

Political Science 405N
Regional Relations of Latin America and the Caribbean
Fall 2008

Prof. John P. Tuman
Office: A212 Wright Hall
Office Hours: 11:20-12:50, MW
Phone: 895-3754
john.tuman@unlv.edu

This course explores the regional and international relations of Latin America and the Caribbean. The lectures and readings are divided into three sections. The first two sections will cover the history and theory of international relations in Latin American and Caribbean. The third part of the course will focus on salient issues in the region since the end of the Cold War, including economic integration, democratization and human rights, regional security, and the environment.

Requirements and Policies

Lecture and Discussion: The class will meet on Monday and Wednesday from 2:30-3:45 in BEH 222 for lectures and discussion. Students are expected to finish all of the assigned readings and to be prepared for discussion.

Exams and Papers. The mid-term exam will be given on **October 13**. **The final exam is on December 10, 3:10-5:10, in BEH 222.** In addition, students are required to write a research paper (10-12 pp.). The paper is due on **November 19**. Exam 1 and the paper count for 30% of your final grade, while the final exam is worth 35%; the remaining 5% is based upon participation in group discussions. Make-up exams will be given only if the student can demonstrate she/he was absent due to illness or participation in an official university function. Students must provide an excuse in writing from a licensed health care provider or from a university administrator.

University Policy for Students with Disabilities: Any student who, because of a disabling condition, may require some special arrangements to meet course requirements should contact the instructor as soon as possible to make necessary accommodations. Students should also contact the UNLV Disability Resource Center for coordination of services and for information concerning documentation of a disability. The UNLV Disability Resource Center is in Student Services Complex, Room 137, Reynolds Student Services Center; 895-0866 (TDD 895-0652).

Observance of Religious Holidays: Students who miss class due to observance of a religious holiday shall be given the opportunity to make up the missed work. Please notify the instructor no later than the end of the first week.

Contact via E-mail: A new UNLV policy requires students to use Rebelmail accounts when they contact faculty via e-mail. As the official e-mail system for students, Rebelmail is available to all students who have been admitted to the university. Non-matriculated students should contact the Office of Information Technology at UNLV students for assistance.

Readings

Required: Peter Smith, *Talons of the Eagle: Latin America, the United States, and the World* (Oxford: Oxford University Press 2008), Third edition.

Some class readings are on reserve in Lied Library and available through e-reserves and electronic databases in the UNLV library. You may log on to the library website and download most readings from e-reserves (<http://ereserves.library.unlv.edu/>). In addition, some readings

are available through on-line article databases in the library and from other web sources. Academic Search Premier, Business Source Premier, and JSTOR can be accessed through the UNLV library at: <http://www.library.unlv.edu/search/eralpha.php>
You will need your library card number to access these databases.

Schedule of Lecture and Readings

- 8/25 Course Introduction
- 8/27-9/3 Latin America as a Regional System
G. Pope Atkins, "The Latin American and Caribbean Regional Subsystem." In E-Reserves.
Smith, pp. 1-42
Note: No class on 9/1 (Labor Day Holiday)
- 9/8-9/15 Theories of IR and Latin America: Contrasting Approaches
Atkins, "Explanations and Prescriptions"
Kathryn Sikkink, "From Pariah State to Global Protagonist: Argentina and the Struggle for International Human Rights," *Latin American Politics and Society* Volume 50, no. 1 (2008), pp. 1-29, in **Academic Search Premier database**.
William I. Robinson, "Global Crisis and Latin America," *Bulletin of Latin American Research*, Vol. 23, No. 2, 2004, pp. 135–153, in **Academic Search Premier database**.
Suggested: Ellen L. Lutz and Kathryn Sikkink, "International Human Rights Law and Practice in Latin America," *International Organization* 54, 3, Summer 2000, pp. 633–659 in **Academic Search Premier database**.
- 9/17-9/24 The Cold War and Latin America
Smith, Chapters 3-6.
Pope, "Warfare and Its Approximations", in E-Reserves
- 10/1-10/8 After the Cold War: Regional Economic Integration?
Smith, Chapter 6, and pp. 325-327
Victor Bulmer-Thomas, "Regional Integration in Latin America and the Caribbean," *Bulletin of Latin American Research*, Vol. 20, No. 3, 2001, pp. 360-369, in **Academic Search Premier database**.
Suggested: Beatriz Magaloni and Vidal Romero, "Partisan Cleavages, State Retrenchment, and Free Trade: Latin America in the 1990s," *Latin American Research Review* Vol. 43, No. 2, 2008, 107-135 in **Project Muse database**.
- 10/13 **Mid-Term Exam**
- 10/15-10/29 Regional Economic Integration: Effects; Integration with Whom?
Smith, Chapter 9
Kevin Gallagher and Roberto Porzecanski, "China Matters: China's Economic Impact on Latin America," *Latin American Research Review* Vol. 43, No. 1, 2008 in **Project Muse database**
Heraldo Munoz, "Good-bye USA?", in E-Reserves
Suggested: Deborah Sick, "Coffee, Farming Families, and Fair Trade in Costa Rica: New Markets, Same Old Problems," *Latin American Research Review* Vol. 43, No. 3, 2008, pp. 193-208, in **Project Muse database**.

- 11/3-11/10 Human Rights and Regional Support for Democracy: Consistency?
 Alberto van Klaveren, "Political Globalization and Latin America" in E-Reserves
 Arturo Valenzuela, "The Collective Defense of Democracy: Lessons from the
 Paraguay Crisis of 1996."
<http://wwics.si.edu/subsites/ccpdc/pubs/valenz/valenz.htm>
 Michele Wucker "Haiti: So Many Missteps," *World Policy Journal* Volume XXI,
 No 1, Spring 2004
<http://worldpolicy.org/journal/articles/wpj04-1/wucker.htm>
 BBC News, "US investigates Venezuela coup role" May 14, 2002,
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/americas/1988213.stm>
 Steve Ellner and Fred Rosen, "The Remarkable Rise and Fall of Hugo Chavez,"
NACLA Report of the Americas 36, 1 (July/August 2002) 9-15 in **Academic
 Search Premier database.**
Suggested: *CQ Researcher*, "Haiti's Dilemma – Current Situation" (2005), in
Academic Search Premier database.
- 11/12-11/17 Cuba in the Post-Soviet Era
 Jorge I. Dominguez, "Cuban Foreign Policy and the International System."
 Kathleen C. Schwartzman, "Can International Boycotts Transform Political
 Systems? The Cases of Cuba and South Africa" *Latin American Politics and
 Society*, Vol. 43, No. 2 (Summer, 2001), pp. 115-146 in **JSTOR database.**
 BBC News, "Cuban Leader Warns of Austerity," July 27, 2008, at
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/americas/7527362.stm>
- 11/19-11/26 The Drug Wars
 Smith, Chapter 8, and pp. 327-332
 Coletta A. Youngers, Eileen Rosin, "The U.S. 'war on drugs': Its Impact in Latin
 America and the Caribbean." In E-Reserves
 BBC News, "Mexico's Drug Killings Soaring," August 17, 2008,
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/americas/7566077.stm>
Paper Due November 19
- 12/1-12/3 Course Conclusion: Hemispheric Relations: Scenarios for the Future
 Smith, Chapter 10
- 12/10 Final Exam: 3:10-5:10PM**