

Introduction to Latin American & Latino Studies

LALS 1: Summer 2023 (Session I)

Remote Instruction

Teaching Team

Instructor	TA (Section: TBD)	TA (Section: TBD)
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Office Hours: Tuesdays 4-6 PM PST	Office Hours: TBD	Office Hours: TBD

Course Description

This course introduces you to interdisciplinary approaches to topics and issues taking place in the Américas. Adopting a hemispheric and transnational viewpoint, we examine the intertwined social, political, economic, and cultural history of Latin America and the United States. We will survey the deep and growing interconnectedness across the regions and peoples of the Américas.

The course closely follows the origins, continuities, and transformations of power, from the distant colonial past to the neoliberal present. It encourages students to situate specific issues, peoples, nations, events, and topics within larger regional, hemispheric, and global processes that have casted lasting impact on people's lives in the Américas. We aim to sharpen our critical thinking skills and fan passion for discovering diverse histories that have shaped the world we live in.

The modality of the course is asynchronous online: you will watch uploaded lectures at your own pace and complete online activities and assignments. This specific mode of instruction is to better support your learning since a 5-week Summer Session course requires condensed efforts at a faster speed compared to the regular quarter version.

Student hours for class: Systemwide Senate Regulation 760 specifies that one academic credit corresponds to a total of 30 hours of work for the median student over a quarter. Since this course is a five-unit course taking place within the accelerated five-week time frame of summer session, students are expected to devote 30 hours per week.

Learning Objectives

By the end of the course, you will be able to:

- Think critically about the power relations that have shaped lived experiences of peoples of Latin America and the U.S.
- Have familiarized yourself with key historical events as well as key patterns of change and continuity that have shaped Latin American and US societies
- Articulate how interdisciplinary and transnational approaches can illuminate new ways of understanding

the complex histories of the Américas

- Appreciate the benefits of understanding hemispheric commonalities across difference.

Pre-requisites

There is no pre-requisite for this course. Anyone interested in Latin American and Latino studies is welcome.

Required Readings

The following two are the required books for the course:

- Chasteen, John Charles (2016) *Born in Blood and Fire: A Concise History of Latin America*, 4th. ed, New York, N.Y.; London: W.W. Norton & Co.

<http://www.wwnorton.com/college/history/born-in-blood-and-fire3/welcome.aspx>

- Selected chapters from Gonzales, Juan (2011) *Harvest of Empire: A History of Latinos in America*. Revised Edition. Penguin Books. (Will be uploaded on Canvas.)

Additionally, you will watch and discuss the following videos:

• **Harvest of Empire: The Untold Story of Latinos in America (2012)**

“From the wars for territorial expansion that gave the U.S. control of Puerto Rico, Cuba and more than half of Mexico, to the covert operations that imposed oppressive military regimes in the Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Nicaragua and El Salvador, Harvest of Empire unveils a moving human story that is largely unknown to the great majority of citizens in the U.S. <http://harvestofempiremovie.com/synopsis/>

• **Open Pit (2011)**

A film by Gianni Converso that explores the impact of gold mining in Cajamarca, Peru.

<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1949578/>

• **South of the Border (2009)**

• Oliver Stone's "road trip across five countries to explore the social and political movements as well as the mainstream media's misperception of South America while interviewing seven of its elected presidents.

<http://www.southoftheborderdoc.com/>

Evaluation of Performance

Progress and performance will be evaluated based on the following:

Weekly Discussion Board 20 %

Students are encouraged to participate in the weekly discussion board by posting questions, responses, and comments.

Collaborative Keyword Wiki 30% (Two entries: 15% each)

Students will collaboratively work on LALS1 Collaborative Keyword Wikipedia. Each student will sign up for a keyword pertinent to the previous two weeks and draft an entry. The first entry is due week 2. The second entry is due week 4. Each entry is worth 15 points for a total of 30 points.

Midterm Exam 25%

The midterm will take place at the end of week 3. Students will be asked to answer four questions in a short-essay format (max 400 words per answer) based on the readings, films, and lectures covered throughout week 1 - week 3. 25 points.

Final Essay 25%

By the end of week 5, students will be asked to submit an 3-4 page essay based on the readings, films, and lectures covered throughout week 1 - week 5. 25 points.

Final Grade Distribution

Weekly Discussion Board (20%) + Collaborative Wiki (30%) + Midterm (25%) + Final (25%)=100%

Final letter grade will be determined according to the following:

A+ 100% to 98%	C < 76% to 73%
A < 97% to 93%	C- <72% to 70%
A- < 92% to 90%	D+ <69% to 67%
B+ < 89% to 87%	D < 66% to 63%
B < 86% to 83%	D- < 62% to 60%
B- < 82% to 80%	F < 60% to 0%
C+ < 79% to 77%	

Course Schedule

I. BORN IN BLOOD AND FIRE: “ENCOUNTER” AND COLONIALISM

Key concepts: colonialism, hegemony, History

Day 1

Introduction to the course

Chasteen, Chapter 1, “Welcome to Latin America”

Chasteen, Chapter 2, “1492: Encounter? Discovery? Invasion?”

Day 2

Chasteen, Chapter 3, “The Colonial Crucible: Globalization”

II. THE CHALLENGES OF NATION BUILDING: INDEPENDENCE AND ASPIRATION FOR PROGRESS

Key concepts: nation-building, modernity, Progress

Day 3

Chasteen, Chapter 4, “Independence”

Day 4

Chasteen, Chapter 5 “Post-Colonial Blues”

Chasteen Chapter 6, “Progress”

Collaborative Wiki entry #1 due July 10

III. THE EMPIRES OLD AND NEW: NEOCOLONIALISM

Key concepts: neocolonialism, coloniality

Day 5

Chasteen, Chapter 7, “Neo-colonialism”

Chasteen, Chapter 8, “Nationalism 1910-1945”

Day 6

Gonzalez, Chapter 3, “Banana Republics and Bonds: Taming the Empire’s Backyard (1898-1950)”

Midterm Review

Midterm Exam due July 17

IV. REVOLUTION, REACTION, AND THE HARVEST OF EMPIRE

Key concept: The “Cold” War

Day 7

Chasteen, Chapter 9, “Revolution 1945-1960”

Chasteen, Chapter 10, “Reaction”

Gonzalez, Chapter 8, “Central Americans: Intervention Comes Home to Roost”

Day 8

Gonzalez, Chapter 4. “Puerto Ricans: Citizens Yet Foreigners”

Gonzalez, Chapter 5, “Mexicans: Pioneers of a Different Type”

Gonzalez, Chapter 7, “Dominicans: From the Duarte to the George Washington Bridge”

Today’s US foreign policy towards Latin America

Film: Harvest of Empire

Collaborative Wiki entry #2 due July 24

V. THE PINK TIDE, POST-NEOLIBERAL ALTERNATIVES, INEQUALITIES, AND THE FUTURE

Key concepts: The “Pink Tide,” neoliberalism, illegality, extractivism

Day 9

Chasteen, Chapter 11, “Neoliberalism and Beyond”

Film: South of the Border

Day 10

Global health crisis, migrant “illegality,” and extractivism in the Americas

Final Review

Final Essay due July 31

Important Summer Session Remote 2023 Deadlines

- Add/Swap - Thursday, June 29
- Drop - Monday, July 3 (tuition reversed)
- No classes are held in observance of Independence Day July 4
- Request "W" Grade - Sunday, July 16 (no tuition reversal)
- Change Grade Option - Sunday, July 23
- Grades Due - Thursday, August 3

Summer is unique. **You will not be dropped for non-attendance or non-payment.** You must drop yourself. Dropping before the deadline results in a full-tuition reversal/refund. Withdraw posts a W for the grade and full tuition is charged (no refund). For all dates and deadlines, including ‘change of grade option’ (P/NP) and grades due, here is the summer academic calendar: <https://summer.ucsc.edu/studentlife/index.html> For questions about dropping, requesting a W grade for a course, or withdrawing from the summer quarter, email summer@ucsc.edu.

Policies

Accessibility

UC Santa Cruz is committed to creating an academic environment that supports its diverse student body. If you are a student with a disability who requires accommodations to achieve equal access in this course, please affiliate with the DRC. I encourage all students to benefit from learning more about DRC services to contact

DRC by phone at 831-459-2089 or by email at drc@ucsc.edu. For students already affiliated, make sure that you have requested Academic Access Letters, where you intend to use accommodations. You can also request to meet privately with me during my office hours or by appointment, as soon as possible. I would like us to discuss how we can implement your accommodations in this course to ensure your access and full engagement in this course.

Title IX/CARE Advisory

UC Santa Cruz is committed to providing a safe learning environment that is free of all forms of gender discrimination and sexual harassment, which are explicitly prohibited under Title IX. If you have experienced any form of sexual harassment, sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking, know that you are not alone. The Title IX Office, the Campus Advocacy, Resources & Education (CARE) office, and Counseling & Psychological Services (CAPS) are all resources that you can rely on for support.

Please be aware that if you tell me about a situation involving Title IX misconduct, I am required to share this information with the Title IX Coordinator. This reporting responsibility also applies to course TAs and tutors (as well to all UCSC employees who are not designated as “confidential” employees, which is a special designation granted to counselors and CARE advocates). Although I have to make that notification, you will control how your case will be handled, including whether or not you wish to pursue a formal complaint. The goal is to make sure that you are aware of the range of options available to you and that you have access to the resources you need.

Confidential resources are available through [CARE](#). Confidentiality means CARE advocates will not share any information with Title IX, the police, parents, or anyone else without explicit permission. CARE advocates are trained to support you in understanding your rights and options, accessing health and counseling services, providing academic and housing accommodations, helping with legal protective orders, and more. You can contact CARE at (831) 502-2273 or care@ucsc.edu.

In addition to CARE, these resources are available to you:

- If you need help figuring out what resources you or someone else might need, visit the [Sexual Violence Prevention & Response \(SAFE\) website](#), which provides information and resources for different situations.
- [Counseling & Psychological Services \(CAPS\)](#) can provide confidential counseling support. Call them at (831) 459-2628.
- You can report gender discrimination and sexual harassment and violence directly to the University’s [Title IX Office](#) by calling (831) 459-2462 or by using their [online reporting tool](#).
- Reports to law enforcement can be made to the UC Police Department, (831) 459-2231 ext. 1.
- For emergencies, call 911.

Academic Integrity

All members of the UCSC community benefit from an environment of trust, honesty, fairness, respect, and responsibility. You are expected to present your own work and acknowledge the work of others in order to preserve the integrity of scholarship.

Academic integrity includes:

- Following assignment/exam rules
- Incorporating proper citation of all sources of information

- Submitting your own original work

Academic misconduct includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- Disclosing exam content during or after you have taken an exam
- Accessing exam materials without permission
- Copying/purchasing any material from another student, or from another source, that is submitted for grading as your own
- Plagiarism, including use of Internet material without proper citation
- Using cell phones or other electronics to obtain outside information during an exam without explicit permission from the instructor
- Submitting your own work in one class that was completed for another class (self-plagiarism) without prior permission from the instructor.
- Violations of the Academic Integrity policy can result in dismissal from the university and a permanent notation on a student's transcript. For the full policy and disciplinary procedures on academic dishonesty, students and instructors should refer to the [Academic Misconduct page](#) at the [Division of Undergraduate Education](#).

Intellectual Property

The materials in this course are the intellectual property of their creators. As a student, you have access to many of the materials in the course for the purpose of learning, engaging with your peers in the course, completing assignments, and so on. You have a moral and legal obligation to respect the rights of others by only using course materials for purposes associated with the course. For instance, you are not permitted to share, upload, stream, sell, republish, share the login information for, or otherwise disseminate any of the course materials, such as: video and audio files, assignment prompts, slides, notes, syllabus, simulations, datasets, discussion threads. Conversely, any materials created solely by you (for example, your videos, essays, images, audio files, annotations, notes) are your intellectual property and you may use them as you wish.

Religious Accommodation

UC Santa Cruz welcomes diversity of religious beliefs and practices, recognizing the contributions differing experiences and viewpoints can bring to the community. There may be times when an academic requirement conflicts with religious observances and practices. If that happens, students may request reasonable accommodation for religious practices. The instructor will review the situation in an effort to provide a reasonable accommodation without penalty. You should first discuss the conflict and your requested accommodation with your instructor early in the term. You or your instructor may also seek assistance from the [Dean of Students office](#).

Student Services

Counseling and Psychological Services

Many students at UC Santa Cruz face personal challenges or have psychological needs that may interfere with their academic progress, social development, or emotional wellbeing. The university offers a variety of confidential services to help you through difficult times, including individual and group counseling, crisis intervention, consultations, online chats, and mental health screenings. These services are provided by staff who welcome all students and embrace a philosophy respectful of clients' cultural and religious backgrounds, and

sensitive to differences in race, ability, gender identity and sexual orientation.

Student Success and Engagement Hub

The Division of Student Success provides campus-wide coordination and leadership for student success programs and activities across departments, divisions, the colleges, and administrative units.

Tutoring and Learning Support

At Learning Support Services (LSS), undergraduate students build a strong foundation for success and cultivate a sense of belonging in our Community of Learners. LSS partners with faculty and staff to advance educational equity by designing inclusive learning environments in Modified Supplemental Instruction, Small Group Tutoring, and Writing Support. When students fully engage in our programs, they gain transformative experiences that empower them at the university and beyond.

Slug Support Program

College can be a challenging time for students and during times of stress it is not always easy to find the help you need. Slug Support can give help with everything from basic needs (housing, food, or financial insecurity) to getting the technology you need during remote instruction.

To get started with SLUG Support, please contact the [Dean of Students](#) Office at 831-459-4446 or you may send us an email at deanofstudents@ucsc.edu.

Slug Help/Technology

The ITS Support Center is your single point of contact for all issues, problems or questions related to technology services and computing at UC Santa Cruz. To get technological help, simply email help@ucsc.edu.