

INTL 4270: Inter -American Relations
DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA
FALL 2008

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and by appointment

The course syllabus is a general plan for the course; deviations announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary.

I. DESCRIPTION OF THE COURSE

This is an upper level undergraduate course. It provides a regional overview of the processes, forces, and influences involved in International Relations by focusing on Inter-American relations. The primary focus is on U.S.-Latin American relations, given the dominant role the United States has played in the region since the early 1800s. The course looks at key historical periods and U.S. policies directed toward the nations of the Americas, from the Monroe Doctrine in 1823 to the new Latin America political dynamics characterized by the Left's arrival to power in some countries of the region, like Hugo Chavez in Venezuela, Evo Morales in Bolivia, Rafael Correa in Ecuador, Michelle Bachelet in Chile, re-elected Luiz Inacio Lula Da Silva in Brazil, Cristina Elisabet Fernández de Kirchner in Argentina, and the return of Daniel Ortega in Nicaragua. Considerable time is devoted to the analysis of the role that the post-September 11 has played in this new political dynamics in the region. We analyze the role of inter-governmental organizations, such as the Organization of American States (OAS) and its influence in promoting key issues such as hemispheric cooperation on counter-drugs and security issues, as well as promoting democratization. If we have time, we will analyze some sub-regional international relations, such as the influence of MERCOSUR (the South American Common Market) as a key competitor to NAFTA, and the formation of CAFTA (Central American Free Trade Agreement).

II. PURPOSE OF THE COURSE

The purpose of the course is therefore to better understand how the nations of the Americas relate to each other, politically, economically, and militarily in order to appreciate and understand the influence and impact the United States primarily has in the region, as well as the impact the nations of the region may have on the United States, now and in the future, as well.

III. OBJECTIVES

At the end of the semester, you, the student, will be able to understand the complex system of America (what we call the Inter-American System. Second, you will have more information to understand why Latin American countries have been traditionally opposing USA foreign policy and other policies (for example immigration and drug policies). By understanding the effects of Neo-liberalism - democratization process and the USA efforts against "terrorism" on the lives of many Latin Americans, you will be able to explain why we have a new political spectrum in Latin America: two slightly different Lefts, and a few rightist governments. On the way, you will be able to explain the different Latin American efforts to form one bloc of nations, whether *a la* Bolivar or any other type. This analysis, as a whole, will give you the bases to understand the complex USA-Latin American relations, USA-specific Latin American country relations, USA-a specific Latin American sub-region relations (central America, for example), or relations between or among some specific Latin American countries.

IV. Pre-requisite: INTL 3200 or INTL 3300 or permission of department.

The only official prerequisite to take this class is to have taken INTL 3200 or INTL 3300 or permission of department.

V. The University Honor Code and Academic Honesty Policy

All academic work must meet the standards contained in "A Culture of Honesty." All students are responsible to inform themselves about those standards before performing any academic work.

VI. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Schedule of Topics and the Corresponding Readings

Week # / Date	Topic	Readings
I. Introduction: The Inter-American System		
Week 1 Aug 18-22 Drop/Add Begins: Monday August 18, 2008	1. Intro and “This is me: America (Map) and culture” 2. The Inter-American System and Why the Inter-American System 3. Organization of American States and the Inter-American System Today	2. Atkins 8 and <i>International Organization on Pan American Union</i> (WebCT) 3. OAS and Alberto Lleras (WebCT)
II. The Conflicting Inter-American Relations		
Week 2 Aug 25-29 Drop Deadline: Monday, August 25, 2008 at midnight Add Deadline: Tuesday, August 26, 2008 at midnight	Manifest Destiny and the Monroe Doctrine <i>Essay (#1) on at least 2 of this week readings, due today</i> 1. The Manifest Destine 2a. The Monroe Doctrine: Protection of Expansionism? 2b. Simon Bolivar: Dream, Hope, and Reality? 3a. Interventionism, Cooperation, and Revolution; and 3b. The USA-Mexican War	1. Manifest Destiny1; The Role of The Manifest Destiny; and The Origin of Manifest Destiny2; Manifest Destiny and the Pacific3 2a. Monroe Doctrine 1 and 2 and Mexico and the Monroe Doctrine 2b. The Congress of Simón Bolívar; and Simón Bolívar and Xavier Mina 3a. A.Kryzaneck 3-24 3b. Mexico USA War
Week 3 Sept 01-05 Sept 01: No Class	The South American Wars 1. War of the Triple Alliance 1864-1870 2. War of the Pacific 1879-1883 3. Chaco War 1932-1935 Bolivia vs. Paraguay <i>We will briefly discuss the following:</i> 4. Peru-Ecuador War, 1941 5. The 1969 Soccer War, El Salvador vs. Honduras	1. The War of the Triple Alliance 2. The War of the Pacific 3. The War over the Chaco 4. Peru-Ecuador Border Conflict 5. The Soccer War
III. Getting Organized		
Week 4 Sept 08-12	<i>Essay (#2) on at least 2 of this week readings, due today</i> Finding Common Understanding 1. The OAS and Democracy in the Region 2a. Latin America in the New World Order: A Regional Bloc of the Americas? 2b. The Central American Crisis and the Common Market 3. Limits to hegemonic influence in the Organization of American States	1. OAS Arceneaux 2a. Hurrell, A Regional Bloc of the Americas 2b. Edelberto Torres Rivas 3. Shaw, Carolyn M
IV. The Critical Decades (from the 1960s to 2000s)		
Week 5 Sept 15-19	Socio-Economic Situation in the Region I 1. Social Exclusion in Latin America 2. Marginalization In An Era Of Globalization 3. Political Violence and Economic Development in Latin America	1. Social Exclusion in LA 2. Marginalisation and Globalisation 3. Political Violence and Eco Dev in LA
Week 6 Sept 22-26	Solving the Puzzle II: Liberation Theology and Castroism <i>Questions (#3): Due today Monday (based on this week readings)</i>	

	3b. Is Neoliberalism Necessary, or are there any other alternatives?	3b. Neoliberalism, necessitarianism and alternatives in Latin America...(WebCT)
Week 10 Oct 20-24 <i>Oct 23 (Thursday): Withdrawal Deadline</i>	The New Left in LA: Political Consequences of Neo-Liberalism? <i>Essay (#6) on at least 2of this week readings, due today</i> 1. Bolivia Brazil and Nicaragua? Go straight ahead, they will be on your left 2. Chile, Uruguay (with Brazil)? Up the street on your left 3. In Total, How many Lefts?	1. The New Left LA: Bolivia; The New Left in LA: Brazil; and The Return of Daniel Ortega 1 and 2 (WebCT) 2. The Social Democratization of the LA Left Chile Brazil Uruguay (WebCT) 3. Latin Americas Left Turn; The American Perceptions about South America
VI. Policy Issues: 1990s to Present: Security, Immigration, Trade, and Drugs		
Week 11 Oct 27-31 <i>Oct 31: Fall Break</i>	Security Policy 1. U.S. Port Security Policy after 9/11 2. The U.S. and Latin America After 9-11 and Iraq 3. <i>Friday: Fall Break</i>	1. U.S. Port Security Policy after 9/11 2. The U.S. and Latin America After 9-11 and Iraq
Week 12 Nov 03-07	Security-Immigration Policy Marriage <i>Essay (#7) on at least 2of this week readings, due today</i> 1. International Migration as an Issue on Today's Inter-American Agenda 2. Immigration Policy: From Rights to Security 3a. Does Immigration Increase Homicide 3b. The Immigration Crime Nexus	1. International Migration as an Issue on Today's Inter-American Agenda 2. Immigration Policy_From Rights to Security 3a. Does Immigration Increase Homicide 3b. The Immigration Crime Nexus
Week 13 Nov 10-14	Immigration: The Mexico's Case <i>Essay (#8) on at least 2of this week readings, due today</i> 1. Mexican Immigration to the USA: General Characteristics 2. Mexican Immigration to the USA: Causes & Consequences for both Countries 3a. Moving beyond the Policy of No Policy 3b. The Struggle for Fair Immigration Reform	1. Mexican Immigration to the USA, Chap. I, II, and III, pp. 1-24. 2. Mexican Immigration to the USA, Chap. IV, V, VI, and VII, pp. 25-72. 3a. Moving beyond the Policy of no Policy: Emigration from Mexico and Central America 3b. Latin American Immigrants Struggle for Fair Immigration Reform
Week 14 Nov 17-21	Security and Drugs <i>Essay (#9) on at least 2of this week readings, due today</i> 1. US Foreign Policy Concerning Drugs in Latin America 2. Drug Trafficking and Sociopolitical Conflicts in LA 3. National Security and Drugs: USA-Colombia	1. US Foreign Policy Concerning Drug_LA 2. Drug Trafficking and Social and Political Conflicts in Latin America 3. National Security and Drugs_USA Colombia
Week 15 Nov 24-28	HAPPY THANKSGIVING DAY	
Week 16 Dec 01-05	USA-Latin American Relations <i>Due today: Essay (#10) on at least 2of this week readings</i> 1. Assessment of USA-LA Relations 2. USA Interest in LA After Sep 11 3. The American Perceptions about South America	1. Assessment of USA-LA Relations 2. USA Interest in LA After Sep 11 3. The American Perceptions about S. America
Week 17	1. USA-Latin American Trade Relations	1_USA_LA Trade Relations