

# **IPEC.4304...Political.Economy.of.Latin.America...**

The University of Texas at Dallas – Fall 2014  
Tuesday & Thursday 11:30am-12:45pm in FN 2.106

---

...

## **Professor.Contact.Information:...**

Brandon W. Seitzler

[brandon.seitzler@utdallas.edu](mailto:brandon.seitzler@utdallas.edu)

My cell phone number will be given in class

Founders Building – FN 2.106

Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10-11am and by appointment

---

## **Course.Description...**

As we begin the semester, Argentina has defaulted on its debt obligations for the eighth time in history. Venezuela is fighting to prevent the smuggling of government-subsidized products into Colombia. The region as a whole is strengthening economic ties to China. Brazil, Bolivia and Uruguay all have upcoming legislative and presidential elections. What do these developments, struggles and changes mean for the region and world?

This course addresses historical and contemporary issues in Latin American political economy. We will use case studies and cross-regional comparisons to assess competing explanations for development. The course analyzes the current political and economic situation facing Latin America in its quest for economic growth and development. We will emphasize an understanding of the patterns of development and change in the region.

---

## **Student.Learning.Objectives/Outcomes...**

Students will learn to analyze and evaluate challenges and theories of Latin American development. Through a semester-long case study, students will utilize insight gained into Latin America's history to analyze and evaluate specific, contemporary policies.

---

## **Required.Texts.and.Materials...**

- Eliana Cardoso and Ann Helwege. *Latin America's Economy: diversity, trends, and conflicts*. 1995. ISBN: 0-262-03186-8

## **Recommended.Reading...**

- The Economist Magazine. Electronic access is available through the UTD Library.

---

## **Assignments.with.Due.Dates,.Grading.Policy,.and.Class.Policies...**

...

- **9/9** Policy Introduction (10%)
- **9/30** Policy Literature Review (10%)
- **10/9** Midterm Exam (25%)
- **10/28** Policy Analysis (10%)
- **11/18** Policy Recommendations (10%)
- **12/2.and.12/4** Policy Presentation (5%)
- **12/2** Extra Credit (book review) (+2.5%)
- **12/11**.Final Exam (25%)
- **12/16** Comprehensive Make-up Exam
- **Attendance** (two free absences) (5%)

In general, typical percentages reflect the following grades:

- A – 90 to 100
- B – 80 to 89
- C – 70 to 79
- D – 60 to 69
- F – 60 or lower

*Specific determinations of grade cut offs and plus or minus gradations are determined by the distribution of class grades.*

### **Turnitin.com...**

The writing assignments and extra credit must also be submitted to turnitin.com to be considered for grading. Please go to turnitin.com and register for the class. In addition to Turnitin.com, hard copies of all writing assignments are due in class.

...

### **Make-up.Exams....**

NO MAKE UP EXAMS WILL BE GIVEN. Instead, with advance notice, students may take a comprehensive final exam to replace one exam. If you miss more than one exam, you will receive a zero for the additional missed exam. There are no exceptions. THE OPTIONAL COMPREHENSIVE EXAM CANNOT BE MADE UP IF MISSED. Plan to take the optional comprehensive exam at your own risk.

### **Extra.Credit....**

Students may write a review essay of five pages on an approved book. This paper is due 12/2, in class. No late extra credit papers will be accepted. The paper is worth up to 2.5 percent of the final grade.

...

...

**Late.Work...**

Hard copies of all writing assignments are due prior to or in class by the deadline. Papers submitted after the class period in which they are due will be penalized one full grade per day after the deadline. No late extra credit papers will be accepted.

**Attendance...**

Class attendance is required. You are responsible for all announcements and information given in class.

**Expectations.of.Students...**

The exams are based on lecture material and required readings. Some of the lecture material will not be in the readings. Students should have carefully read the material at least once before class.

**Classroom.Citizenship...**

Students will be attentive during class. Participation in group activities is expected. Students are expected to listen respectfully to the professor and to other students when speaking. Racism, sexism, homophobia, classism, ageism and other forms of bigotry are inappropriate to express in this class. The class may discuss issues that require sensitivity and maturity. Disruptive students will be asked to leave and may be subject to disciplinary action.

**Exam.Period.Policy...**

Students may not eat, drink or use electronic devices during exams. Once the exam begins, students may not leave the classroom until their work is complete. No bathroom breaks will be given. Please arrive with a blank blue book for each exam.

**E-learning...**

E-learning is used in this class. This is how I will communicate with you. You are responsible for announcements made through e-learning. Please select a forwarding address in your mail preferences if you do not regularly check your UT Dallas email.

**Class.Schedule...**

<b>Class.Date...</b>	<b>Class.Details...</b>	<b>Readings...</b>
<b>Week.1...Development.and.Political.Economy.in.Latin.America...</b>		
Tuesday Aug. 26	What are political economy and development, and how are they measured?	Chapter 1
Thursday Aug. 28	Theories of development and political economy	Chapter 3
<b>Week.2...History.of.Political.Economy.in.Latin.America...</b>		
Tuesday Sept. 2		Chapter 2
Thursday Sept. 4		Chapter 2

<b>Week.3.-.Role.of.the.State...</b>		
Tuesday Sept. 9	<b>Policy.Introduction.Due</b>	Chapter 7
Thursday Sept. 11		Chapter 8
<b>Week.4.-.Three.Past.Mistakes...</b>		
Tuesday Sept. 16	Import Substitution Industrialization, Debt and Inflation	Pgs. 84-98, Ch. 5 and 6
Thursday Sept. 18	Import Substitution Industrialization, Debt and Inflation	Pgs. 84-98, Ch. 5 and 6
<b>Week.5.-.Mechanics.of.Trade,.Debt.and.Prices...</b>		
Tuesday Sept. 23	Why do countries trade?	Review Chapter 4
Thursday Sept. 25	Why do countries borrow?	Review Chapter 5
<b>Week.6.-.Mechanics.of.Trade,.Debt.and.Prices...</b>		
Tuesday Sept 30	<b>Policy.Lit.Review.Due...</b>  Dynamics of money and money supply	Review Chapter 6
Thursday Oct. 2	Trade, debt, money and price connections	I will pass out a study guide for the midterm.
<b>Week.7.-.Midterm.Exam...</b>		
Tuesday Oct. 7	Midterm study day	We will not have a lecture on this day, although I will be in the classroom to discuss questions about the midterm.
Thursday Oct. 9	<b>Midterm.Exam...</b>	
<b>Week.8.-.International.Economic.Integration...</b>		
Tuesday Oct. 14	Foreign Investment; Contemporary Trade policies, IOs and Blocs; and International Competitiveness	
Thursday Oct. 16	Foreign Investment; Contemporary Trade policies, IOs and Blocs; and International Competitiveness	
<b>Week.9.-.Agriculture.and.the.Environment...</b>		
Tuesday Oct. 21	Agricultural policies	Chapter 10
Thursday Oct. 23	Environmental policies	

<b>Week.10.→.Megacities.and.Challenges...</b>		
Tuesday Oct. 28	<b>Policy.Analysis.Due</b>	"Chapter 3. Land: A Scarce Resource" in: <i>Building Cities: neighbourhood upgrading and urban quality of life</i>
Thursday Oct. 30		
<b>Week.11.→.Poverty.and.Inequality...</b>		
Tuesday Nov. 4	Poverty	Chapter 9
Thursday Nov. 6	Inequality	Chapter 9
<b>Week.12.→.Social.Policy...</b>		
Tuesday Nov. 11	Education Policy	Levy and Schady. <i>Latin America's Social Policy Challenge: Education, Social Insurance, Redistribution</i>
Thursday Nov. 13	Health Policy	Paim et al. <i>The Brazilian health system: history, advances and challenges</i>
<b>Week.13.→.How.it.all.began□ ...</b>		
Tuesday Nov. 18	<b>Policy.Recommendations.. Due</b>  The Catholic Church and Liberation Theology	Levine. <i>Assessing the Impacts of Liberation Theology in Latin America</i>
Thursday Nov. 20	Indigenous Politics	Yashar. <i>Contesting Citizenship: Indigenous Movements and Democracy in Latin America</i>
<b>Week.14.→.Fall.Break...</b>		
Tuesday Nov. 25	<b>Fall.Break.→.no.class...</b>	
Thursday Nov.27	<b>Fall.Break.→.no.class...</b>	
<b>Week.15.→.Presentations...</b>		
Tuesday Dec. 2	<b>Extra.credit.due...</b> ... <b>Student.presentations...</b>	
Thursday Dec. 4	<b>Student.presentations...</b>	I will pass out a study guide for the midterm.
<b>Week.16.→.Final.Exam...</b>		
Tuesday Dec. 9	Final Exam Study Day	We will not have a lecture on this day, although I will be in the classroom to discuss questions about the final exam
Thursday Dec. 11	<b>Final.Exam...</b>	

Week.17...Comprehensive.Make-up.Exam		
Tuesday Dec. 16	Comprehensive.Make-up... Exam...	

---

### **UT.Dallas.Syllabus.Policies.and.Procedures**

The information contained in the following link constitutes the University's policies and procedures segment of the course syllabus.

Please go to <http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies> for these policies.

***These descriptions and timelines contained in this syllabus are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.***