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PSC 325.01: Politics of Latin America

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Politics of Latin America Autumn 2010

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Meets: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 2:10-3:30

Office hours in LA 350: Tuesday and Thursday 12:30-2:00 (and by appointment)

Required Texts (available in UC Bookstore and elsewhere):

Harry E. Vanden and Gary Prevost, *Politics of Latin America: The Power Game*. 3rd Edition. New York and Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2009.

Brian Loveman, *No Higher Law: American Foreign Policy and the Western Hemisphere Since 1776*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2010.

**In addition, a number of articles have already been placed on Blackboard. I will continue to place more on blackboard as the semester progresses. I will announce new readings by email and in class. Using Blackboard is a requirement in this class.

This course is designed to introduce students to the political history of Latin American politics and U.S. – Latin American relations. No assumptions are made regarding students' familiarity with Latin America or U.S. foreign policy. I do, however, assume a willingness on the part of students to work hard in the effort to engage the intricacies and nuances of the region by reading carefully, keeping complete and thoughtful journals, and participating in class discussions.

All students are required to read the assigned readings on time, and to come to class prepared to discuss them. All assigned readings must be read carefully and analytically ***before*** we discuss them in class. It is not possible to do well in this class without a willingness to participate thoughtfully in our conversations. I am happy to help students to develop strategies to improve your class participation, and may come to you with suggestions. However, you are ultimately responsible for developing your voice.

I regularly communicate with students by email, which I send through blackboard. Students are strongly advised to check their email for messages from me. If you do not you are likely to miss important information.

Students are expected to attend all classes unless ill or in case of emergency. Make a serious effort to get to class on time. ***If you are absent or late, send me an email explaining it. Do not explain it to me on the phone, in class, before class or after class.***

Grades: Journal and homework assignments (50%); In-class Assignments and classroom attendance/participation (25%); Review of Loveman (25%).

August 31 Introduction to the class. No reading

September 2 Vanden and Prevost, chapters 1 and 2 and Ambler Ross Jr., "Latin American Democracy: How is it Viewed From the North" in Richard Millett, Jennifer Holmes, and Orlando Pérez, eds. *Latin American Democracy: Emerging Reality or Endangered Species?* New York: Routledge, 2009, pp. 42-60 (blackboard)

Homework assignment due (typed): 1) student bio, 2) Comments and questions on "grading explanation"

Supplemental Reading:

Paul Haber, "Import Substitution Industrialization," in Michael Werner, ed., *Encyclopedia of Mexico: History, Society & Culture*. Chicago: Fitzroy Dearborn Publishers, 1998. (blackboard)

Paul Haber, "Neoliberalism," in Michael Werner, ed., *Encyclopedia of Mexico: History, Society & Culture*. Chicago: Fitzroy Dearborn Publishers, 1998. (blackboard)

September 7 Vanden and Prevost, chapter 3 and Francisco Rojas Aravena, "Latin American Democracy: The View From the South" in Millett, Holmes and Pérez, pp. 61-80 (blackboard). Homework assignment due: Contrast Views of the North and the South. 1-2 pages, typed.

September 9 Vanden and Prevost, chapters 4 and 5

Supplemental: Scott Mainwaring and Timothy Scully, "Eight Lessons for Governance." *Journal of Democracy* Volume 19, Number 3, July 2008. (blackboard)

September 14 Vanden and Prevost, chapters 6 and 7 and Stephen Haber, "Latin America's Quiet Revolution: An unprecedented political and economic transformation is under way in most of the region." *Wall Street Journal*. January 31, 2009 (blackboard).

Supplemental: Liliana Rojas-Suarez, "The International Financial Crisis: Eight Lessons for and from Latin America." Washington D.C.: Center for Global Development, Working Paper 202, January 2010 (available on the CDG website NOT on blackboard).

September 16 Vanden and Prevost, chapters 8 and 9 and Guillermo O' Donnell, "The Perpetual Crisis of Democracy." *Journal of Democracy*, Vol. 18, Number 1, January 2007 (blackboard). Map test today.

Supplementals (not on blackboard): Baviskar, Siddhartha, and Mary Fran T. Malone. 2004. "What Democracy Means to Citizens – and Why It Matters". *European Review of Latin American and Caribbean Studies*, 76: 3-23.

Camp, Roderic Ai. 2003. "Democracy through Latin American Lenses: an Appraisal" in Roderic Ai Camp, ed., *Citizen Views of Democracy in Latin America*. Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press.

Diamond, Larry, and Leonardo Morlino. 2005. "Introduction" in Diamond and Morlino, eds., *Assessing the Quality of Democracy*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press.

Przeworski, Adam. 1999. "Minimalist conception of democracy: a defense" in Ian Shapiro and Casiano Hacker-Cordón eds., *Democracy's Value*, pp. 23-55. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Schedler, Andreas. 1998. "What is Democratic Consolidation?" *Journal of Democracy*, 9(2): 91-107.

Schmitter, Philippe C., and Terry Lynn Karl. 1991. "What Democracy is and is not". *Journal of Democracy*, 2(3): 75-88.

September 21 Vanden and Prevost, chapter 10 and chapter 11 (Guatemala)

Supplemental: James Petras, "Social Movements and Alliance-Building in Latin America." *The Journal of Peasant Studies*, Vol. 35, No. 3, July 2008, pp. 476-528 (blackboard)

Peter Siavelis, "Executive-Legislative Relations and Democracy in Latin America" in Millett, Holmes and Pérez, pp. 101-118 (blackboard).

September 23 Film: *Sin Nombre*

September 28 Finish and discuss the film.

September 30 Vanden and Prevost, chapter 12 (Mexico) and one of the following two readings (the class will be divided in half, each half will do one of the readings and present their reading and assume the authors position for debate and discussion):

Stephen Haber, Herbert Klein, Noel Maurer, and Kevin Middlebrook, *Mexico Since 1980*. Cambridge University Press, 2008, pp. 1-19 and 66-94 (blackboard)

Adam David Morton, "Global Capitalism and the Peasantry in Mexico: The Recomposition of Class Struggle." *Journal of Peasant Studies*, 2007, 34:3, 441-473 (blackboard)

October 5 Vanden and Prevost, chapter 13 (Cuba).

Supplemental: Rut Diamint and Laura Tedesco, "The State, the Military, and the Citizen: New Security Challenges in Latin America" in Millett, Holmes and Pérez, pp. 158-170 (blackboard)

October 7 Vanden and Prevost, chapter 14 (Brazil) and Paul Haber, "Contrasting Assessments of the Contemporary Latin American Left, paper presented at a conference in Mexico City, November 2009. English and Spanish versions on blackboard.

Supplemental: Alexandre Fortes, "In Search of a Post-Neoliberal Paradigm: The Brazilian Left and Lula's Government."

International Labor and Working-Class History. No. 75. Spring 2009, pp. 109-125. (blackboard)

Forrest Colburn, "The Turnover in El Salvador." *Journal of Democracy*. Volume 20, Number 3, July 2009, pp. 142-152 (blackboard).

Tullo Vigeani. 2007. "Lula's foreign policy and the quest for autonomy through diversification." *Third World Quarterly* 28, no. 7:1309-1326. (not on blackboard)

October 9 Vanden and Prevost, chapter 15 (Argentina) and Richard Millett, "Crime and Citizen Security: Democracy's

Achilles Heel" in Millett, Holmes and Pérez, pp. 252-264 AND/OR Lucia Dammert and Mary Fran T. Malone, "Does It Take a Village? Policing Strategies and Fear of Crime in Latin America." *Latin American Politics & Society*. Volume 48, number 4, Winter 2006, pp. 27-51 (blackboard).

- October 12 Vanden and Prevost, chapter 16 (Chile)
- October 19 Vanden and Prevost, chapter 17 (Venezuela) and Julio Carrión, “The Persistent Attraction of Populism in the Andes” in Millett, Holmes and Pérez, pp. 233-251 (blackboard).
- October 21 Vanden and Prevost, chapter 18 (Colombia)
- October 26 Vanden and Prevost, chapter 19 (Nicaragua)
- October 28 Vanden and Prevost, chapter 20 (Bolivia)
Supplemental reading: Nicole Fabricant, “Performative Politics: The Camba Countermovement in Eastern Bolivia.” *American Ethnologist* 11/01/2009. Vol.36, Iss.4; pp.768-783 (not on blackboard)
- November 2 Loveman, Introduction and chapters 1 (Isolationist Myth) and 2 (Monroe Doctrine and Manifest Destiny)
- November 4 No class. Election Day.
- November 9 Loveman, chapters 3 (Providential Nursery?) and 4 (The Good Neighbor)
Supplemental reading: Chapters by Peter Smith and Henry Raymond that pertain to The Good Neighbor Policy provide alternative views of this period. See citations below in additional reading list. I have copies of these books that I will lend.
- November 11 Loveman, chapters 5 (New Manifest Destiny) and 6 (New Navy)
- November 16 No class. Veterans Day.
- November 18 Loveman, chapters 7 (Protective Imperialism) and 8 (Return to Normalcy)
- November 23 Loveman, chapters 9 (Independent Internationalism) and 10 (Not So Cold War I)
- November 25 No class. Thanksgiving Holiday.
- November 30 Loveman, chapters 11 (Not So Cold War II) and 12 (American Crusade)
- December 2 Loveman, chapters 13 (Not the End of History) and 14 (The New Normalcy) and Epilogue
- December 7 To be announced
- December 9 Review of Loveman due (5-10 pages, double spaced) and course evaluations

Additional Readings that might be of interest:

Paul Haber. 2006. *Power from Experience: Urban Popular Movements in 20th Century Mexico*. Penn State Press.

R. Evan Ellis. 2009. *China and Latin America: The Whats and Wherefores*. Lynne Rienner.

Gordon Mace, Jean-Philippe Thérien, and Paul Haslam, editors. 2007. *Governing the Americas: Assessing the Multilateral Institutions*. Lynne Rienner.

Russell Crandall. 2008. *Driven by Drugs: US Policy Toward Colombia*. 2nd edition. Lynne Rienner.

William Stanley. 2010. *Enabling Peace in Guatemala: The Story of MINUGUA*. Lynne Rienner.

Wayne Cornelius et al., editors. 2010. *Mexican Migration and US Economic Crisis: A Transnational Perspective*. Lynne Rienner. (Cornelius has co-edited five books since 2007 on Mexican migration to the United States all published by Lynne Rienner)

John Booth, Christine Wade, and Thomas Walker. 2010. *Understanding Central America*. Westview.

William I. Robinson. 2003. *Transnational Conflicts: Central America, Social Change, and Globalization*. Verso.

Henry Raymond. 2005. *Troubled Neighbors: The Story of US Latin American Relations from FDR to the Present*. Westview. (Provides a positive view of FDR and holds him up as an example of what might be possible today.)

Peter H. Smith. 2008. *Talons of the Eagle: Latin America, the United States, and the World*. Third Edition. Oxford University Press.

Jorge Domínguez and Rafael Fernández de Castro. 2009. *The United States and Mexico: Between Partnership and Conflict*. 2nd edition. Routledge.

Abraham Lowenthal, Theodore Piccone, and Laurence Whitehead, editors. 2009. *The Obama Administration and the Americas: Agenda for Change*. Brookings Institution.

Robert Holden and Eric Zolov, editors. 2000. *Latin America and the United States: A Documentary History*. Oxford.

Ronald Schneider. 2010. *Comparative Latin American Politics*. Westview Press.

Journal Instructions

Students are required to purchase and keep a journal that clearly records each reading and each class meeting. For each reading, students are required to 1) Summarize what you find to be the most important points in the reading. This summary should be of use to you when we together review the reading each class section. 2) Write at least one question and one comment – these need not be limited to the reading for that day. In fact, I encourage you to draw connections to other readings we have done in this class, other things you have read outside the class, or pertinent life experiences. 3) Keep notes on what happens in class, including recording comments you make to the class discussion (make these legible for me). This will help me at the outset to put names to faces and also help me to ensure that you get credit for your classroom participation.

All journals must be organized in the following way. If you would like to do it differently, you are welcome to bring a proposal to me in office hours where we can discuss it.

First, **clearly** demarcate ***at the top of the journal entry*** by number and date. For example

#3. September 15, 2010.

Reading assignment Loveman, pp. 67-112 and John French article entitled “Why the United States is Not Nice to Latin America.”

Each journal entry then has four parts, each of which should be clearly demarcated as well in the following order

1. Reading notes.
2. Chapter summaries.
3. Comments and questions for each class day.
4. Class notes.

Reading notes and class notes do not have to be EASILY legible. Reading notes are for your own use, I simply want to see that you are keeping them. However, I am going to read your chapter summaries, comments and questions word for word and evaluate them in terms of clarity and insight. So, **they must be** easily legible for me. If you cannot or do not choose to use legible handwriting, then type and print out your journal.

I will collect these journals at different intervals during the semester and grade them. ***You are required to keep them up to date.*** A main purpose of this assignment is preparation for class participation; thus, completing them after the fact seriously impedes their utility for you and for the rest of the class which is dependent upon the quality of your class participation.