Politics and Government of Latin America (GOVT 3321.001)
Stephen F. Austin State University—Spring 2024
MWF 10:00-10:50, F374
Instructor: Dr. Alan Baily
Office: LAN 137
Office Hours: MWF: 11:00-12:00 TR: 11:00-1:00 (also available by appointment or via Zoom)
Office Phone: (936) 468-2363
Email address: bailyai@sfasu.edu

I. Course Description: “Government and politics of the principal countries of Latin America” (SFA Catalog).

II. Course Objectives: This course offers a survey of political institutions, society and culture in the major countries and regions of Latin America, including Mexico, Central America, the Andean region, Brazil, and the Southern Cone.

General Education Core Curriculum Objectives/Outcomes: This course is associated with the major, second major and minor in political science. The course is not part of the general education core curriculum. No specific general education objectives are assessed in this course.

Program Learning Outcomes: The following learning outcomes for a political science major are addressed in this course.

• PLO#4 – “The student will differentiate a range of political systems and/or perspectives.”

Student Learning Outcomes:
By the end of the course, you should be able to:

- Explain the institutional arrangements of a variety of Latin American governments.
- Analyze at a variety of levels the political and economic situation of Latin America.
- Understand and critique various theories of political-economic development in Latin America.
- Understand a variety of interpretations of nationhood and identity in Latin America.
- Evaluate the institutions, politics and policies of major Latin American states and regions.

III. Texts: The following books are required in this class; they are available at the university bookstore:


IV. Assignments and Grades: Your grade in this course will be based on several components, broken down below:

1. Two examinations: a mid-term and a final, each worth 25% of your semester grade [50% total].
2. Response Papers: These comprise 40% of your grade. There are four response paper assignments; I will count the best three papers for course credit. Each paper must be 4-6 pages in length, typed, double-spaced and in 12-point TNR or a similar font.
3. Participation/Daily Questions: When readings have been assigned, students are required to come in with a question prepared (about the reading), at the beginning of class [10%].

Final grade distribution is as follows:

A=90-99, B=80-89, C=70-79, D=65-69, F=64 and below

V. Attendance and Classroom Decorum

Attendance is required; roll will be taken upon occasion. Students who miss more than three class meetings may face a 5% reduction for each additional missed meeting. Absences shall be excused for documented emergencies or official university events (also documented) only.

Mutual respect and consideration are indispensable to the success of any group endeavor. In view of this, I demand the highest standard of conduct in our class. To promote respect for yourself and your fellow students, please silence and put out of sight all cellphones, laptops, blackberries, iPods and other mobile electronic communication or entertainment devices: One you enter the classroom these devices can only function as a narcotic or as a weapon. Take drugs at home of you like, but not in here. Please do not record me in any way; under present circumstances, unfortunately, recording has a chilling effect. Please do not pass notes or exchange whispers, either! If you must make a call (or a text) during class-time, kindly exit the classroom to do so, and do not return (you will be counted absent for the day) unless you have an exceptionally serious excuse (e.g. a documented emergency, death in the family, etc.).

Email Policy:

I shall endeavor to respond in a timely manner to all emails addressed to bailyai@sfasu.edu. Please avoid using other email addresses (e.g. D2L email).

I will not reply to the below:

1. Emails not composed in standard written English (an email is not an IM)
2. Emails asking questions the answers to which are available in the syllabus, catalog or course schedule
3. Emails requesting an excused absence or make-up assignment. Unless the emergency is dire, please discuss these matters with me in person
4. Emails requesting a recap or summary of material covered in a missed class meeting
5. Emails requesting a grade increase

Acceptable Student Behavior:

Classroom behavior should not interfere with the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or the ability of other students to learn from the instructional program (see the Student Conduct Code, policy D-34.1). Unacceptable or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Students who disrupt the learning environment may be asked to leave class and may be subject to judicial, academic or other penalties. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including electronic, classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The instructor shall have full discretion over what behavior is appropriate/inappropriate in the classroom. Students who do not attend class regularly or who perform poorly on class projects/exams may be referred to the Early Alert Program. This program provides students with recommendations for resources or other assistance that is available to help SFA students succeed.
VI. Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism.

*Use of generative AI to complete coursework is strictly forbidden on penalty of failure.*

**Definition of Academic Dishonesty:**

Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one's own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper without giving the author due credit.

Please read the complete policy at [http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp](http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp)

VII. GOVT 3321 Calendar for Spring 2024 (This calendar is tentative; I reserve the right to alter it.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>F 1/19</td>
<td>Welcome &amp; Introduction. Review syllabus.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M 1/22</td>
<td>Film: <em>The Tempest</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W 1/24</td>
<td>Film: <em>The Tempest</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F 1/26</td>
<td>Weeks, chapters 1 &amp; 2 (Background and concepts)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M 1/29</td>
<td>Krauze, chapters 1 &amp; 2 (Marti, Rodo) &amp; related readings (provided)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W 1/31</td>
<td>Krauze, chapter 3 (Vasconcelos)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F 2/2</td>
<td>Krauze, chapter 4 (Mariategui)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M 2/5</td>
<td>Weeks, chapter 3 (Dictatorship and Democracy)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W 2/7</td>
<td>Weeks, chapter 4 (Capitalism and Socialism)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F 2/9</td>
<td>No reading</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M 2/12</td>
<td><strong>First paper (due date): Nuestra America</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W 2/14</td>
<td>Weeks, chapter 5 (Mexico)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F 2/16</td>
<td>Krauze, chapter 5 (Paz [—skim it if you must!])</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M 2/19</td>
<td>Krauze, chapter 10 (Ruiz)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W 2/21</td>
<td>Krauze, chapter 11 (Marcos)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F 2/23</td>
<td>Film: <em>Romero</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
M  2/26  Film: *Romero*
W  2/28  Weeks, chapter 7 (Cuba)
F  3/ 1  Krauze, chapter 7 (Guevara)
M  3/ 4  **Second paper: **Mexico, Central America, Cuba
W  3/ 6  No reading
F  3/ 8  **Midterm Exam**
M  3/11  SPRING BREAK
W  3/13  SPRING BREAK
F  3/15  SPRING BREAK
M  3/18  Weeks, chapter 9 (Colombia)
W  3/20  Weeks, chapter 10 (Venezuela)
F  3/22  Krauze, chapter 12 (Chavez)
M  3/25  Film: *Alo Presidente!*
W  3/27  **Third paper: **The Andean Region
F  3/29  EASTER
M  4/ 1  Weeks, chapter 11 (Brazil)
W  4/ 3  Readings on the Vargas Era and after (provided)
F  4/ 5  Readings on Race and Ethnicity in Brazil (provided)
M  4/ 8  Weeks, chapter 12 (Argentina)
W  4/10  Readings from “Che” Guevara and Juan Peron (provided)
F  4/12  Krauze, chapter 6 (Eva Peron) & selected readings (provided)
M  4/15  Weeks, chapter 13 (Chile)
W  4/17  Film: *Machuca*
F  4/19  Film: *Machuca*
M  4/22  Film: *Chicago Boys*
W  4/24  Film: *Chicago Boys*
F  4/26  **Fourth paper: **Brazil/The Southern Cone
M  4/29  Krauze, chapter 8 (Garcia Marquez)
W  5/ 1  Krauze, chapter 9 (Vargas Llosa)
F  5/ 3  No reading
Final Examination: Monday, May 6th, from 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

VIII. Withheld Grades Semester Grades Policy (A-54):
Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average.

IX. Students with Disabilities:
To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/.

X. Student Wellness and Well-Being
SFA values students’ overall well-being, mental health and the role it plays in academic and overall student success. Students may experience stressors that can impact both their academic experience and their personal well-being. These may include academic pressure and challenges associated with relationships, emotional well-being, alcohol and other drugs, identities, finances, etc.

If you are experiencing concerns, seeking help, SFA provides a variety of resources to support students’ mental health and wellness. Many of these resources are free, and all of them are confidential.

On-campus Resources:
The Dean of Students Office (Rusk Building, 3rd floor lobby)
www.sfasu.edu/deanofstudents
936.468.7249
dos@sfasu.edu

SFA Human Services Counseling Clinic Human Services, Room 202
www.sfasu.edu/humanservices/139.asp
936.468.1041

The Health and Wellness Hub “The Hub”
Location: corner of E. College and Raguet St.

To support the health and well-being of every Lumberjack, the Health and Wellness Hub offers comprehensive services that treat the whole person – mind, body and spirit. Services include:

- Health Services
- Counseling Services
- Student Outreach and Support
- Food Pantry
- Wellness Coaching
- Alcohol and Other Drug Education
Crisis Resources:

- Burke 24-hour crisis line: 1.800.392.8343
- National Suicide Crisis Prevention: 9-8-8
- Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1.800.273.TALK (8255)
- johCrisis Text Line: Text HELLO to 741-741