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PSC 430.01: Inter-American Relations

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INTER-AMERICAN RELATIONS

Instructor: Professor Paul Haber 243-4862

University of Montana

Political Science Department, course #430

Spring 1998

Meets: TR 2:10 - 3:30

Office Hours: LA 355 Tuesdays 9:40 - 11:00 and Thursdays 3:40-5:00

Required texts available for purchase in UC Bookstore:

1. Peter Smith, *Talons of the Eagle*. Oxford University Press, 1996.
2. Walter La Feber, *Inevitable Revolutions: The United States in Central America*. W.W. Norton, 1993. Second Edition
3. Eldon Kenworthy, *America/Américas: Myth in the Making of U.S. Policy Toward Latin America*. Penn State Press, 1995.

This is a 400 level advanced seminar course. It is not a lecture course in which students come to class, take notes, and report back objectively correct answers on exams. I expect students to read all of the assigned readings carefully, analytically, and on time - so as to be prepared to critically discuss the material in class. While no prior background in Theories of International Relations, U.S. Foreign Policy, or Latin American Politics is required, those students who have no such background might want to do some background reading and/or watch the ten part video series, *Americas*, available at IMS. Students who would like help in selecting background reading are welcome to come see me.

The course will be run as a seminar. Students will be required to serve as class facilitators on at least two occasions - once during Section II or Section III and once during Section IV. Facilitators will be responsible to hand out, one class prior to "their" class a set of questions and/or issues for discussion that will serve as the focus of class discussion. During Section III, students must also select readings, and put those readings on reserve well in advance. Readings should be around 50 pages. In addition, facilitators will be required to bring to class a *typed and edited* statement (five to ten pages) in which you not only answer your own questions but offer rational for why you selected the particular set of questions. Facilitators are expected to read and integrate additional material into their class presentations and written statements. Students must have their case study projects (Section IV) approved by the professor no later than April 1. These approvals must be done in person, during office hours or by appointment.

Students will be required to come to class having read all the material carefully, and prepared to respond to each of the questions and issues. Facilitators, or myself, will have the option of asking students to answer any of the prepared questions.

Your grade will be based on class attendance and participation (1/3 of total grade), class facilitations (1/3) and papers (1/3).

Section I: Introduction to U.S. - Latin American Relations

January 27 Smith, pp. 3-64
January 29 Smith, pp. 65-114
February 3 Smith, pp. 117-162
February 5 Smith, pp. 163-214
February 10 Smith, pp. 217-262
February 12 Smith, pp. 263-336

February 17 Library Research Day (I will arrange to have a special class given at the library on data bases.)

Section II: Focus on U.S. - Central American Relations

February 19 La Feber, pp. 5-46 and country pages
February 24 La Feber, pp. 47-85
February 26 La Feber, pp. 87-145
March 3 La Feber, pp. 147-196
March 5 La Feber, pp. 197-225 and Kirpatrick (on reserve)
March 10 La Feber, pp. 225-270
March 12 La Feber, pp. 271-323
March 24 La Feber, pp. 325-368
March 26 Kenworthy, intro and chapters one, two and three
April 2 Kenworthy, chapters four and five
April 7 Kenworthy, chapters six, seven, eight, and appendix

Section III: (U.S.-Latin American Relations: Current Issues)

This is a tentative reading list. Changes will be announced in advance in class and additional or new readings will be put on reserve.

April 9 Journal of Interamerican Studies & World Affairs, pp. 1-57
April 14 Journal of Interamerican Studies & World Affairs, pp. 59-120
April 16 Journal of Interamerican Studies & World Affairs, pp. 121-175 and Richard Downs, "The Impact of the End of the Cold War on Inter-American Relations: The Search for Paradigm and Principle" (on reserve)

Section IV: (Central American Update: Case Studies)

April 21 Country Focus: Nicaragua
April 23 no class
April 28 Country Focus: Guatemala
April 30 Country Focus: Honduras
May 5 Country Focus: Costa Rica
May 7 Country Focus: Panama
May 14 (1:10 - 2:30) Country Focus: El Salvador