



UNIVERSITY OF CHILE  
FACULTY OF PHILOSOPHY AND HUMANITIES  
UNDERGRADUATE SCHOOL



Syllabus		
<b>1. Course name</b> Latin American Politics and World Affairs		
<b>2. Course name in Spanish</b> Introducción a la Política Latinoamericana		
<b>3. Academic Unit / Institution of the academic unit that develops it.</b>  Faculty of Philosophy and Humanities (FFH) - Institute of International Studies (IEI) / Undergraduate School (FFH)		
<b>4. Hours of work:</b>	<b>e-learning:</b> 1,5	<b>Self-Directed:</b> 2,5
<b>5. Type of credits</b>	SCT	
<b>6. Number of credits SCT – Chile</b>	6	
<b>7. Requirements</b>	— Good command of English	
<b>8. Description of the course</b>	<p>Description of the course</p> <p>This elective course presents a general overview of the main issues on Latin American political development and its current global engagement. The main question we hope to answer is: why have democracy and economic development been so difficult to accomplish in the region? We will focus mainly on Chile, Argentina, Peru, Uruguay, Brazil, Colombia and Mexico.</p> <p>The course will be divided into three parts. The first one focuses on historical, economic and political legacies that may have deferred the process of democratization and economic development of the region. The second part of</p>	



	<p>the programme focuses on the main political actors (collective and institutional) engaged in the Latin America political arena and its efforts to promote (or suppress) political participation. The last section of the course concentrates on Latin America in the international arena and its political and economic projections in the globe, especially with the US, the EU and China.</p>
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<b>9. Type of general competences to which the course contributes</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Synthesize, organize and analyse information that describes and explains processes and problems distinctive of the international reality.</li> <li>2. Develop professional understanding of the foremost historical, political and economic processes in Latin America.</li> </ol>
<b>10. Subcompetences</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Identify the major ongoing debates on Latin American politics integrating different approaches and perspectives-</li> <li>2. Understand the main challenges of democratization and economic development in Latin America.</li> </ol>
<b>11. Learning outcomes</b>	
<b>12- Knowledge / content</b>	
<p>First part. Introduction:</p> <p>Class 1.- Introduction: The main political landmarks of Latin America from the colony to the 1960s.</p> <p>Class 2.- The struggle for democracy in Latin America.</p> <p>Class 3.- The main problems of Latin American development: From ISI to nowadays.</p> <p>Second part: The main actors and institutions.</p> <p>Class 4.- Political parties.</p> <p>Class 5.- The military</p>	



- Class 6.- Social movements and Trade Unions.  
Class 7.- The president.  
Class 8.- The legislative.  
Class 9.- Citizenship and democracy (public opinion)  
Class 10.- Populism in Latin America: actors and policies.

Third part: Latin America in the international arena.

- Class 11.- Latin American foreign politics in a globalized world  
Class 12.- Latin America and the US.  
Class 13- Latin America and the EU.  
Class 14- Latin America and China.

- **Class 15- Final essay delivery**

### **13. Methodology**

- This course will be conducted entirely in English. It will be understood that you have a good command of listening, reading and writing in the English language. This course will be developed in a seminar scheme, where different professors will give lectures on each of the topics of the course. The course will be supervised by Professors Dockendorf and López.
- The course will be completely online using the zoom platform and will have a Synchronous / Asynchronous modality. The main lecture lasts one hour with 15 minutes for questions. This class will be recorded for all students in order to solve time difference problems (Santiago, Chile UTC -4). Through the course web platform, students will be able to ask general questions about the course or questions related to a particular lecture. A teaching assistant (TA) will be available to solve your problems.

### **14. Evaluation**

*(Means of verification / learning outcomes)*

- The Introduction to Latin American Politics course will be evaluated by a single final research paper on a specific topic covered in the lectures. At the beginning of November, the course coordinators will send you between 10 to 15 questions from which you must choose only one question and answer it. The student is to address the question as specifically as possible and should remember that a detailed historical background is generally not necessary. The paper does not need to make an unconditional yes/no argument, the line of reasoning may be nuanced and should address counter-arguments.
- The paper is to be carefully researched and documented; at least 25% of cited works should be required or recommended readings from the lectures and at least 25% from other readings. Not only direct quotes but also paraphrased text



and ideas taken from a source must be quoted. No more than 2 sentences should be taken wholesale from a single source.

- Remember that the University of Chile recommends using the APA Style Guide.
- Length: a maximum of 1,700-2000 words (roughly 5-7 pages) excluding bibliography. Deadline: Last class of the course.

#### 15. Approval requirements

*The minimum grade to pass the course is 4. In Chile, the evaluation scale ranges from 1.0 (min) to 7.0 (max).*

#### 16. Keywords

- Latin America, Politics, democracy, development, globalization,

#### 17. Mandatory Bibliography (maximum 5 texts)

- Weeks, Gregory (2015). Understanding Latin American Politics. Charlotte. University of North Carolina Press. Open access. <https://omp.uncc.edu/library/catalog/book/7> Chaps: 1-4.
- Domínguez, Jorge I. and Ana Covarrubias (2015). Routledge Handbook of Latin America in the World. Abingdon, UK. Routledge. Chaps: 2, 14, 15, 16, 18.
- Kingstone, Peter and Deborah J. Yashar (2012). Routledge Handbook of Latin American Politics. Abingdon, UK. Routledge. Chaps: 2,4,6,10,15,22, 31.

#### 18. Further reading

- Alemán E and Tsebelis G (2016) Legislative Institutions and Lawmaking in Latin America. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Caramani, D. (2010): "Party systems", en D. Caramani (ed.): Comparative politics, Oxford University Press, Oxford, pp. 237-259.
- Collier, R and Collier D (2002) Shaping the Political Arena: Critical Junctures, the Labor Movement and Regime Dynamics in Latin America. Indiana: University of Notre Dame Press, pp. 3-54.
- Dix, R. (1989): "Cleavage structures and party systems in Latin America", Comparative Politics, 22 (1), pp. 23-37.
- Dornbusch, R and Edwards, S, eds. (1991) The macroeconomics of populism in Latin America. Chicago and London: U. of Chicago Press.
- Munck, R. (2020). Social Movements in Latin America: Mapping the Mosaic. McGill-Queen's University Press.
- Roberts, K. and E. Wibbels (1999): "Party systems and electoral volatility in Latin America: a test of economic, institutional, and structural explanations, The American Political Science Review, 93 (3), pp. 575-590.
- Simison E (2019) Legislatures and Representation in Latin American Politics. Oxford Encyclopedia of Latin American Politics. Oxford University Press.

#### 19. Recursos web

- <http://lanic.utexas.edu/las.html>



- <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/communication-and-information/portals-and-platforms/goap/access-by-region/latin-america-and-the-caribbean/>
- <https://opendatabarometer.org/3rdedition/regional-report/latin-america/>
- <https://www.v-dem.net/en/>
- <https://www.vanderbilt.edu/lapop/>
- <https://www.e-ir.info/>
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**20. RUT and name of the teachers in charge of the course**

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