

POLS 389 (16225)  
University of Illinois at Chicago  
Spring 2012

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BSB 1115  
R 3:30-6 PM

### **International Latino Politics: Migration, Foreign Policy, and Conflict**

This course will explore the international dimensions of the Latino experience. The Latino population consists of approximately 37 million people and rising in the United States. The question we will ask is what effect this population boom will have on American external relations, broadly defined.

This course will deal with four main issues: Latino participation, foreign policy, conflict, immigration. We will start with an introductory analysis of the Latino experience in the United States. The course will then shift to an engagement of foreign policy issues, mainly analysis of the concept of national interest. Next, we will analyze conflict and cooperation patterns within the Latin American region with an emphasis on American periods of intervention. The third part of the course will deal with immigration. We will study what are the causes and consequences of immigration patterns. Due to time constraints, we will have to leave an analysis of economic relations to another course.

This course will be focused on what it means to be Latino and what effect this identity will have on the external relations of the United States. As the population of Latino-Americans grows within the United States, this question becomes all the more important and pressing. Latinos must have a voice in external matters, but what form will this voice take?

#### **Objectives of Course:**

- Understand the Latino experience
- Uncover dynamics and causes of immigration
- Understand comparative Latino foreign policy views and preferences
- Discuss the shadow of past conflict operations and their effect on current relations

#### **Office Hours and Contact Info**

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### **Required Books**

- Suarez-Orozco, Marcelo and Mariela Paez. 2008. *Latinos: Remaking America (Updated with New Preface)*. Berkeley: University of California Press. ISBN: 0520258274
- Koser, Khalid. 2007. *International Migration: A Very Short Introduction*. Oxford University Press. ISBN: 0199298017
- Foer, Franklin. 2005. *How Soccer Explains the World: An Unlikely Theory of Globalization*. Harper Perennial. (ISBN: 0060731427)

### Recommended

- Scheina, Robert L. 2003. *Latin America's Wars, Volume II: The Age of the Professional Soldier, 1900-2001*. Potomac Books. (ISBN: 1574884522)

### **Requirements:**

Research Paper	40%
Participation	30%
Short Paper	10%
MidFinal Test	20%

### **News**

Each day we will start off with the discussion of the international news if events take place which are relevant to Latino politics both domestically and internationally. Students should be prepared to bring up and discuss these events. Any reputable national news source is acceptable. I prefer the New York or Los Angeles Times. Finding news events that are relevant will take time and skill. Some of reports are buried in the news coverage of the day and it is your responsibility to find the relevant ones that others may have missed.

### **Participation**

Participation is simply showing up *and* contributing to class. Either asking questions, bringing up news articles, following up on lecture points, or private conversations with the professor (if you are more comfortable with that) all count towards your participation grade. I do not take attendance and feel that missing class will be reflected on your final grade because you will miss important material.

## **Adopting a Country**

Since this course is about international Latino issues, every student will adopt one Latin American country as their own for the rest of the course (you cannot choose Mexico, nor a country of origin – try something new). Your first short paper will be an analysis of this country. Relevant questions are what are the country's foreign policy concerns? What are the immigration inflow and outflows of this country? What economic issues are important both domestically and internationally? What conflict events have occurred in this country? Is it involved in any rivalries? This paper will be due on Jan 26th, 5-7 pages.

## **Research Paper**

Your assignment for your major term paper is the analysis of the dynamics of United States – Latin American relations. You may choose to analyze either a Latin American rivalry or the immigration patterns between one Latin American country and the United States.

If you choose to analyze a rivalry, you must include past conflict actions, foreign policy dynamics, conflict resolution, economic issues, and current events. You should trace the start of the rivalry to its end by asking some common questions. If you choose to analyze migration patterns, your paper should detail the numbers of incoming and outgoing peoples between one Latin American country and the United States. You should also analyze the causes of immigration and the consequences.

This will be a detailed assignment with a large amount of research. The paper should be 15-20 pages. Longer papers will be accepted, but the ability to condense information and present it in an organized way is valued. At the end of the semester you will present your paper to the class. This paper could be used later for an application to a graduate program, to present at an undergraduate research conference, or the basis for your thesis in an honors program.

## **Sources**

I am not picky about citations as long as you cite relevant materials. Necessary information is the journal or book name, title of piece, pages, year, and publisher. The caveat is that citations should not be primarily internet sources. I would like you to use journals, newspapers (BBC is counts), and books not solely available on the internet (most things on the internet that are academic have appeared in print somewhere). So no Wikipedia!

## **Course Outline**

### *Latino Experience*

1. Latino History
2. Latino Political Participation Dynamics
3. Street Gangs: International Dimensions
4. Miami Cubans
5. International Sport: How Soccer Explains the World
6. Divided Loyalties: Latinos and the World Cup

### *Foreign Policy*

1. International Relations Theories
2. Latinos and the National Interest
3. Comparative Foreign Policy: Mexico and the United States
4. Comparative Foreign Policy: Latin America and the United States

### *Conflict in Latin America*

1. Small Power Wars
2. Revolutions and Interventions
3. Great Power Involvement
4. Drug Wars
5. Latin American Rivalries and State Building

### *Immigration*

1. Latino Immigration into the United States
2. International Migration Patterns
3. Causes of International Migration
4. Effects of International Migration

## **Readings and Assignments**

### **Jan 12th**

Introductions and outline

### **Jan 19th**

Why Latinos matter?

Class orientation

### **Jan 26th**

Latino History (Read: *Latinos* Introduction and Ch 1, Acuna Chapter 15, Online)

Latino Political Participation Dynamics (Read: *Latinos* Ch 20-21)

### **Feb 2nd**

Miami Cubans (Read: *Latinos* Ch 3)

Caribbean Latinos (Read: *Latinos* Ch 2)

Street Gangs (*Latinos* Ch 4)

Short Paper Due

### **Feb 9**

Assimilation and Acculturation

Divided Loyalties: Latinos and the World Cup (Read: Valeriano Paper Online)

Education (*Latinos* Ch 5, 18, 19)

### **Feb 16th**

International Sport and Politics (Read *How Soccer Explains the World*)

### **Feb 23**

Catch Up

### **March 1**

International Relations Theories and Latin America

The National Interest (Read: Morgenthau, APSR, 1954, Online)

Latinos and the National Interest

(Read: Valeriano: 'The International Politics of a New Latino America: The Foreign Policy Preferences of Latinos and the National Interest,' Online and Huntington, Foreign Policy, Online)

### **March 8**

Comparative Foreign Policy: Mexico and the United States

(Read: Valeriano and Powers, "United States – Mexico: Interstate Relations Post-9/11," Online)

Comparative Foreign Policy: Latin America and the United States

(Read: Valeriano and Marin, "Latin American Responses to the Bush Doctrine," Online)

### **March 15**

The United States and Latin American Coups

(Read: Supporter of Stability or Agent of Agitation? The Effect of US Foreign Policy on Coups in Latin America – Thyne and Powell, Online)

Revolutions and Interventions (Read: *Latin America's Wars*, Ch 22, 24, 27, 34)

### **March 22**

**Spring Break**

### **March 29**

Small Power Wars (Read: *Latin America's Wars*, Ch 11, 13, 32)

Great Power Involvement (Read: *Latin America's Wars*, Ch. 33, 21, 35)

Drug Wars (Read: *Latin America's Wars*, Ch. 38)

### **April 5**

Conference, No Class

### **April 12**

Latin American Rivalries and the Making of a State (Read: Thies, Online)

***Test Today***

### **April 19th**

International Migration Patterns

Causes of International Migration

Read Migration Book (Full)

### **April 26th**

Latino Immigration into the United States (Read: *Latinos*, Ch 8)

Effects of International Migration

Final Paper Due April 30<sup>th</sup>, no exceptions (I am leaving town)