Course Synopsis and Goals
This Course examines the history of twentieth century Latin America, paying special attention to the ways in which nations and national identities are constructed. We will consider how peasants, laborers, women, indigenous peoples, students, and the economic and political elite have related to the state as well as the roles that their negotiations played in shaping the social, political, and cultural history of the region. We will also address questions of democratic representation and regional identity, the struggles by many sectors for political, social, and economic inclusion, and the ways in which these struggles have been repressed, accommodated, absorbed, or ignored. Finally, we will explore the ways in which an understanding of historical processes is absolutely essential to the understanding of present day Latin America.

The central goals of this course are to expose students to politics, society, and culture in contemporary Latin America, as well as to improve critical thinking and writing skills. We will examine a range of key issues including the legacy of Spanish colonialism, urbanization, populism, revolution, the Cold War, leftist radicalism, and globalization, among others. Along with mastering a historical narrative, students will be encouraged to engage with issues of historical methodology and interpretation.

Course Materials
The course material is drawn from a range of sources including scholarly works, primary documents, movies, paintings, music, and literature. Books are available for purchase at Groundwork Bookstore in the Student Coop and are also on reserve at Geisel Library. Additional required readings (articles and book chapters) will be posted online via Ted or e-Reserves (password: ms102).

Course Requirements
Students are required to complete all assigned readings and periodically submit in-class writing responses (schedule and format to be discussed in class). The bulk of the grade will be divided between a midterm, research paper, and final exam. Students must complete all assignments to pass the course.

Research Paper
Students are required to write one research paper (7-10 pages) on a topic of their choice, with instructor approval. This project will be developed in a series of stages. A handout with detailed instructions will be circulated during week 2.

Grading Breakdown
Attendance and Participation: 10%
Writing Responses: 10%
Midterm: 25%
Paper: 30%
Final Exam: 25%

Course Schedule

**Week 1:** Modernization and Growth: Cities, Government, and Trade

**Monday:** Introduction to course themes

**Wednesday:** Liberalism, cities, and the Idea of Progress
- Galeano, *Century of the Wind*, pp. 1-25

**Week 2:** New Nationalisms: Revolution, Citizenship, and Indigenous Identity

**Monday:** Mexican Revolution (1910-1920)
- Galeano, *Century of the Wind*, pp. 25-62
- Foran, “Reinventing the Mexican Revolution,” pp. 115-131
- Knight, “The Mexican Revolution,” pp. 28-34

**Wednesday:** Indigenous Identity, Citizenship, and Social Changes
- Vasconcelos, “La raza cósmica,” pp. 15-19
- Mariátegui, “The Indian Problem,” pp. 129-136
- Becker, “Mariátegui, the Comintern, and the Indigenous Question in Latin America”, pp. 450-479

**Week 3:** The Rise of Populism, Urbanization, and ISI

**Monday:** Post-Revolutionary Mexico: Rural Populism and Art
- Galeano, *Century of the Wind*, pp. 62-117
- Hall, “Álvaro Obregón and the Politics of Mexican Land Reform,” pp. 213-238
- Folgarait, “Revolution as Ritual: Diego Rivera’s National Palace Mural,” pp. 18-33

**Wednesday:** ISI and Urban Populism in South America
- James, “Mass protest, Peronism, and the Argentine working class,” pp. 441-461
• Winn, *Weavers of Revolution*, pp. 53-75
• Haya de la Torre, speech, pp. 240-244
• Vargas, New Years Address, pp. 186-189

**** DUE: Research Paper, Part I (proposal) ****

### WEEK 4: The Early Cold War in Latin America

**Monday:** Economic models, social change, and trans-nationalism
- Galeano, *Century of the Wind*, pp. 118-140
- Allende, *House of the Spirits*, first half

**Wednesday:** US-Latin America Foreign Policy post-World War II
- Smith, “Closing Ranks,” in *Talons of the Eagle*, pp. 117-141

### WEEK 5: Revolutionary Moments: Bolivia and Guatemala // Land Reform

**Monday:** Reform, Revolution, and Resistance: Bolivia and Guatemala in the 1950s
- Galeano, *Century of the Wind*, pp. 141-165
- Allende, *House of the Spirits*, second half

**Wednesday:** MIDTERM EXAM

### WEEK 6: The Cuban Revolution and 1960s Radicalism

**Monday:** The Cuban Revolution, 1959
- Galeano, *Century of the Wind*, pp. 166-203
- Pérez-Stable, *The Cuban Revolution: Origins, Course, and Legacy*, pp. 36-60

**Wednesday:** Guerrillas, Students, and Early Liberation Theology in the 1960s
- Mainwaring and Wilde, “The Progressive Church in Latin America,” pp. 1-37

### WEEK 7: Authoritarianism and Dictatorship: The Dirty Wars

**Monday:** Dictatorship and Operation Condor in the Southern Cone
- Galeano, *Century of the Wind*, pp. 203-240
- Partnoy, *The Little School*, all
- TBA

**** DUE: Research Paper, Part II (source review) ****

**Wednesday:** Dictatorship in Central America and the Caribbean
- Walker, “Central America: From Revolution to Neoliberal Reform,” pp. 311-332

### WEEK 8: Challenges to the Neo-Liberal State, Interventions, and Democracy

**Monday:** Resisting Dictatorship and the Return to Democracy
• Galeano, *Century of the Wind*, pp. 241-279 (end)
• Scarpaci and Frazier, “State terror: ideology, protest, and gendering,” pp. 1-21
• Pratt, “Overwriting Pinochet: Undoing the culture of fear in Chile,” pp. 151-63
• Torre, “Claiming public space: The mothers of the Plaza de Mayo,” pp. 241-50

**Wednesday:**  New Democracies and New Revolutions
• Ellner and Tinker Salas, “The Venezuelan Exceptionalism Thesis,” pp. 5-19
• TBA

**** DUE: Research Paper, Part III (rough draft) ****

**WEEK 9: Urbanization and Globalization**

**Monday:**  MEMORIAL DAY – NO CLASS

**Wednesday:**  NAFTA, the Zapatistas, and Environmental Activism
• Wilkinson, *Silence on the Mountain*, first half
• Stahler-Sholk, “Resisting Neoliberal Homogenization: The Zapatista Autonomy Movement,” pp. 48-63
• Subcomandante Marcos, “The long journey from despair to hope,” pp. 646-654
• Allen, “Cultural imperialism at its most fashionable,” pp. 447-453
• Kaxinawá, “The History of the Huni Kui people,” pp. 432-435

**WEEK 10: Re-evaluating Neo-Liberalism and the Politics of Memory**

**Monday:**  The Pink Tide and Challenges to Neo-Liberalism
• Walton, “Debt, Protest, and the State in Latin America,” pp. 299-328

**** DUE: Research Paper, Part IV (final paper) ****

**Wednesday:**  The Politics of Memory
• Wilkinson, *Silence on the Mountain*, second half

**FINAL EXAM:**
Friday, June 14
7-10pm