

**Peoples and Cultures of Latin America
Anthropology 311 (CRN 14814)
MWF 12:45 – 1:50 (Neuberger Hall 341)**

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Office Hours: M, W 2:30-3:30, and by appt.

Course Description

This class is an introductory survey of the cultures and societies of Latin America. Using a thematic approach, we will look at some of the key processes and structures that have shaped Latin American peoples and cultures over the years, including the initial contact between indigenous and European peoples, the African diaspora and the rise of Afro-American cultures, religion, constructions of gender and sexuality, urbanization, social movements and migration. We will also examine the role anthropologists play in presenting and responding to contemporary social and political issues in Latin America. Whatever your major or future career, my goals are for you to (1) gain a greater understanding of Latin America and its relationships to broader world; (2) develop your ability to discuss, analyze and present complex information and ideas; and (3) expand your willingness to become more comfortable with ambiguity and cultural and political difference.

Required Readings

The following books are available at the PSU Bookstore.

Sanabria, Harry. 2006 *The Anthropology of Latin America and the Caribbean*. Allyn and Bacon.

Goldstein, Donna. 2003. *Laughter out of Place: Race, Class, Violence and Sexuality in a Rio Shantytown*. University of California Press.

Sawyer, Suzana. 2004. *Crude Chronicles: Indigenous Politics, Multinational Oil, and Neoliberalism in Ecuador*. Duke University Press.

Class Requirements

Students taking this course pass/no-pass are required to earn at least a 'C-' to pass the class. Students intended to use this course to satisfy the anthropology departmental major or minor requirements must take the class for a grade. Grades will be based on quizzes (15%), a social media campaign group project (25%), an inclass midterm exam (30%) and a take home final exam (30%). Students are expected to keep up with the weekly reading assignments and contribute to class discussions.

Anthropology majors should seek advising at least twice a year from faculty members in the Anthropology Department for advice related to meeting graduation requirements and achieving career goals.

Quizzes (15%). There will be four quizzes during the quarter. The first will be a geography quiz on Monday, October 1. The remaining three quizzes will be on the readings. Students will be able to drop their lowest quiz score.

Social Media Campaign Group Project (25%). Students, working in groups of 5 or 6, will create a social media campaign on a current issue in Latin America. The final product will be a 15 minute PowerPoint presentation with audio narration that explains the issue your campaign will address, your target audience, and how you plan to engage and motivate them to action on your issue. Detailed instructions on project requirements and tips for working in groups will be distributed in class and posted on D2L, and class time will be set aside for work on the project. The digital version of your 15 minute long presentation will be due on Wednesday, November 21 and should be submitted via D2L. Each group will also make a 5-minute presentation on its campaign during

Week 10. Although I highly encourage you to work in a group for this project, students will also be able to work individually if they desire, but will still be required to meet the same project requirements.

Exam 1 (October 26, 30%). This in-class test will cover the first four weeks of class. The exam will consist of true/false, multiple-choice, short answer, and short essay questions. A review sheet will be posted on D2L before the test. Please bring a green scantron (882-ES-LOVAS or 882-ES), a number 2 pencil, a blue book, and a pen to the test.

Exam 2 (Due Monday, December 3, 3 p.m., 30%). This take home exam will consist of two essays (3-4 pages each question, 6-7 pages total; double-spaced in 11 or 12 font) and will cover the second half of class. The test questions, formatting, citation, and reference guidelines will be posted on D2L on Monday, November 26. Students should deliver hardcopies to the Anthropology Department, 141 Kramer Hall by 12 Noon; no electronic copies will be accepted.

Policies

Students with a documented disability needing accommodations in the course should immediately inform me.

Late projects and exams will lose one letter grade for each day past due except in cases of severe illness or emergency. Requests for deadline extensions should be made in writing ahead of the due date. All work must be completed for students to receive a passing grade. Please retain for your own records a copy of all the work you submit for the course.

Plagiarism (intellectual theft) is a very serious academic offense. You are responsible for reading and understanding the department handout on plagiarism, which is available on D2L and on the Anthropology Department web site at <http://www.anthropology.pdx.edu/docs/plagiarism.pdf>. Please ask the instructor if you have any questions about this information. Any assignment containing plagiarized material will receive a failing grade, and cases of academic dishonesty will be reported to the Office of the Dean of Student Life.

2DL (Desire to Learn)

The course syllabus, group project instructions, reading key terms & discussion questions, and Exam 2 questions will all be available on D2L. Use your Odin username and password to login to D2L at <https://d2l.pdx.edu>. Use of D2L will be demonstrated on the first day of class. Please feel free to contact me if you encounter difficulties with D2L.

Extra Credit

Extra credit can be earned by attending and summarizing pre-approved lectures/events about Latin America or Latin Americans in the US or participating in approved service projects and writing a 2 page reflection paper. Your paper should provide enough detail to show that you attended the lecture/event or completed the service experience. You should also relate the lecture or service to specific topics covered in class, using appropriate terminology. An extra credit report may earn up to 1 point maximum. You can do up to 5 extra credit papers, potentially earning a maximum of 5 extra credit points or 5% of the course grade.

Course Outline

Date	Topic	Readings/Videos	Assignment/Activities
Unit 1. Why Latin America?			
<u>Week 1</u>			
9/24	Class Overview & Introduction		
9/26	The Land & the People	Read: Sanabria: Ch. 2, 17-49	
9/28	Anthropologists & Latin America	Read: Sanabria, Ch. 1, 1-16 Sawyer, 1-7; Ch. 1, 27-40	<u>Project work (in class)</u>
Unit 2. The Making of Latin America(ns)			
<u>Week 2</u>			
10/1	Before the Conquest	Sanabria, Ch. 3, 50-70 Sawyer, Ch. 1, 41-46	QUIZ 1 - MAP
10/3	The Conquest	Read: Sanabria, Ch. 4, 76-85 Sawyer, Ch. 1, 46-56	
10/5	Colonial Society & Its Legacies	Read: Sanabria, Ch 4, 85-109 Sanabria, Ch. 12, 378-385 <i>Video: Rigoberta Menchú: Broken Silence</i>	
<u>Week 3</u>			
10/8	Race/Ethnicity	Read: Sanabria, Ch. 5, 110-129 Goldstein, Intro: 1-17 <i>Video: Brazil in Black and White: Skin Color and Education (excerpts)</i>	<u>Project topic/group list due</u>
10/10	Syncretic Religion	Read: Sanabra, Ch. 7, 181-206 <i>Video: Apu Condor</i>	
10/12	Religion and Politics	<u>Guest speaker: Meredith Farkas, Research Methods</u>	
Unit 3. Gender, Sexuality and The Body			
<u>Week 4</u>			
10/15	Constructing Men and Women	Read: Sanabria, Ch. 6, 146-168 Sanabria, Ch. 9, 264-270 Sanabria, Ch. 11, 347-349 <i>Video: To Be a Mother in Latin America (excerpts)</i>	<u>Group reps meets with Instructor or TA</u>
10/17	Sexualities in Transition	Read: Sanabria, Ch. 6, 168-176 Sanbria, Ch. 8, 224-227	<u>Project work (in class)</u>

Unit 4. Urbanization & Popular Culture

10/19 The Urban Landscape Read: Goldstein, Ch. 1: 18-57
Video: Bogotá – Building a Sustainable City

QUIZ 2

Week 5

10/22 Life in Urban Brazil Read: Goldstein, Ch. 2-3, 58-134
Video: Festive Land (Part 1)

10/24 Life in Urban Brazil/Exam Review Video: Festive Land (Part 2)

10/26 EXAM 1

Week 6

10/29 Contemporary Media Read: Sanabria, Ch. 11, 314-323
Read: Goldstein, Ch. 4: 136-173
Video: Telenovela: Love, TV & Power (excerpts)

Unit 5. Inequality, Violence & Social Movements

10/31 State Violence and Redemocratization Read: Sanabria, Ch. 12, 351-368
Read: Goldstein, Ch. 5: 174-225
Guest Speaker: Amanda Lubit
Video: Returning the Stolen

11/2 Everyday Violence/Discuss Goldstein Read: Goldstein, Ch. 6-7: 226-274

Week 7

11/5 Indigenous Movements Read: Sanabria, Ch. 5, 130-141
Read: Sawyer, Opening, 7-23
Video: Ecuador: Divided Over Oil

**Annotated Bib Due
Group Reps Meet
With Instructor**

11/7 Land Right Movements Read: Sanabria, Ch. 12, 368-378
Read: Sawyer, Ch. 2, 57-90
Guest Speaker: Sullivan, Reed College

11/9 Environmental Movements Read: Sawyer, Ch 3, 91-117
Video: Costa Rica – Ecotourism & Economic Development

QUIZ 3

Unit 6. Neoliberalism & Globalization

Week 8

11/12 Holiday

11/14 Free Trade & Globalization Read: Sanabria, 288-298
Read: Sawyer, Ch 4. 118-148

Project work (in class)

11/16 Local cultures in a global world Read: Sanabria, 281-288
Read: Sawyer, Ch 5, 149-181
Video: Bolivia – Partners, Not Masters

Week 9

11/19 Discuss Sawyer

Read: Sawyer, Ch 6 & Closing, 182-223

QUIZ 4

11/21 Latin Americans abroad

Read: Sanabria, 176-179, 309-312,
381-384

Project due (by email)

11/23 Holiday

Unit 7. Social Media Project Presentations

Week 10

11/26 Presentations

Exam 2 Questions

11/28 Presentations

Posted

11/30 Presentations & Review

12/3 EXAM 2 Due, 3 PM Noon, Instructor's Box, 141 Cramer Hall