

**POLITICAL SCIENCE 323:
POLITICAL SYSTEMS OF LATIN AMERICA**
Fall Semester 2011

Course Information	Instructor Information
<p><i>Course Number</i> POLS 323-900</p> <p><i>Meeting Times</i> MWF 12:40 - 13:30</p> <p><i>Location</i> MILS 214</p> <p><i>Course Web site:</i> http://elzocalo4all.wordpress.com/</p>	<p>Rhonda Struminger, Ed.M.</p> <p><i>Office Hours</i> Mondays 10:30 – 12:00 Wednesdays 14:00 – 15:30 Or by appointment</p> <p><i>Office Hours Location:</i> 204A Butler Hall</p> <p><i>Office:</i> Allen 2112 (Second Floor) <i>Phone:</i> 979-450-8484 <i>E-mail:</i> rstruminger@politics.tamu.edu</p> <p><i>Webpage:</i> http://www-polisci.tamu.edu/faculty/struminger/</p>

Course Description

This course provides an introduction to the political systems of the 20 countries commonly referred to as Latin America.¹ We will learn about the historical and political foundations of “Latin America” – exploring the characteristics that make this region Latin American. We will also discuss the wide diversity of the countries in the region and their different approaches to social, economic, and political change. Questions related to who governs, how individuals and groups (e.g., military, women, indigenous, business) are represented in the political process, transitions to democracy, and democratic consolidation will be addressed. We will also study the effect of different kinds of political institutions on democratic governability and representation, and the critical issues and current challenges that affect the quality of democracy in Latin America today, especially recurrent economic crisis, corruption, populism, and popular protest.

This is a writing intensive or “W” course. It will therefore provide you with some writing instruction and exposure to the type of writing that is common in the political science discipline. 50% of your final grade will be based on various writing assignments, including an 8-10 page research paper on some aspect of the political systems in two or more countries of your choice. You will turn in a draft of your paper for ungraded feedback so that you have an opportunity to revise and improve your writing before submitting the final version for a grade. You will also submit two essays in the semester that summarize and respond to assigned readings. These essays provide opportunities for writing practice, and feedback, with the goal of improving your writing over the course of the semester. For more details about “W” courses, go to: <http://writingcenter.tamu.edu/>.

The University Writing Center (UWC), located in 214 Evans Library and 205 West Campus Library, offers one-on-one consultations to writers. UWC consultations are highly

¹ Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, The Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, and Venezuela

recommended but are not required. Help is available with brainstorming, researching, drafting, documenting, revising, and more; no concern is too large or too small. UWC consultants will also help you improve your proofreading and editing skills. If you visit the UWC, take a copy of your writing assignment, a hard copy of your draft or any notes you may have, as well as any material you need help with. To find out more about UWC services or to schedule an appointment, call 458-1455, visit the web page at writingcenter.tamu.edu, or stop by in person.

Learning Outcomes

Social and Behavior Sciences

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

- (1) Define, understand, and use concepts and terms relevant to the study of Latin American politics
- (2) Apply a body of factual knowledge to explain the role of government across Latin American societies
- (3) Apply a body of factual and theory-based knowledge to critique and analyze the effects of historical, political, economic, and global forces on the politics of Latin American countries
- (4) Recognize and formulate testable hypotheses relevant to the study of Latin American politics

International and Cultural Diversity

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

- (1) Apply a body of factual knowledge about the history, society, politics, and economics of Latin American countries to facilitate understanding of the diversity of human cultures
- (2) Analyze alternative explanations for differences among governmental institutions in the national political systems of Latin America
- (3) Apply alternative explanations for different types and levels of political participation (including, but not limited to, voting, taking part in demonstrations or rebellion) in different Latin American countries

Writing

Students can expect to improve proficiency in forms of writing commonly associated with and essential to political science.

Course Prerequisites

The only prerequisite for this course is POLS 206 or approval of the department head.

Required Books and Readings

- Close, David. 2009. *Latin American Politics: An Introduction*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press.
- Isbester, Katherine, ed. 2011. *The Paradox of Democracy in Latin America: Ten Country Studies of Division and Resilience*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press.
- Harvey, Michael. 2003. *The Nuts and Bolts of College Writing*. Indianapolis, IN: Hackett Publishing.
- Additional readings will be available via e-reserve at the library.

Course Policies

Attendance

See University rule #7 at <http://student-rules.tamu.edu/rule07> regarding attendance, approved absences, etc. Participation is a part of your final grade and requirements are discussed under “Grades” below. Roll will be taken at each class.

Show up on time. Don't leave early. We only have 50 minutes together each session so let's use all of it for learning. If your phone is heard by the class you are responsible for completing one of two options:

1. Before the end of the class period, you will sing a verse and chorus of any song of your choice. (If there are multiple individuals in violation, duets will be accepted.); or
2. You will lead the next class period through a 5-minute discussion on a topic to be determined by the end of the class.

Student Rules regarding Academics may be found at <http://student-rules.tamu.edu>

Academic Integrity

“An Aggie does not lie, cheat, or steal, or tolerate those who do.”

Plagiarism defeats the whole purpose of a "W" course. As commonly defined, plagiarism consists of passing off as one's own ideas, words, writings, etc., that belong to another. In accordance with the definition, you are committing plagiarism if you copy the work of another person and turn it in as your own, even if you should have the permission of the person. While plagiarism may indicate dishonesty, plagiarism may also reflect incomplete or poor knowledge of citation and documentation standards. Inexperienced writers may be unsure of the difference between direct quotes, paraphrases, and summaries. If you are not certain, take advantage of the Writing Center's resources.

You should also be aware that academic dishonesty involves acts other than plagiarism. If you have any questions regarding academic dishonesty, please consult the Aggie Honor System Office website at <http://aggiehonor.tamu.edu>.

Grades

NOTE: Late Work, without a University excuse, will be penalized 3 points for each calendar day it is not submitted. This applies to Reading Reviews, the Preliminary Research Report, as well as the final Research Paper; late blogs will receive zero credit.

Writing Assignments (50%)

- Reading Review #1 (1-2 pages) 10%
- Reading Review #2 (1-2 pages) 10%
- Preliminary Research Report (1 page) 5%
- Research Paper (8-10 pages) 25%

Exams (30%)

- Exam 1 15%
- Exam 2 15%

Participation (15%)

- Weekly blogs 10%
- In-class comments/attendance 5%

Class Presentation (5%)

Grades will be assigned based on final averages as follows: A = 89.5 – 100; B= 89.4 – 79.5; C = 79.4 – 69.5; D = 69.4- 59.5; F = below 59.4

Command of course material and conduct of research is the most important determinant of your grade on course assignments. However, this is a “W” course, intended to improve your ability to write papers that are appropriate to the discipline of political science. Therefore, regardless of how well a paper addresses the substantive material of the assignment, the paper will not earn a passing grade unless your writing in the paper is also graded to be at a passing level.

NOTE: Failure to earn a passing average grade on the writing requirements precludes the assignment of “W” credit, irrespective of the student’s making a passing grade for the entire course on a straight point calculation basis. In other words, a student cannot receive “W” credit for this course without earning a passing grade on the writing component.

Grade Disputes

I encourage students to review all assignments and exams once they are returned. Before disputing a grade, please wait 24 hours after receiving your feedback, but no more than 7 days from the date when the assignment is returned in class (whether or not the student is there to receive it, except in the case of a University-excused absence). Specific reasons why you think the grade is unfair should be articulated in a memo e-mailed to me *before* coming to office hours or scheduling an appointment. After discussion, if a student still feels that they have been graded unfairly, I will consider a request for a re-grade.

Assignments

Online Discussions

By 5 PM Sunday of each week, students will generate one post of no more than 100 words (~ three sentences) to the class blog, El Zócalo, in response to any of the following week’s readings.² Write what you find interesting, surprising, or strange, and why. The post should (1) spark debate about the reading (i.e., raise questions, express different points-of-view), (2) provide information relevant to the week’s topic (i.e., a recent article refuting a claim made in one of the readings, a current event that is relevant to the week’s topic, etc) or (3) respond to one of the questions Close poses at the end of each chapter. **By 5 PM Thursday** of each week, students must respond to another student’s post. Posts that are thoughtful and engaging will get two points.³ No post will earn the student a 0 and weak posts will get one point. There will be 10 weeks in which posts are required and graded so each week is worth

² Each student will need to be added to the private blog <http://elzocalo4all.wordpress.com>. Only class participants will have access.

³ Strong posts will show a mastery of the material and inspire class discussion. If you disagree with another student’s post, you will need to *persuasively* and *respectfully* explain your counter-position.

up to 4 points and 1% of your final grade. The remaining participation grade will be determined by your attendance and comments in class.

Reading Review Essays

You will write two short review essays (approximately 2 double-spaced pages each) that give an accurate summary of a reading, as well as your own reasoned response to the author's argument and evidence. You will choose the readings that you will review from the required and recommended assignments (*excluding chapters from the Close and Isbester books*), and you may submit your essay at any point prior to the due date. The review essays are designed to accomplish three goals. First, they will foster serious contemplation of the course materials. Second, they will encourage you to carefully examine how political scientists write. Finally, they provide writing practice and opportunities for early feedback so that you can improve your writing over the course of the semester.⁴ You should feel free to use online and in-class reading discussions as a starting point for these essays, *but you will need to expound upon (and cite)* any ideas generated from the posts or class discussion. Do not cite the abstract of the article in its entirety – you must use your own words to get credit for this assignment. See tips on writing reviews and critiques and on how to summarize from the University Writing Center.

The first reading essay is due anytime before **Friday, September 23**, and the second reading essay is due anytime before **Friday, October 28**.

Research Paper

Each student must write an original 8-10 page research paper on a topic of their own choosing that compares some aspect of the political systems in at least two Latin American countries. You will need to email me the topic and countries that you wish to examine in your paper by **Friday, September 16** for my approval. If I do not approve your initial topic and/or require modifications you need to submit a "revised" topic proposal within one week. **Failure to submit a proposal within these guidelines will result in a five-point deduction on your research paper grade.** You may not change paper topics/countries without my approval.

The paper should explain something. This explanation will consist of three parts: the introduction, which tells the reader what you are going to explain; the body, which should include a clear statement of your argument along with the evidence that supports your explanation; and the conclusion, which summarizes what you have written. In the introduction, you tell the reader what you plan to explain and how you plan to explain it. It is a good idea to rewrite the introduction after you have finished your first draft of the whole paper because you will understand what the paper is about better at that point than when you began to write.

The main part of the paper is the proof section. It consists of the presentation of facts or evidence and the reasoning from the facts or evidence to the outcome you want to explain. It is very important to explain the mechanisms that connect causes to effects, that is, to explain WHY the cause leads to the outcome. Unsupported opinions do not belong in academic papers.

⁴ A rubric will be provided so you will see the grading criteria.

When you make factual or causal assertions, you should cite the source from which you learned the fact or got the idea (if it did not originate in your own mind). It is plagiarism to use several consecutive words from a source without putting them into quotation marks or to use someone else's ideas without citing him or her. We will go over proper citation in class. You must cite any and all material that you use in your paper (including course readings) following the format used in the American Political Science Review.⁵ At the end of the paper, you should list in alphabetical order (by author's last name) the references you have cited in the text and only those references.

Do not conclude inconclusively. Restate your main points in the conclusion. If you wish to speculate about future events, the conclusion is the place to do it.

This is a research paper. That means that you are expected to have learned something about the subject you are writing about from sources other than lectures and texts assigned for this class (though you may also use lectures and assigned reading). Your paper must use at least five additional scholarly sources. This means academic books and articles. You may use the Internet for information, but it cannot be your only source of information. (Note that some academic sources can be accessed electronically through "fulltext" databases. Just because they are electronic doesn't make them non-academic. If you have questions, ask!) Encyclopedias and almanacs may be used for background information but they should not be the primary sources.⁶

Proofread your papers! A draft of the paper is due on **Monday, November 7**, and the final submission is due on **Friday, December 9**. I will provide written comments on the drafts, but I also encourage you to visit my office hours or schedule an appointment to discuss your research and writing in progress. Note that students are required to submit complete drafts of their research paper. They are expected to incorporate feedback on their writing style and essay structure into their final submissions. *Although I will not grade these drafts, a student will receive a zero on the final assignment if a draft that has my comments is not attached.*

Preliminary Research Report

You are required to submit a preliminary research report for your term paper, which must include a preliminary bibliography with ***at least*** 5 scholarly sources.

- Identify the topic that you will research and the countries you will study
- State your research question (i.e., what question will your paper answer?)
- What is your current best guess about the answer to your research question? (This is your hypothesis)
- What implications does your hypothesis have for democracy?
- List five specific scholarly sources that you have found and either read or plan to read in order to investigate your research **question.**
- **OPTIONAL:** List one source of relevant data (election results, economic data, demographic data, etc.) from the web or published reference material

⁵ The 2006 *APSA Style Manual for Political Science* can be downloaded from www.ipsonet.org/data/files/APSASStyleManual2006.pdf

⁶ The Economist Intelligence Unit <<http://www.eiu.com/public/>> may also be a good place to start when gathering basic facts about your countries.

The preliminary report is due on **Monday, October 3**. If you are required to revise and resubmit your report, the resubmission is due on **Monday, October 17**. *The graded preliminary report with my comments **must** be attached to the final paper.*

Writing Requirements

ALL essays and the research paper MUST be typed, double-spaced, 12-point Times Roman font with 1” margins. Your name, the course information, and the date should be in the header and page numbers should be in the footer. *Papers that do not conform to these requirements will be marked down half a letter grade.*

Other Course Requirements

Class Presentations

Each student will make a 10-minute presentation to the class on their research. This will be graded based on the coherence of your argument and the organization of your presentation. Presentations will occur after you have submitted your drafts, but prior to the final submission of your papers. You will sign up to present on one of the designated dates between November 11 and November 21. This means that you can and should incorporate the comments and suggestions that you receive from your classmates and me during your presentation into your final paper. On the day of your presentation, you must distribute a one-page outline highlighting the main points of your presentation to the entire class, and use Powerpoint to present your findings.

Exams

The exams will be cumulative and will include both short answer and essay format questions.

Course Topics, Calendar of Activities, Major Assignment Dates

NOTE 1: All Assignments are due at the BEGINNING of class unless otherwise indicated

NOTE 2: Reading assignments are subject to change with a week’s notice

Part I: Introduction and Legacies

Week 1: Introduction to Comparative Latin American Politics	
Monday, August 29	Syllabus Review/Introduction
Wednesday, August 31	Studying Latin American Politics in a Comparative Politics Course
Friday, September 2	Addressing Preconceptions of Latin America <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Durand, Jorge, and Douglas S. Massey. 2010. “New World Orders: Continuities and Changes in Latin American Migration.” <i>The ANNALS of the American Academy of Political and Social Science</i> 630 (1): 20-52.

Week 2: Why Study Latin America? Historical and Political Foundations of “Latin America” <i>First blog posts are due Sunday, September 4 at 5 PM and by Thursday at 5 PM</i>	
Monday, September 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Francois Xavier Guerra. 1994. “The Spanish American Tradition of Representation and Its European Roots.” <i>Journal of Latin American Studies</i> 26(Part 1), pp.1-35.

Wednesday, September 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close, Ch 1 “Studying Latin American Politics” (pp 1-22) • Close, Ch 2 “Why History Matters” (pp 23-47)
Friday, September 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Isbester, Ch 2 “Democracy in Latin America: A Political History” (pp 35-76)

Part II. Transitions: Authoritarian Regimes, Democratization and Economic Reform

Week 3: Authoritarianism and Political Instability	
<i>Second blog posts due Sunday, September 11 by 5 PM and by Thursday at 5 PM</i>	
Monday, September 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collier, David. 1979. “Overview of the Bureaucratic-Authoritarian Model.” (Chapter 1) In David Collier, ed. <i>The New Authoritarianism in Latin America</i> Princeton: Princeton University Press: 19-32. • Cardoso, Fernando Henrique. 1979. “On the Characterization of Authoritarian Regimes in Latin America.” (Chapter 2) In David Collier, ed. <i>The New Authoritarianism in Latin America</i> Princeton: Princeton University Press: 33-57. • <i>Recommended:</i> Linz, Juan J. 1978. <i>The Breakdown of Democratic Regimes: Crisis, Breakdown, and Reequilibration</i> Baltimore, MD: The Johns Hopkins University Press: 14-49.
Wednesday, September 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harvey “The Nuts and Bolts of College Writing” – Review Chapters 1-3, 7 & 8 (pp 1 – 33, 69-85) • Writing Clearly, Concisely, and Correctly – UWC Workshop
Friday, September 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close, Ch 3 “Latin America’s Historic Power Elite: Stability and Change” (pp 49-76) • Close, Ch 4 “Historic Modes of Governing: The Politics of Patrimonialism, Violence, and Instability” (77-104) <p>Research paper topic and countries due by 5 PM via e-mail</p>

Week 4: Democratization	
<i>Third blog posts are due Sunday, September 18 at 5 PM and by Thursday at 5 PM</i>	
Monday, September 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Isbester, Ch 1 “Democracy: A Complex Balance” (pp 1-34) • Close, Ch 7 “Democracy and Democratization” (pp 157-182) • Geddes, Barbara. 1999. “What Do We Know about Democratization after Twenty Years?” <i>Annual Review of Political Science</i>, 2: 115-22.
Wednesday, September 21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Casper, Gretchen and Michelle M. Taylor. 1996. <i>Negotiating Democracy: Transitions from Authoritarian Rule</i>. Pittsburgh, PA: University of Pittsburgh Press: 16-37. • Hunter, Wendy. 1997. “Continuity or Change? Civil-Military Relations in Democratic Argentina, Chile and Peru.” <i>Political Science Quarterly</i>, 112(3): 56-80. • Cox, Gary and Scott Morgenstern. 2001. “Latin America’s Reactive Assemblies and Proactive Presidents.” <i>Comparative Politics</i> 33(2): 171-90.
Friday, September 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Documentary Screening (film is subject to change): “Las Madres: The Mothers of Plaza de Mayo” (1986) <p>Reading Essay #1 due by 5 PM via e-mail</p>

Week 5: Economic Reform <i>Fourth blog posts are due Sunday, September 25 at 5 PM and by Thursday at 5 PM</i>	
Monday, September 26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close, Ch 8 “Political Economy and Economic Policy in Latin America” (pp 183 – 205) • <i>Recommended:</i> Close, Ch 9 “International Political Economy: The Politics of Latin America’s International Economic Relations” (207-229)
Wednesday, September 28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weyland, Kurt. 2004. “Neoliberalism and Democracy in Latin America: A Mixed Record,” <i>Latin American Politics and Society</i>, 46 (1): • Arce, Moises and Paul T. Bellinger, Jr. 2007. “Low-Intensity Democracy Revisited: The Effects of Economic Liberalization on Political Activity in Latin America.” <i>World Politics</i> 60(Oct.): 97-121
Friday, September 30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kaufman, Robert and Alex Segura-Ubiergo. 2001. “Globalization, Domestic Politics, and Social Spending in Latin America: A Time-Series Cross-Section Analysis, 1973-97.” <i>World Politics</i> 53: 553-587.

Part III: Political Institutions and Governability

Week 6: Institutional Variations <i>Fifth blog Posts are due Sunday, October 2 at 5 PM and by Thursday at 5 PM</i>	
Monday, October 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Isbester, Chapter 3 “Issues and Institutions in Latin American Governance” (77-104) • Close, Chapter 6 “Political Institutions and the Machinery of Government” (pp 133-155) • Linz, Juan. 1990. “The Perils of Presidentialism.” <i>Journal of Democracy</i>, 1 (4): 51-69. <p>Preliminary research report is due</p>
Wednesday, October 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mainwaring, Scott. 1993. “Presidentialism, Multipartyism, and Democracy: The Difficult Combination.” <i>Comparative Political Studies</i> 26(2): 198-228. • Cheibub, Jose Antonio. 2002. “Minority Governments, Deadlock Situations, and the Survival of Presidential Democracies.” <i>Comparative Political Studies</i> 35(3): 284-312.
Friday, October 7	Exam #1

Week 7: Party Systems and Elections <i>Sixth blog posts are due Sunday, October 9 at 5 PM and by Thursday at 5 PM</i>	
Monday, October 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foweraker, Joe. 1998. “Institutional Design, Party Systems and Governability – Differentiating the Presidential Regimes of Latin America.” <i>British Journal of Political Science</i> 28: 651-76. • Mainwaring, Scott and Timothy Scully. 1995. “Introduction: Party Systems in Latin America.” In <i>Building Democratic Institutions</i>, ed. Scott Mainwaring and Timothy Scully. Stanford: Stanford University Press.
Wednesday, October 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Castañeda, Jorge G. and Marco A. Morales. 2008. “The Current State of the Utopia” In <i>Leftovers: Tales of the Latin American Left</i>, eds. Jorge G. Castañeda and Marco A. Morales. New York: Routledge (pp 3-18)

<p>Week 7: Party Systems and Elections <i>Sixth blog posts are due Sunday, October 9 at 5 PM and by Thursday at 5 PM</i></p>	
<p>Friday, October 14</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fornos, Carolina, Timothy Power, and James Garand. 2004. "Explaining Voter Turnout in Latin America, 1980 to 2000." <i>Comparative Political Studies</i> 37(8): 909-940. • Morales, Marco A. 2008. "Have Latin Americans Turned Left?" In <i>Leftovers: Tales of the Latin American Left</i>, eds. Jorge G. Castañeda and Marco A. Morales. New York: Routledge (pp 19-41)

Part IV: Current Issues and New Challenges

<p>Week 8: Populism and Illiberal Democracy <i>Seventh blog posts are due Sunday, October 16 at 5 PM and by Thursday at 5 PM</i></p>	
<p>Monday, October 17</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ellner, Steve. 2003. "The Contrasting Variants of the Populism of Hugo Chávez and Alberto Fujimori." <i>Journal of Latin American Studies</i>, 35: 139-162. • Seligson, Mitchell A. 2002. "The Impact of Corruption on Regime Legitimacy: A Comparative Study of Four Latin American Countries." <i>Journal of Politics</i> 64: 408-33. • Smith, Peter H., and Melissa R. Ziegler. 2008. "Liberal and Illiberal Democracy in Latin America." <i>Latin American Politics & Society</i> 50 (1): 31-57.
<p>Wednesday, October 19</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lecture or Documentary Screening (film subject to change): "Cocalero" (2007)
<p>Friday, October 21</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harvey, Ch 6 "Using Sources" (pp 56-68) • Workshop on how to avoid plagiarism and other writing issues <p><i>Writing review AND/OR Reading Discussion</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Depending on class needs, today will be spent in a writing workshop AND/OR reading discussion

<p>Week 9: Economic Crisis and Protest <i>Eighth blog posts are due Sunday, October 23 at 5 PM and by Thursday at 5 PM</i></p>	
<p>Monday, October 24</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mainwaring, Scott and Aníbal Pérez Linan. 2005. "Latin American Democratization since 1978: Democratic Transitions, Breakdowns, and Erosions." • Yashar, Deborah. 1999. "Democracy, Indigenous Movements and the Postliberal Challenge in Latin America." <i>World Politics</i> 52(1): 76-104.
<p>Wednesday, October 26</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close, Ch 5 "Political Change, Political Contentions, and New Political Contenders" (105–132)
<p>Friday, October 28</p>	<p>Ecuador, Bolivia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lucero, Jose Antonio. 2001. "Crisis and Contention in Ecuador." <i>Journal of Democracy</i> 12(2). • Isbester, Chapter 11 "Bolivia: Ethnicity and Power" by Roberta Rice (277-297) <p>Reading Essay #2 Due by 5 PM via e-mail</p>

Week 10: Regional Studies	
<i>Ninth blog posts are due Sunday, October 30 at 5 PM and by Thursday at 5 PM</i>	
Monday, October 31	Mexico <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Isbester, Chapter 4 “Mexico: From Perfect Dictatorship to Imperfect Democracy” by Judith Teichman (105 – 129)
Wednesday, November 2	Argentina <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Isbester, Chapter 13 “Argentina: Clientelism, Corporatism, and Democracy” (325-349)
Friday, November 4	Cuba and Venezuela <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Isbester, Chapter 9: “Venezuela: Pacts, Populism, and Poverty” by Roberta Rice (229 – 249) • Shifter, Michael. 2006. In Search of Hugo Chavez. <i>Foreign Affairs</i> 85 (3): 45-59. • TBD (Cuba-specific reading)

Week 11: Regional Studies and Presentations	
<i>Tenth blog posts are due Sunday, November 6 at 5 PM and by Thursday at 5 PM</i>	
Monday, November 7	Brazil <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Isbester, Chapter 10 “Brazil: Constraints and Innovations” by Lauren Phillips (251 – 275) <p>First draft of the research paper due by 5 PM via e-mail</p>
Wednesday, November 9	Chile <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Isbester, Chapter 12 “Democracy in a Divided Polity” by Judith Teichman (299-324)
Friday, November 11	Costa Rica or Student Presentations (if needed) – TBD <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Isbester, Chapter 7 “Costa Rica: An Ethos and a Strong State” by Katherine Isbester (183 – 205)

Week 12: Presentations	
Monday, November 14	Student Presentations
Wednesday, November 16	Student Presentations
Friday, November 18	Student Presentations

Week 13: Student Presentations/Thanksgiving Break	
Monday, November 21	Student Presentations
Wednesday, November 23	Work on Papers (no class)/ Review Harvey “Nuts and Bolts of College Writing”
Friday, November 25	No class – Thanksgiving

Week 14: Review	
Monday, November 28	Wrap-up <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close, Chapter 11 “Latin America in Comparative Perspective” (257– 274) • Isbester, “Conclusion: What Works and Why” (351 – 380)
Wednesday, November 30	Review
Friday, December 2	Exam #2 – cumulative (including student presentations)

Week 15: <i>Final/extra credit reflective blog posts are due by 5PM Sunday, December 5</i>	
Monday, December 5	Last Class – Reflections
Wednesday, December 7	No Class
Friday, December 9	Turn in final version of the research paper by 5 PM via email

Course Materials Copyright

The handouts used in this course are copyrighted. By “handouts,” I mean all materials generated for this class, which include but are not limited to syllabi, exams, and review sheets. Because these items are copyrighted, you do not have the right to copy the handouts, unless I expressly grant permission.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact Disability Services, in Cain Hall, Room B118, or call 845-1637. For additional information visit <http://disability.tamu.edu>.