijeses, Piero. "Ships in the Night," Journal of Latin American Studies 27 (Feb. 1995), pp. 1-42.
  - McKeown, Timothy J. "The Cuban Missile Crisis and Politics as Usual," The Journal of Politics, 62:1 (2000), pp. 70-87.
  - Sherwin, Martin J. "One Step from Nuclear War: The Cuban Missile Crisis at 50," Prologue Magazine, 44:2 (Fall 2012).
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## Week 7:

- May 13 Containment and Economic Development
- May 15 Containment and Authoritarian Regimes
- May 17 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), pp. 48-58.
  - Wright, Thomas. Latin America in the Era of the Cuban Revolution (Praeger, 2001), pp. 57-72.
  - 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.
  - Devine, Jack. "What Really Happened in Chile: The CIA, the Coup Against Allende, and the Rise of Pinochet," Foreign Affairs 93:4 (July/August 2014), pp. 26-30, 31-35.
  - Kornbluh, Peter. "Showdown in Santiago: What Really Happened in Chile?" Foreign Affairs 93:5 (September/October 2014), pp. 168-174.
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### **Week 8:**

- May 20      The Carter Interlude
- May 22      Nicaragua: the Sandinista National Liberation Front
- May 24      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.
  - Longley, Kyle. "An Obsession: The Central American Policy of the Reagan Administration," in Coleman, Bradley and Longley, Kyle, eds. Reagan and the World, Leadership and National Security, 1981-1989 (University Press of Kentucky, 2017), pp. 211-237.
  - 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.
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### **Week 9:**

- May 27      Memorial Day
- May 29      End of the Cold War
- May 31      The Drug War

## Readings:

- Livingstone, Grace. "America's Backyard," (Zed Books, 2009), chapter 7, pp. 101-119.
  - Gilboa, Eytan. "The Panama Invasion Revisited," Political Science Quarterly 110:4 (1995), pp. 539-562.
  - Soderlund, Walter C. "U.S. Network Television News Framing of the February 2004 Overthrow of Haitian President Jean-Bertrand Aristide," Journal of Haitian Studies 12:2 (Fall 2006), pp. 78-111.
  - 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.
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## Week 10:

- June 3 Trade, NAFTA, and Neo-Liberalism
- June 5 Immigration and Politics
- June 7 Conclusions

## Readings:

- Castañeda, Jorge G. "NAFTA's Mixed Record: The View From Mexico," Foreign Affairs 93:1 (January/February 2014), pp. 134-141.
- 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. 604-615.
- 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.
- Dominguez, Francisco. "Trump and Latin America: continuity and change," Soundings: A journal of politics and culture 66 (Summer 2017), pp. 90-101.
- Main, Alexander. "Is Latin America Still the United States' 'Backyard'?", Revue internationale et stratégique 111 (March 2018), pp. 115 – 124.