

PO397-15 Latin America: Democratization and Development

22/23

Department

Politics & International Studies

Level

Undergraduate Level 3

Module leader

Thomas Long

Credit value

15

Module duration

10 weeks

Assessment

100% coursework

Study location

University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

Description

Introductory description

N/A

Module aims

The principal aims of this module are to help students develop a critical understanding of political and economic trends in Latin America. The class will employ intra-regional comparisons as well as comparison between Latin America and other world regions. The module considers how historical trajectories, policy models, and elite and popular politics have shaped Latin America's politics and economics. It particularly focuses on the region's inconsistent growth and high levels of inequality, as well as its uneven processes of democratization. Students will examine competing explanations for divergent levels of economic development, state capacity, and political party strength. The module will explore recent trends and contemporary events. Students will also develop greater in-depth understanding of particular countries in the region.

Outline syllabus

This is an indicative module outline only to give an indication of the sort of topics that may be

covered. Actual sessions held may differ.

1. Introduction and context
2. Latin America's 'development gap'
3. Explaining the gap 1: Colonial legacies
4. Explaining the gap 2: External factors
5. Explaining the gap 3: State policies
6. Reading week
7. Latin American Politics Today
8. Historical legacies and state-building
9. Caudillos, populists, and generals
10. From "third wave" to "pink tide"

Learning outcomes

By the end of the module, students should be able to:

- Understand broad trends in Latin American political and economic history
- Assess the differences in the political and economic trajectories of states within Latin America
- Have developed in-depth knowledge of at least two countries in the region through independent research
- Have improved their research and writing skills

Indicative reading list

- Thorp, Rosemary. *Progress, Poverty, and Exclusion: An Economic History of Latin America in the 20th Century*. New York: Inter-American Development Bank, 1998
- Wiarda, Howard J., and Harvey F. Kline, eds. *Latin American Politics and Development*, 8th ed. Boulder: Westview Press, 2014
- UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), *Preliminary Overview of the Economies of Latin America and the Caribbean*, 2015
- Fukuyama, Francis, ed. *Falling Behind: Explaining the Development Gap between Latin America and the United States*. Oxford University Press, 2008
- Mahoney, James. *Colonialism and Postcolonial Development: Spanish America in Comparative Perspective*. Cambridge University Press, 2010
- Flores-Macías, Gustavo A. *After neoliberalism?: The Left and Economic Reforms in Latin America*. Oxford University Press, 2012
- Jorge I. Domínguez and Michael Shifter, eds., *Constructing Democratic Governance in Latin America*, 4th ed. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2013.
- Pérez-Liñán, Aníbal, and Scott Mainwaring. "Regime legacies and levels of democracy: Evidence from Latin America." *Comparative Politics* 45.4 (2013): 379-397.
- Weyland, Kurt. "The threat from the populist left." *Journal of Democracy* 24.3 (2013): 18-32
- Gallagher, Kevin P. *The China triangle: Latin America's China boom and the fate of the Washington consensus*. Oxford University Press, 2016.
- Lustig, Nora, Luis F. Lopez-Calva, and Eduardo Ortiz-Juarez. "Declining inequality in Latin America"

in the 2000s: the cases of Argentina, Brazil, and Mexico." World Development 44 (2013): 129-141.
Carreras, Miguel, "The Rise of Outsiders in Latin America, 1980-2010," Comparative Political Studies, 2012
Hagopian, Frances and Scott P. Mainwaring. 2005. The Third Wave of Democratization in Latin America. Advances and Setbacks. Cambridge University Press.

[View reading list on Talis Aspire](#)

Subject specific skills

TBC

Transferable skills

TBC

Study

Study time

Type	Required
Lectures	9 sessions of 1 hour (6%)
Seminars	9 sessions of 1 hour (6%)
Private study	132 hours (88%)
Total	150 hours

Private study description

TBC

Costs

No further costs have been identified for this module.

Assessment

You must pass all assessment components to pass the module.

Assessment group A1

	Weighting	Study time
3,000 word essay	100%	

Feedback on assessment

Comments will be provided for the essay on the PAIS assessment feedback forms, and students will have the opportunity to discuss this with the module director in Advice and Feedback hours.

Availability

Courses

This module is Optional for:

- UECA-4 Undergraduate Economics 4 Year Variants
 - Year 4 of LM1H Economics, Politics & International Studies with Study Abroad
 - Year 4 of LM1H Economics, Politics & International Studies with Study Abroad
- UECA-LM1D Undergraduate Economics, Politics and International Studies
 - Year 3 of LM1D Economics, Politics and International Studies
 - Year 3 of LM1D Economics, Politics and International Studies
- UHIA-VM14 Undergraduate History and Politics (with Year Abroad and a term in Venice)
 - Year 3 of VM14 History and Politics (with Year Abroad and a term in Venice)
 - Year 4 of VM14 History and Politics (with Year Abroad and a term in Venice)
- Year 3 of UHIA-VM13 Undergraduate History and Politics (with a term in Venice)
- Year 3 of UPOA-M162 Undergraduate Politics, International Studies and Quantitative Methods

This module is Option list A for:

- Year 3 of UPOA-M16D Undergraduate Politics, International Studies and German (3 year degree)
- Year 3 of UPOA-M16H Undergraduate Politics, International Studies and Hispanic Studies (3 year degree)

This module is Option list C for:

- UHIA-VM11 Undergraduate History and Politics
 - Year 3 of VM11 History and Politics
 - Year 3 of VM11 History and Politics
 - Year 3 of VM11 History and Politics
- Year 4 of UHIA-VM12 Undergraduate History and Politics (with Year Abroad)