Syllabus

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS OF LATIN AMERICA - 58629

Last update 25-10-2017

HU Credits: 4

Degree/Cycle: 1st degree (Bachelor)

Responsible Department: international relations

Academic year: 0

Semester: 1st Semester

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Prof. Arie M. Kacowicz

Coordinator Email: arie.kacowicz@mail.huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours: MONDAYS, 1030-1200

Teaching Staff:
  Prof Arie Kacowicz
Course/Module description:
This seminar is designed to grant students basic knowledge and analytical tools for the understanding and explanation of the international relations of Latin America since the independence of the LA states about 200 hundred years ago until our days. The seminar focuses especially upon the South American region and the period since 1945. The seminar does not focus upon the foreign policies of specific countries, but rather present them within a systemic framework, by implementing theories of international relations such as conflict and cooperation. In this sense, studying the IR of Latin America provides us with a fascinating laboratory to test IR theories.

The seminar consists of five parts: 1) the historical background and evolution of the IR of Latin America in the last two hundred years; (2) the major actors and their interactions; (3) alternative explanations for the long South American peace; (4) the IR of Latin America vis-a-vis extraregional actors; (5) students will present their work in progress.

Course/Module aims:
The seminar is designed to provide advanced undergraduate students in IR with the basic knowledge and the analytical tools to understand and explain the international relations of Latin America, with a focus upon the interactions among the different actors in the region.

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:
Students will be able to understand, explain, and assess political processes (mainly international political) in the region, as it will be expressed in their seminar papers to be submitted.

Attendance requirements(%):
100

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: The course is taught not as a Lecture, but rather in a Seminar format. The Instructor presents the subject each session, followed by a presentation by 1-2 students, and an open discussion. In the last third of the term students also present their work in progress (related to their seminar papers).

Course/Module Content:
A. Introduction and Historical Background:
1. Introduction (October 23).

2. Latin America as an international sub-system (October 25).

3. Historical background I: The 19th century (October 30).

4. Historical background II: The 20th century (November 1).

5. IR of Latin America after the Cold War (November 6).

B. International actors and international interactions in Latin America:

6. States and foreign policy (November 8).

7. Other international actors: transnational actors and international organizations (November 13).

8. International conflicts and conflict management (November 15).


10. South America as a zone of peace? (November 22).

11. Realism: balance of power, geopolitics, and hegemony (November 27).

12. International political economy and interdependence; the problem of poverty and inequality in the region (November 29).

13. The issue of development and dependency theory (December 4).

14. Movie on dependency and development (December 6).

15. Democratization; pluralistic security communities and the role of norms in the region (December 11).

C. IR of Latin America vis-a-vis extra-regional actors:


17. Latin American relations with other actors (December 18).

18. Mid-term exam (December 20).

D. Empirical applications:

Presentations by students and guest Lecturers will take place in the following dates:

January 1, 3, 8, 10, 15, 17, 22, 24.

Required Reading:


G. Pope Atkins, Latin America and the Caribbean in the International System, Chapter 2, pp. 25-57. (*)


Atkins, Latin America and the Caribbean in the International System, Chapter 4, pp. 81-107. (*)

Alberto van Klaveren, "Understanding Latin American Foreign Policies," in Muooz and Tulchin, eds., Latin American Nations in World Politics, pp. 35-60. (*)

Atkins, Latin America and the Caribbean in the International System, Chapter 8, pp. 208-241; and Chapters 10-11, pp. 269-313. (*)


Atkins, Latin America and the Caribbean in the International System, Chapter 12, pp. 317-349. (*)


Atkins, Latin America and the Caribbean in the International System, Chapter 7, pp. 175-207. (*)


Arie M. Kacowicz, "Geopolitics and Territorial Issues: Relevance for South America," Geopolitics, Volume 5, No. 1, Summer 2001, pp. 81-100. (*)


Atkins, Latin America and the Caribbean in the International System, Chapter 14, pp. 373-398.


Atkins, Latin America and the Caribbean in the International System, pp. 103-128. (*)


Christopher Sabatini, “Rethinking Latin America,” Foreign Affairs, Volume 91, No. 2, March/April 2012, pp. 8-13. (*)


Additional Reading Material:


F. Taylor Deck, Latin America Enters the World Scene, 1900-1930, in Davis et al., Latin American Diplomatic History, pp. 146-189.


John J. Finnan, Foreign Relations in the 1930s: Effects of the Great Depression, in Davis et al., Latin American Diplomatic History, pp. 191-221.

Will Fowler, Latin America, 1800-2000, Chapters 4-6, pp. 85-156.


Arie M. Kacowicz, Multilateralism and Latin America, Multilateralism in Latin America, unpublished manuscript, December 2010.


Andres Serbin, "Cooperative Security and Regional Governance" (draft chapter), in Kacowicz and Mares.


Jorge I. Dominguez and Rafael Fernandez de Castro (eds.), Contemporary U.S.-Latin American Relations: Cooperation or Conflict in the 21st Century , Chapters on US-Mexico (chapter 2); US-Argentina (Chapter 6); US-Brazil (Chapter 7); US-Chile (Chapter 8); and US-Venezuela (Chapter 11).


Arie M. Kacowicz, The Impact of Norms in International Society, pp. 71-76; 125-133.


Arie M. Kacowicz, The Impact of Norms in International Society, Chapter 4, pp. 78-124.

Benjamin Miller, States, Nations, and the Great Powers: The Sources of Regional


David R. Mares, Violent Peace: Militarized Interstate Bargaining in Latin America


*Atkins, Latin America and the Caribbean in the International System, Chapter 14, pp. 373-398.*


Peter H. Smith, *Talons of the Eagle,* Chapters 9, 11, 12, and Conclusions, pp. 219-248; 284-370.


Jorge I. Dominguez and Rafael Fernandez de Castro (eds.), *Contemporary US-Latin American Relations* [selected chapters on different bilateral relations: Argentina, Chile, Brazil, Colombia, Peru, Venezuela, Cuba, and Mexico]


**Course/Module evaluation:**
- End of year written/oral examination 0 
- Presentation 0 
- Participation in Tutorials 30 
- Project work 0 
- Assignments 0 
- Reports 20 
- Research project 30 
- Quizzes 20 
- Other 0 

**Additional information:**
- The submission of the research (seminar) paper grants 100% and a separate grade for the course. Hence, the course consists of 4 credits for the seminar paper and 4 credits for the class.

- The grade of the course consists of: active participation (30%); bibliographical short paper (20%); project prospectus [referat] (30%); and multiple choice exam (20%).