

History 431
Cold War Latin America
Spring 2016
Dr. John R. Bawden

Course Credit: 3 hours

Pre-requisites: History 101 & 102

Meets: TR 2-315 UM on Main Street 325

Contact: jbwawden@montevallo.edu (205) 665-6179

Office Hours: MW 9-12, 1-3, UM on Main Street 305 (or by appointment)

Course Overview

This course examines Latin America during the Cold War (1945-1990). Important social, cultural, economic, and demographic trends will be covered along with the populist, revolutionary, and counterrevolutionary politics that swept the region. Students will consider the lens through which states and ordinary citizens viewed the period's politics and the consequences of those politics for violence, democracy, and human rights.

Required Texts

Che Guevara, *Reminiscences of the Cuban Revolutionary War*, Ocean Press, 2005

Paul H. Lewis, *Guerrillas and Generals: The Dirty War in Argentina*, Praeger, 2001

Patrick Iber, *Neither Peace nor Freedom: The Cultural Cold War in Latin America*, 2015

E-Reserves (available on canvas)

Optional Reference Text

John Charles Chasteen, *Born in Blood and Fire* (the first edition will cost a few dollars on Amazon)

Course Objectives

1. Provide a broad outline of important ideas, persons, and events in Latin American during the Cold War.
2. Students will demonstrate effective writing and critical thinking skills analyzing seminal themes, events, and influential people from Latin America's postwar era.
3. Students will demonstrate effective oral communication skills by making presentations about events and personalities in Latin America and by participating in weekly classroom discussions.
4. Student will demonstrate knowledge of digital tools for the presentation of their historical research.

Course Evaluation

Participation	15%
Midterm	25%
Final exam	25%
Writing assignments	35%

Short Essays

You will write short essays responding to the assigned books. Each essay is due at the beginning of class and must be numbered, double-spaced, with a 12 pt. font, 1" margins. Written assignments receive a half letter grade penalty for each day they are late.

Participation

Your participation grade is a composite of attendance on Thursday and whether or not you come to class prepared to discuss the course material, whether books or short readings. On one occasion you will make a short presentation to the class about a notable personality from Cold War Latin America.

Exams

The midterm and final exams will consist of short identifications and essay responses. The week prior to each exam I will provide a study guide with key terms to know and possible themes for the essay questions. I do not allow make-up exams unless a student provides a legitimate reason.

Graduate Level

Students taking the class as a History 511 course should speak with me about an additional assignment that will be assessed along with all other requirements that appear in this syllabus.

Attendance and Participation

Attendance is mandatory on the days we discuss primary sources or books in class. On those days I will take attendance and keep track of students who participate. Each student will also make one presentation, to the class, about a person involved in Latin America's Cold War struggles.

Plagiarism and Academic Dishonesty

To claim as one's own the ideas or words of another is plagiarism. Plagiarism is defined as using the words of another person's work/writing without acknowledgement of your source through the use of quotation marks and correct citation/documentation; rephrasing a passage of another writer without giving proper credit. At the very minimum, an assignment on which plagiarism or cheating has occurred will receive no credit, i.e. a "zero," and an Academic Dishonesty Incident Form concerning the incident will be kept on file in the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs. Individual circumstances will determine other consequences.

ForUM Email

ForUM e-mail is an official means of communication among students, faculty, and administrators at the University of Montevallo – and may be THE official means of communication between you and your instructors. If you have any questions regarding your ForUM e-mail account, you should contact Technology Services (205 665-6520).

Course Schedule

Week 1

1/14 Course Introduction

WEEK 2

1/19 The Inter-American System, 1947-1959

1/21 The Kennan Memorandum
Activity: Defining Democracy and Security

Week 3

1/26 The failed promise of populism

1/28 Bolivia 1952
Film: *The Motorcycle Diaries*

Week 4

2/2 Guatemala, 1945-1954

2/2 The Cuban Revolution

Week 5

2/9 The Cuban Revolution

2/11 Film: *Fidel!*
Journal Entry #1 due 2/11

Week 6

2/16 Washington's Response

2/18 The Death of Che
Activity: The Cuban Missile Crisis, 1962: Three Perspectives

Week 7

2/23 Latin America in the sixties

2/25 Brazil, 1961-1970
Journal Entry #2 due 2/25

Week 8
3/1 Brazil and the 'cult of heroic guerilla fighter'
3/3 **MIDTERM**
Film: *4 Days in September*

Week 9
3/8 Chile, 1964-1970
3/10 Chile, 1970-1973
Journal Entry #3 due 3/10

Week 10
3/15 Argentina, 1966-1983
3/17 Dirty War, *desaparecidos*

Week 11
3/22 Argentina, 1983-present
3/24 Human rights
Journal Entry #4 due 3/24

SPRING BREAK

Week 12
4/5 Nicaragua, 1979
4/7 Central America in the 1980s
Student presentations 4/7

Week 13
4/12 El Salvador
4/14 Guatemala
Student presentations 4/14

Week 14
4/19 Colombia: The FARC
4/21 Peru: Maoist Insurgency
Journal Entry #5 due 4/21

Week 15
4/26 Cuba's "Special Period", 1991-1998
4/28 Cold War Legacies

Final Exam 8-10 am on May 4