

(PALAS 400) Latin America in the Global Economy

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Universidad de Belgrano

Course Syllabus 2018 1

Course Information

M W 16:00-17:30 PM

Instruction in English

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Course Description

This course will study the development patterns of Latin America since colonial times to present days. Dependency from external factors has underpinned Latin America's economic development. This course will focus on the specific issues that determined the economic development of the region as a whole, as well as that of individual countries. The first part of this course will focus on economic history. In the second part, students are expected to choose one country from a list of Latin American countries and conduct research. A case study of the chosen country's patterns of development and how economic history forged present-day conditions /issues /disparities/insertion in the world will be presented, both orally - approximately 25 minutes followed by a 10-15 discussion - as well as written, both with a substantial weigh in the total final grade of the course, as seen below. The third part of the course will focus on the future prospects of Latin American development, future dilemmas and strategies.

Course Requirements

Class attendance is required of all students at UB. A 75% attendance to classes is mandatory to keep the regular student status. An electronic system keeps track of attendance. Students have to slide an electronic card every class to comply with the attendance policy. Class participation is very important; there will be several class discussions, which will rely heavily on student participation. Students are expected to conduct research for the final paper and consult the digital library (EBSCO) for that purpose. UB holds to the view that plagiarism constitutes intellectual theft and is a serious breach of acceptable conduct. Any student caught plagiarizing will immediately be given a "no credit" for all courses taken in the semester. There will be no make ups for classes falling on public holidays.

*For a better understanding of the comparable table for grading: check the student handbook in orientation kit packet.

Grading Policy

Participation	10 %
Paper presentation (oral & written)	30 %
Midterm	25 %
Final Exam	35 %

Passing the final exam is mandatory in order to promote the course.

Required Textbooks and Materials

Ramon Berjano & Argüero, Course Reader.

Academic Calendar

Week 1

Monday March 5

Introduction. Presentation of the course The importance of integration in the current world scenario. Peace through integration. The three waves of regionalism. (Argüero)

Wednesday March 7

Introduction. Presentation of the course. Discussion: Do historical patterns of development determine the "fate" of certain countries? Introduction to the economic history of Latin America. (Ramón)

Week 2

Monday March 12

Latin America in the world economy: growth, development and trade. (Argüero)

Wednesday March 14

The economics of knowledge. Innovation and intangible capital. Creative destruction. Technological progress in economic growth. Knowledge as a non rival and partially excludable good. Monopoly and competition. (Argüero)

Week 3

Monday March 19

Social and private rates of return to investments in education and R&D. Mapping R&D activity. Technological capabilities of Latin American countries. (Argüero)

Wednesday March 21

Successes and failures of the agroexporting model and the import substitution model in Latin America (Ramón)

Week 4

Monday March 26

Exports according to technological intensity. From cultural to social and economic integration. (Argüero)

Wednesday March 28

Preferential Trade Agreements. Agreements and trade. Trade and poverty. The four stages of Mercosur. The entrance of Venezuela and energy needs. ZICOSUR: A new kind of regional cooperation? (Argüero)

Week 5

Monday April 2: National Holiday

Wednesday April 4

Commercial relations of Latin America with the USA and Europe. The failed ALCA and the retreating influence of the USA in the region. ALBA and the integration of "leftist" governments. (Argüero)

Week 6

Monday April 9

Summit of the Americas in Mar del Plata. The boom of commodities and new axes of power. 2008 crisis and its aftermath in the region. (Argüero)

Wednesday April 11

The emergence of China and its impact on Latin American Economies (Ramón)

Week 7

Monday April 16

Trade with Asia. Entering the Asian market. Asian integration and Latin America. ¿Threat or opportunity? (Argüero)

Wednesday 18

Pacific Alliance (Peru, Mexico, Colombia, Chile): From free trade to harmonization of policies. (Argüero)

Week 8

Monday April 23

Midterm exam

Wednesday April 25

Is it possible to have a long term and successful strategy with Asia Pacific and China? (Ramón)

Week 9

Monday April 30: National Holiday

Wednesday May 2

Inquiries about group work. (Ramón)

Week 10

Monday May 7

Migrations: the three waves of migration in Latin America. Current trends and future perspectives. (Argüero)

Wednesday May 9

Integration in the automotive sector. Production capabilities and dependence on foreign companies. Managing conflicts. Cases in South America: Botnia **conflict** (Uruguay & Argentina), Landlocked Bolivia and its access to the Pacific Ocean. (Argüero)

Week 11

Monday May 14 Energy: Reserves, tendencies and countries' strategies in the 21st Century. Integration in the energy sector.

Sustainability and recent trends in the energy sector: solar energy in Chile, offshore oil in Brazil, Shale O&G in Argentina.
(Argüero)

Wednesday May 16

Discussion: why has Latin America consistently lagged behind in economic development? What are the main factors behind this? (Ramón)

Week 12

Monday May 21

Oral presentations (2 x 40')

Wednesday May 23

Oral presentations (2 x 40')

Week 13

Monday May 28

Oral presentations (2 x 40')

Wednesday May 30

Main areas of inward FDI. Region's potentials. Outward FDI. Exports of finished products from South America. Largest companies by country. Moving up the value chain. FDI and its effects in developing economies. Flows of FDI to South America. (Argüero)

Week 14

Monday June 4

Open discussion: Latin America in the 21st Century's economy: globalization, trade and cooperation. (Ramón)

Wednesday June 6

Review for the final exam. (Argüero)

Week 15

"Students holding a *tourist visa* will not be allowed to take final exams, they have to go to the 17 Floor to clear the hold"

Monday June 11

Final Exam

Wednesday June 13

Final Grade Sheet and signature of "Hoja de situación" (attendance is mandatory).

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

- Argüero, L. (2016), "The ever 'under construction' Mercosur", UB.
- Ramon Berjano (2018), Handout PALAS 400, UB
- Durand, J. (2009), "Processes of migration in Latin America and the Caribbean", Human Development Research Paper 09/24, UNDP.
- ECLAC (2017), "Foreign Direct Investment in Latin America", United Nations Publications, Santiago de Chile.
- ECLAC (2017), "Latin America and the Caribbean in the World Economy", United Nations Publications, Santiago de Chile.
- Florida, R. (2008), *Who's your city?*. Basic Books, Nueva York.
- Foray, D. (2006), *The Economics of Knowledge*. MIT Press, London.
- Kuwayama, M. (2009), "Quality of Latin American industrialization and integration into the global economy", United Nations Publication, Chile.
- Laurssen, F. (ed.) (2010), *Comparative Regional Integration*, Ashgate.
- WTO (2011), World Trade Report 2011.