

**CENTRE FOR THE STUDY OF THE AMERICAS
SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES**

Course (MA/PhD)	: Ph.D.
Course No.	: AW604N
Course Title	: Government and Politics in Latin America
Course Type (Core/Optional)	: Optional
Course Teacher	: Dr. Aprajita Kashyap
Credits Allotted	: 4 (Four)
Semester	: Monsoon
Contact Hours	: 4 per week

Course Objectives

The focus of the course would be on comprehending the basic features of the governments and political institutions in the region. This would be attempted by examining the political dynamics, political culture and the major actors (including the new social and political movements) in policymaking. The background knowledge, thus acquired, can be extrapolated to understand contemporary national, regional and international issues. Given the fact that there are a large number of countries within the region, the main emphasis would be on developments within Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Mexico, Peru, Nicaragua and Cuba.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, the students will be able to understand the unique political dynamics within Latin America. They would be able to build their own understanding on the political spectrum within this region. The grasping of ideas and concepts related to governance would equip them to do a comparative study with India.

Evaluation Methods

Class Participation (10%); Sessional Work (Term Paper and Mid-term Examination (40%) End-term Examination (50%)

Course Content

1. Political Dynamics of Latin American Countries

- Historical view of political experiences of Latin American and Caribbean countries
- Political Approaches: Populism and Bureaucratic Authoritarianism
- Political Culture; Twentieth Century Movements in Thought and Politics
- Social Changes generating New Forces

2. Political Institutions in Policymaking

- Changing Power Structure and the Process of Decision-making
- Nature and Role of Legislature, Executive and Judiciary
- Process of Elections and their regulations

- Structure and Regulation of Political Parties

3. Actors in the Political System

- Church and the State
- Military in Politics
- Labour Movements and Labour Organisations
- Gender and Politics
- Pandemic and Governance (with special focus on federal countries)

4. Foreign Policy Facets

- Foreign Policy: Processes, Institutions and Domestic Inputs
- Inter-American Relations in the Cold War; Post-Cold War; and Post 9/11 Period
- World View of Latin America: OAS, UN, EU
- India-Latin America Relations

Readings

Theme I

Bethell, Leslie, ed. (2008), *The Cambridge History of Latin America: 1930 to the Present*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Herring, Hubert (1955), *A History of Latin America*, New York: Alfred A. Knopf.

LaRosa, Michael J. and German R Mejia (2015), *An Atlas and Survey of Latin American History*, New York: Routledge.

Weyland, K. (2001), "Clarifying a Contested Concept: Populism in the Study of Latin American Politics", *Comparative Politics*, 34(1): 1-22.

Schmitter, P. C. (1972), "Paths to Political Development in Latin America", *Proceedings of the Academy of Political Science*, 30 (4):83-105.

O'Donnell, G. (1978), "Reflections on the Patterns of Change in the Bureaucratic-Authoritarian State", *Latin American Research Review*, 13 (1):3-38.

Petras, J. (2009), "Peasant Movements in Latin America: Looking Back, Moving Ahead", *Latin American Perspectives*, 36(4): 192-213.

Theme II

Carreras, Miguel (2012), "Party Systems in Latin America after the Third Wave: A Critical Reassessment", *Journal of Politics in Latin America*, 4(1):135-153.

Di Tella and S. Torcuato (2003), *History of Political Parties in Twentieth-Century Latin America*, New Brunswick, NJ: Transaction Publishers.

Keogh, Dermot (1990), *Church and Politics in Latin America*, New York: Palgrave Macmillan.

Mantilla, Luis Felipe (2016), "Church-State Relations and the Decline of Catholic parties in Latin America", *Journal of Religious and Political Practice*, 2(2): 231-248.

Munck, Ronaldo and Edward C. Epstein (1990), "Labour Autonomy and the State in Latin America", *Bulletin of Latin American Research*, 9(2):297.

Roxborough, Ian (1981), "The Analysis of Labour Movements in Latin America: Typologies and Theories", *Bulletin of Latin American Research*, 1(1): 81-95.

Bonvecchi, A., and C. Scartascini (2014), "The Organization of the Executive Branch in Latin America: What We Know and What We Need to Know", *Latin American Politics and Society*, 56(1): 144-165.

Pereira, C., et al. (2011), "Political Institutions, Policymaking, and Policy Stability in Latin America", *Latin American Politics and Society*, 53(1): 59-89.

Theme III

Black, Jan Knippers (1984), *Latin America: Its Problems and Its Promise*, Boulder: West view Press.

Eckstein, Susan (1989), *Power and Popular Protest: Latin American Social Movements* Berkeley: University of California Press.

Millet, Richard L., et al. (2009), *Latin American Democracy: Emerging Reality or Endangered Species?*, New York: Routledge.

Pion-Berlin, D., and R. Martínez (2017), *Soldiers, Politicians, and Civilians: Reforming Civil-Military Relations in Democratic Latin America*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Scartacini, Carlos et al, eds. (2010), *How Democracy Works: Political Institutions, Actors and Arenas in Latin American Policymaking*, Washington D.C.: IDB

Sapienza, Emanuele (2021), "COVID-19, Democratic Governance and the 'barely middle class' in Latin America", *Development Future Series*, UNDP.

Walker, L. D., and G. Kehoe (2013), "Regime Transition and Attitude toward Regime: The Latin American Gender Gap in Support for Democracy", *Comparative Politics*, 45(2):187-205.

Daudelin, J., and W.E. Hewitt (1995), "Churches and Politics in Latin America: Catholicism at the Crossroads", *Third World Quarterly*, 16(2):221-236.

Larkin, B. R. (2012), "Review of the History of the Catholic Church in Latin America: From Conquest to Revolution and Beyond", *Church History*, 81(2): 436-438.

Rosenn, K. S. (1987), "The Protection of Judicial Independence in Latin America", *the University of Miami Inter-American Law Review*, 19 (1): 1-35.

González, L. I. (2008). "Political Power, Fiscal Crises, and Decentralization in Latin America: Federal Countries in Comparative Perspective (And Some Contrasts with Unitary Cases)", *Publius*, 38 (2):211-247.

Theme IV

Atkins, G. Pope (1995), *Latin America in the International Political System*, Boulder: West view Press.

Caro, V. S. (2014), *India, Latin America: An alliance for the Future*, New Delhi: Vitasta.

Hartlyn, Jonathan, Lars Schoultz, and Augusto Varas, eds. (1992), *The United States and Latin America in the 1990s: Beyond the Cold War*, Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press.

Pike, Fredrick B. (1977), *The United States and the Andean Republics: Peru, Bolivia, and Ecuador*, Cambridge, Massachusetts: Harvard University Press.

Roett, Riordan and Guadalupe Paz, eds. (2003), *Latin America in a Changing Global Environment*, Boulder, Co: Lynne Rienner.

Roett, Riordan, and Paz, G. (2016), *Latin America and the Asian Giants: Evolving Ties with China and India*, Washington, D.C.: Brookings Institution Press.

Shoultz, Lars (1998), *Beneath the United States: A History of U.S. Policy towards Latin America*, Cambridge, MA: Harvard U. Press.

Smith, Peter H. (2000), *Talons of the Eagle: Dynamics of U.S.-Latin American Relations*, New York: Oxford University Press, 2000.

Whitaker, Arthur P. (1976), *The United States and the Southern Cone: Argentina, Chile and Uruguay*, Cambridge, Massachusetts: Harvard University Press.

Giannini, R. A. (2015), *Lessons to be shared: from Latin America to the world. In Where is Latin America?: Reflections on Peace, Security, Justice and Governance in the Post-2015 Sustainable Development Agenda*, Rio de Janeiro, Igarape Institute.

Additional Readings:

Donghi, Tulio Halperin (1993), *The Contemporary History of Latin America*, Duke: Duke University Press.

Skidmore, Thomas, et al (2013), *Modern Latin America*, USA: Oxford University Press.