

LAST 211.01
Latin America: People, Places and Popular Culture
Fall 2012
T TR 9:30-10:45

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Office Hours: TR 1 – 2 PM or by appointment.

Course Description

This course explores the people of Latin America, their landscapes, and their cultures, to provide an interdisciplinary introduction to the region. We reflect on the diversity and cultural dynamism of this exciting region by focusing on their expression in festivals, music, literature, architecture, cinema, visual arts, and cuisine. Attention is paid to Latin American politics, economics, religion and popular social movements in terms of their relevance to contemporary cultural expression. Finally, we consider how Latin America enters into our lives and our spaces as Canadians and Albertans, through our own tourism in the region, and through international migration northward of people from the region.

Learning objectives of the Course

After taking this course, students will

- Know the political geography of Latin America
- Be familiar with the historical origins of the region
- Understand the roots of cultural diversity in the region
- Understand how ethnicity and class are expressed in the cultural diversity of the region
- Be familiar with popular culture and how it provides a space for the performance and negotiation of this diversity
- Understand the linkages between Latin America and Canada
- Have developed an intellectual curiosity about Latin America.

Textbooks and Readings:

Prevost, Gary and Harry Vanden *Latin America: An Introduction*, Oxford University Press, 2011 (ONLY Chapters 2, 3, 4)

Shaw, Lisa and Dennison, Stephanie 2005 *Pop Culture Latin America* ABCCLIO Pubs (available as an online book through the library)

Assignments and Evaluation

LEARNING PORTFOLIO CONTAINING:

Notes (to be posted in your portfolio continually throughout the semester, due 16 Oct & 10 Dec):	40%
Notes on readings	15%
Reaction papers on audiovisuals seen in class	15%
Other information posted and linked to class themes	10%
Study questions on Prevost chapters (due 27 Sept)	10%
Ethnography—book report (due 11 Oct)	15%
Lyrics of a song—critical analysis/commentary of the lyrics (due 1 Nov)	10%
Latin American novel or short story—reaction paper (due 15 Nov)	15%
Final reflection (question posted on Blackboard) (due 10 Dec)	<u>10%</u>
	100%

It is the student's responsibility to keep a copy of each submitted assignment.

Registrar-scheduled Final Examination: No

Take-home final assignment open book

Policy for Late Assignments

Assignments submitted after the deadline may be penalized with the loss of a grade (e.g.: A- to B+) for each day late.

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act

This course is conducted in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIP). As one consequence, **students should identify themselves on all written work by using their ID number. Also you will be required to provide a piece of picture identification in order to pick up an assignment or look at a final exam.**

For more information see also <http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy>.

Grading System

	Grading Scale
A+	96-100
A	90-95.99
A -	85-89.99
B+	80-84.99
B	75-79.99

B-	70-74.99
C+	65-69.99
C	60-64.99
C-	55-59.99
D+	53-54.99
D	50-52.99
F	0-49

Plagiarism

Using any source whatsoever without clearly documenting it is a serious academic offense. Consequences include failure on the assignment, failure in the course and possibly suspension or expulsion from the university.

You must document not only direct quotations but also paraphrases and ideas where they appear in your text. A reference list at the end is insufficient by itself. Readers must be able to tell exactly where your words and ideas end and other people's words and ideas begin. This includes assignments submitted in non-traditional formats such as Web pages or visual media, and material taken from such sources.

Please consult your instructor if you have any questions regarding how to document sources.

Internet and electronic communication device information

Texting and consulting emails during lectures is considered to be impolite and inconsiderate of fellow students.

Academic Misconduct

For information on academic misconduct and the consequences thereof please see the current University of Calgary Calendar at the following link;

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

Academic Accommodation Policy

If you are a student with a disability who may require academic accommodation, it is your responsibility to register with the Disability Resource Centre (220-8237) and discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of the course. For further information, please see <http://www.ucalgary.ca/drc/node/46>

Emergency Evacuation and Assembly points

Please note the evacuation points for this particular classroom. All classrooms on campus exit to specific places in case of emergency. The emergency assembly points differ depending upon where your classroom is located. For information on the emergency evacuation procedures and the assembly points see <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

"SAFEWALK" Program

Campus Security will escort individuals day or night -- call 403-220-5333 for assistance. Use any campus phone, emergency phone or the yellow phone located at most parking lot booths.

Student Representation

There are now four Arts reps because of the amalgamation, with the email addresses being arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, and arts4@su.ucalgary.ca. Please contact if you have questions related to Students Union matters, events, or concerns.

For your student ombudsman, please see

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds>

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The new Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (PIC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS110, call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at artsads@ucalgary.ca. You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.
- For program planning and advice, contact the Student Success Centre (formerly the Undergraduate programs Office) at (403) 220-5881 or visit them on the 3rd Floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.