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Political Science 5490
Hours: T, H, 10:30-11:30 a.m.
& by appointment
Spring 2008

INTERNATIONAL POLITICS OF LATIN AMERICA

Class Overview:

This class is conceived as a discussion of the international relations of Latin America, with special emphasis on those between the Latin American nations and the United States. While historical material will be provided as background, particular attention will be given to events and controversies since 1980.

The course tries to answer four broad questions: (1) To what extent have formal regional institutions like the Organization of American States (or OAS) and international treaties actually governed hemispheric relations? (2) What effects have the relationships existing in the hemisphere since the 1930s and the end of the Depression had on the development of Latin American nationalism? To argue that suspicions of or hostility to U.S. economic and political dominance may be, in part, unjustified does not give us the excuse to ignore their real existence throughout Central and South America among particular groups of individuals. (3) What have been the consequences of the suspicions/hostilities held by some Latin politicians and many intellectuals toward the United States upon the domestic policy-making process in various Latin American nations? It is argued here that such political attitudes held may have encouraged the adoption of a series of economic policies designed to increase the real independence of the countries of the area from the influence of the United States. (4) What can be said about the events of the last two-plus decades, including the ending of the Cold War, in terms of any new directions for policy?

One paperback is suggested for purchase at the University Bookstore:

Peter Smith, *Talons of the Eagle: Latin America, the United States, and the World* (3rd edition).

Copies of the text for those choosing not to purchase it, as well as of the assigned articles listed below not found in the text, should be available at the Reserve Desk at Marriott Library, either from the Electronic Reserve where most articles can be downloaded from any computer (by going to www.lib.utah.edu and then Student Portal), or where a hard copy of each can be taken out for two hour (or twenty-four hour for the text) loan periods. If any appear to be missing--and not merely checked out by someone else--please notify me at once so a replacement can be obtained.

Grading:

Two grading options are offered for successfully meeting course requirements.

Under option one, students would take an in-class hourly (35% of class grade) and a later take-home exam (45%); the remaining 20% will derive from your class participation including several in-class responses to assigned class readings. Both exams will be essay in nature. A list of essay questions including those questions to appear on the exam will be distributed one week prior to the in-class exam to help your preparation.

Option two is provided for those individuals with more than a passing interest in Latin America, allowing you to investigate some subject of your choice related to this course that would result in a typed 10-15 page double-spaced, sourced research paper. Here the paper would substitute for the in-class exam, but would now be worth 60% of the class grade. The take-home (here worth 30%) and class participation (10%) make up the rest of the grade for those choosing this second grading option. For those doing option two, you will need to make an appointment with the instructor no later than Tuesday, February 12, to agree to a feasible topic and to discuss the expectations involved in producing a research paper.

Anyone not indicating an interest in the paper by the indicated February 12 date will be presumed to be taking the first option.

All class members are strongly encouraged to raise any question about the course with the instructor any time during class or, should you wish, privately.

Drop and Withdrawal Deadlines.

Last day to drop class without W: Wednesday, January 16.

Last day to withdraw from class with W: Friday, February 29.

Warning on Academic Misconduct and Plagiarism.

The University of Utah's Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities requires that students

[a]dhere to generally accepted standards of academic honesty including, but not limited to, refraining from cheating, plagiarizing, research misconduct, misrepresenting one's work, and/or inappropriately collaborating.

All quotes must be cited as such and include a clear reference to the work from which they were drawn, including for class materials; they will otherwise be treated as plagiarism. All use of materials other than course materials must be accompanied by full citations. All work in this course is assigned as individual work where not explicitly assigned as group work. You are discouraged from seeking all but the most casual

assistance with your writing from others. If you intend to submit a paper which significantly draws upon work used for another class, or if you are planning on submitting substantially similar papers to both my class and a class for another instructor, you must first receive explicit permission to do so from both myself and the other instructor. Any form of academic dishonesty may result in a failing grade for the assignment, failure for the entire course, or other disciplinary action, including academic suspension or dismissal from the University. Full information on the University's policy on academic misconduct, and further definitions, can be found at: <http://www.admin.utah.edu/ppmanual/8/8-10.html>.

Disclaimer for Students with Disabilities.

The Department of Political Science seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services, and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in this class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the instructor and to the Center for Disability Services (<http://disability.utah.edu/> 162 Olpin Union Bldg., telephone 581-5020) to make arrangements for accommodations.

Syllabus and Readings:

I. Contacts in the Americas: Myths & Realities (Jan. 8-29).

A. An Overview:

Kenneth Coleman, "The Political Mythology of the Monroe Doctrine," in John Martz and Lars Schoultz (eds.), *Latin America, the United States, and the Inter-American System*.

Peter Smith, *Talons of the Eagle*, chapt. 2.

B. The Cold War: Guatemala, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, and Chile.

Peter Smith, *Talons of the Eagle*, chapt. 4, 5, & 6.

Peter Kornbluh, "The El Mercurio File," *Columbia Journalism Review*, 2003.

II. Nationalism as a Reaction to U.S. Hegemony (Jan 31-Feb. 14).

A. Varieties of Nationalism.

Peter Smith, *Talons of the Eagle*, chapt. 3.

B. Nationalism, Investment, and Dependency.

Dale Johnson, "Dependence and the International System," in James Cockcroft,

et al., *Dependence and Underdevelopment*.

Peter Evans, "From Classic Dependence to Dependent Development," in his *Dependent Development*.

III. The Effects of Nationalism on Policy-Making (Feb. 19-March 6).

A. Regional Integration Prior to the 1980's Debt Crisis.

Miguel Wionczek, "The Present State of the Latin American Integration Attempts," paper presented at the meetings of the Latin American Studies Association, 1971.

Roger Fontaine, "The Andean Pact," *The Washington Papers*, 1977, pp. 9-64.

Edelberto Torres Rivas, "The Central American Crisis and the Common Market," in Nora Hamilton, et al. (eds.), *Crisis in Central America*.

B. Industrialization, Deindustrialization, and the Multinationals.

Peter Evans, "The Military, the Multinationals and the 'Miracle'," *Studies in Comparative International Development*, Fall 1974.

**IV. Mid-Term Exam (option one), Tuesday, March 11.

V. Spring Break Holiday (March 18 & 20).

VI. Recent Events: Variations on a Theme? (March 13-April 20).

A. Human Rights and Idealism.

Jeane Kirkpatrick, "Dictatorships and Double Standards," *Commentary*, Nov. 1979.

Cynthia Brown (ed.), "A Rhetoric of Convenience," *With Friends Like These: The Americas Watch Report on Human Rights & U.S. Policy in Latin America*.

B. Cuba and the U.S.

Gregory Treverton, "Cuba in U.S. Security Perspective," in Jorge Domínguez and Rafael Hernández (eds.), *U.S.-Cuban Relations in the 1990s*.

James Petras and Morris Morley, "Clinton's Cuba Policy: Two Steps Backward, One Step Forward," *Third World Quarterly*, June 1996.

David Rothkopf, "A Call for a Post-Cold War Cuba Policy. . . Ten Years After the End of the Cold War," in Susan Purcell and David Rothkopf (eds.), *Cuba: The Contours of Change*.

C. The Sandinistas, Central America and the U.S.

William LeoGrande, "Making the Economy Scream: U.S. Economic Sanctions against Sandinista Nicaragua," *Third World Quarterly*, June 1996.

Adolfo Aguilar Z., "Negotiation in Conflict: Central America and Contadora," in Nora Hamilton, et al., *Crisis in Central America*.

Rose Spalding, "From Low-Intensity War to Low-Intensity Peace: The Nicaraguan Peace Process," in Cynthia Arnson (ed.), *Comparative Peace Processes in Latin America*.

D. Economic Crisis and Democracy.

Peter Smith, *Talons of the Eagle*, chapt. 7.

Dexter Boniface, "The OAS's Mixed Record," in Thomas Legler, Sharon Lean, and Dexter Boniface (eds), *Promoting Democracy in the Americas*.

Sidney Weintraub, "Mexican and Other Recent Latin American Financial Crises: How Much Systematic, How Much Policy?," in Ana Margheritis (ed.), *Latin American Democracies..*

Edward Epstein and David Pion-Berlin, "The Crisis of 2001 and Argentine Democracy," in their edited volume, *Broken Promises? The Argentine Crisis and Argentine Democracy*.

E. NAFTA and Hemispheric Free Trade.

Maxwell Cameron and Vinod Aggarwal, "Mexican Meltdown: States, Markets, and Post NAFTA Financial Turmoil," *Third World Quarterly*, December 1996.

Alejandro Moreno, "Mexican Public Opinion toward NAFTA and FTAA," in Edward Chambers and Peter Smith (eds.), *NAFTA in the New Milenium*.

Robert Bouzas, "Economic Integration in the Southern Cone: Can MERCOSUR Survive?" in Ana Margheritis (ed.), *Latin American Democracies*.

F. Drugs, Security, and the U.S.

Peter Smith, *Talons of the Eagle*, chapt. 8 & 10.

Bruce Bagley and Juan Tokatlian, "Dope and Dogma: Explaining the Failure of U.S.-Latin American Drug Policies," in Jonathan Hartlyn, et al., *The United States and Latin America in the 1990s*.

Russell Crandall, "From Drugs to Security: A New U.S. Policy," in Russell Crandall, Guadalupe Paz, and Riordan Roett (eds.), *The Andes in Focus*.

G. Hugo Chávez, Venezuelan Democracy, and the U.S.

Terry Karl, "Accident or Intent? The U.S. Response to the Crisis in Venezuela," *Journal of Iberian and Latin American Studies*, July 2002.

Christopher Clement, "Confronting Hugo Chávez: U.S. 'Democracy Promotion' in Latin America," in Steve Ellner and Miguel Tinker Salas (eds.), *Venezuela: Hugo Chávez and the Decline of an 'Exceptional Democracy.'*

** VII. **Papers Due** (option 2) in class, Tuesday, April 15.

VIII. Conclusions (April 22).

Peter Smith, *Talons of the Eagle*, chapt. 11.

** IX. **Take-Home Exam** (options 1 & 2), **due**, Tuesday, April 29, in the Political Science Dept. main office, 252 Orson Spencer Hall, **no later than 4:45 p.m.**