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.  
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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:


- Longley, pp. 1-40

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:


- Longley, pp. 42-114

Week 3:

April 17   Building a Canal
April 19   Business Expansionism
April 21   Taking Sides: US Intervention in Mexico
**Readings:**

- **Longley, pp. 114-159**

**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:**

- **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.
- **Longley, pp. 159-217**

**Week 5:**

May 1 The Bolivian Revolution

May 3 Confronting Communism in Guatemala
May 5 Midterm Exam

Readings:

- Longley, pp. 217-227

Week 6:

May 8 Cuba I: Making a Revolution
May 10 Cuba II: Playa Girón
May 12 Cuba III: The Missile Crisis

Readings:

- Sherwin, Martin J. "One Step from Nuclear War: The Cuban Missile Crisis at 50," *Prologue Magazine*, 44:2 (Fall 2012).
- Longley, pp. 235-248

Week 7:

May 15 Containment and Economic Development
May 17 Containment and Authoritarian Regimes
May 19  Chile: Popular Unity, Allende, and Pinochet

Readings:


- Longley, pp. 227-235, 249-277

Week 8:

May 22  The Carter Interlude

May 24  Nicaragua: the Sandinista National Liberation Front

May 26  From Grenada to El Salvador

Readings:


- Longley, pp. 277-324
Week 9:

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

Readings:

- Longley, pp. 324-345.

Week 10:

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

Readings:

- Longley, pp. 345-369