

ANKARA YILDIRIM BEYAZIT UNIVERSITY – DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION COURSE SYLLABUS					
Course Code	Course Title	Course Type	ECTS Credits	Prerequisite Information	Date of Preparation
PSPA457	Latin American Studies	Elective	6	-	September 2026
Instructor of the Course & E-Mail Address	Assist. Prof. Sıla Demirörs (silademirors@aybu.edu.tr)				
Office Hours & Office Room	Tuesdays 10:00-12:00, Office No:				
Course Content and Objectives	The course examines colonialism and independence in Latin America; primary-export-led growth and forms of integration into the world economy; the crisis of the 1930s and the transition toward industrialization; debates on the ECLAC approach, dependency theory, and import-substituting industrialization; major political regimes and forms of the state; neoliberal transformation; and the Left Turn in Latin America and its decline from a historical perspective. Topics are examined mainly through case studies drawn from the larger countries of the region. The aim of the course is to introduce students to the major economic, social, and political transformations in the historical development of Latin America and to enable them to understand and evaluate the relationships among different development strategies, theoretical approaches, and political regimes within their historical contexts, mainly through case studies drawn from the larger countries of the region.				
Textbook(s)	Bulmer-Thomas, V. (2003) The Economic History of Latin America since Independence, 2nd ed. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Halperín Donghi, T. (1993) The Contemporary History of Latin America. London: Macmillan. Skidmore, Thomas E. and P.H.Smith (2001) Modern Latin America. Oxford and New York: Oxford University Press. Cardoso, F.H. and Faletto, E. (1979) Dependency and Development in Latin America, Berkeley: University of California Press. FitzGerald, E.V.K. (1991) 'ECLA and the Formation of Latin American Doctrine in the 1940s' Working Paper Series No: 106. Frank, A. G. (1966) "The Development of Underdevelopment" Monthly Review (September). Kay C. (1990) The Latin American Contribution to Development Theory, Working Paper Series No: 82. Kerner, D. (2003) "ECLAC, transnational corporations and the quest for a Latin American development strategy" CEPAL Review 79. Prebisch, R. (1950) The Economic Development of Latin America and Its Principal Problems. New York: ECLA. Hirschman, A. (1968): "The Political Economy of Import-Substituting Industrialisation in Latin America", Quarterly Journal of Economics, Vol.82, No.1. O'Donnell, G. (1977) Authoritarianism and Corporatism in Latin America, University of Pittsburgh Press, pp. 47-87. Pinto, A. (1978): "False Dilemmas and the Real Options in Current Latin American Debate", CEPAL Review, No.6, pp.27-44. Waterbury, J. (1999) "The Long Gestation and Brief Triumph of Import Substituting Industrialization" World Development 27(2): 323-341 Cammack, P. (1985) "The Political Economy of Contemporary Military Regimes in Latin America: From Bureaucratic Authoritarianism to Restructuring", in P. O'Brien & P. Cammack (eds.) Generals in Retreat: The Crisis of Military Rule in Latin America, Manchester UP, pp. 1-36. Cammack, P. (1997) "Democracy and Dictatorship in Latin America, 1930-1980", in D. Potter et al. (eds.) Democratization, Cambridge: Polity, pp. 152-173. Cardoso, F.H. (1979) "On the Characterisation of Authoritarian Regimes in Latin America", in D.Collier (ed), The New Authoritarianism in Latin America, Princeton UP, pp.33-57. Collier, D. (1979) "Overview of the Bureaucratic-Authoritarian Model", in D.Collier (ed), The New Authoritarianism in Latin America, Princeton UP, pp.19-32. Mortimore, M. & W. Peres (2001) "Corporate Competitiveness in Latin America and the Caribbean" CEPAL Review 74. O'Donnell, G. (2001) "Reflections on Contemporary South American Democracies" Journal of Latin American Studies 33, pp. 599-609.				

	Stepan, A. (1985) "State Power and the Strength of Civil society in the Southern Cone of Latin America", in P. Evans, D. Rueschmeyer, T. Skocpol Bringing the State Back in (Cambridge Univ. Press: Cambridge), pp.317-347 Tedesco, L. & J. Barton (2004) The State of Democracy in Latin America, Routledge, pp.14-44. Aguilar de Medeiros, C. (2009) "Asset-Stripping the State: Political Economy of Privatization in Latin America" New Left Review 55. Petras, J and H. Veltmeyer (2014) Extractive Imperialism in the Americas: Capitalisms New Frontier (Brill). Sader, E (2008) "The Weakest Link: Neoliberalism in Latin America" New Left Review (52). Ellner, S. (2004) 'Leftist Goals and the Debate over Anti-Neoliberal Strategy in Latin America', Science & Society 68 (1), pp.10-32. Gwynne, R. and Kay, C (2000) 'Views from the Periphery: Futures of Neoliberalism in Latin America', Third World Quarterly 21 (1) pp.141-156.		
Teaching Methods and Techniques	The course is conducted through lectures, weekly readings, and class discussions. Audiovisual materials are used when appropriate. Students are expected to participate actively in class discussions based on the weekly readings.		
Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)	1	Explains and evaluates major economic, social, and political transformations in Latin America within their historical contexts.	
	2	Analyzes the key characteristics and historical transformation of Latin America's forms of integration into the world economy and evaluates their economic, social, and political consequences.	
	3	Discusses and evaluates the main assumptions and explanations of major theoretical approaches to development and underdevelopment in Latin America.	
	4	Analyzes and critically evaluates major political regimes and forms of the state in Latin America in relation to economic transformations and social power relations.	
	5	Analyzes the key characteristics, conditions of emergence, and transformation of major development strategies in Latin America and evaluates their economic, social, and political consequences.	
Program Outcomes Contributed by the Course	Program Outcomes (PO)		
	P01	Defines and interprets the core concepts, theories, and approaches of political science, public administration, law, and urbanization–environment.	
	P02	Compares the intellectual foundations of major political ideologies and of social-difference phenomena such as religion, identity, nationalism, and ethnicity, and analyzes their reflections on politics and society.	
	P03	Analyzes the historical development of Turkish political life, state–society relations, and Türkiye's administrative-constitutional structure.	
	P04	Analyzes relations among societies and states in the context of world history, and evaluates current developments at national, regional, and global levels on a theoretical basis.	
	P05	Defines the core concepts and principles of economics and public finance and explains the relationship between fiscal and economic policies and political-administrative decisions.	
	P06	Interprets public and private law legislation and transfers legislative change into administrative implementation processes.	
	P07	Uses quantitative and qualitative research methods to collect and analyze data and to make scientific inferences about political-administrative phenomena.	
	P08	Evaluates urbanization and environmental problems at local, national, and global scales and develops policy proposals to address them.	
	P09	Recognizes professional roles and employment fields in the public, private, and civil-society sectors and applies acquired knowledge to these fields with professional, scientific, and ethical responsibility.	
Contribution of the Course to Field Instruction	The Latin American Studies course contributes to education in the field by deepening students' understanding of the fundamental concepts, theories, and approaches of political science and political economy through Latin America's historical experiences. The course enables students to analyze relations among societies and states in the context of world history, evaluate political ideologies in conjunction with social power relations, and analyze the connections between economic transformations and political decisions. By examining different development policies and political regimes together through concrete historical experiences, the course provides students with a historical and theoretical grounding that they can draw upon in their academic and professional work when evaluating the political and social consequences of economic policies.		

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO) Contribution to Programme Outcomes									
Contribution: 1: Very Slight 2: Slight 3: Moderate 4: Significant 5: Very Significant									
	P01	P02	P03	P04	P05	P06	P07	P08	P09
CLO	5	4	2	5	5	1	2	1	2
1	4	4	2	5	4	1	2	1	2
2	5	3	2	5	5	1	2	1	2
3	5	4	1	4	5	1	2	1	2
4	5	4	2	5	4	1	2	1	2
5	5	3	2	5	5	1	2	1	2

Topics Covered in the Course	Weeks	Topics	Reading Materials
	1. Week	Introduction to the Course	Halperín Donghi, T. (1993) The Contemporary History of Latin America. London: Macmillan, pp.1-73.
	2. Week	Colonialism and Independence in Latin America	Skidmore, Thomas E. and P.H.Smith (2001) "The Colonial Foundations, 1492-1880s" pp. 13-41.
	3. Week	Primary-Export Led Growth and the Strengthening of Latin American Landed Oligarchies – Part I	Bulmer-Thomas, V. (2003) Chapters: "The Export Sector and the World Economy, circa 1850-1914"; "Export-led Growth: The Supply Side", and "Export-led Growth and Nonexport Economy". Halperín Donghi, T. (1993) Chapters: "The Early National Period (1825-1850)", "Emergence of the Neocolonial Order (1850-1880)" and "Maturity of the Neocolonial Order". Skidmore, Thomas E. and P.H.Smith (2001) Chapter: "The Transformation of Modern Latin America, 1880s-1990s"
	4. Week	Primary-Export Led Growth and the Strengthening of Latin American Landed Oligarchies – Part II	Bulmer-Thomas, V. (2003) Chapters: "The Export Sector and the World Economy, circa 1850-1914"; "Export-led Growth: The Supply Side", and "Export-led Growth and Nonexport Economy". Halperín Donghi, T. (1993) Chapters: "The Early National Period (1825-1850)", "Emergence of the Neocolonial Order (1850-1880)" and "Maturity of the Neocolonial Order". Skidmore, Thomas E. and P.H.Smith (2001) Chapter: "The Transformation of Modern Latin America, 1880s-1990s"
	5. Week	The 1930s: Great Depression and its Aftermath in Latin America – Part I	Bulmer-Thomas, V. (2003) Chapters: "The First World War and its Aftermath", "Policy, performance, and structural change in the 1930s".
	6. Week	The 1930s: Great Depression and its Aftermath in Latin America – Part II	Bulmer-Thomas, V. (2003) Chapters: "The First World War and its Aftermath", "Policy, performance, and structural change in the 1930s".
	7. Week	ECLA School, Dependency and Import Substitution	Cardoso, F.H. and Faletto, E. (1979), Chapters: "Introduction" "Comprehensive Analysis of Development" "Post Scriptum" FitzGerald, E.V.K. (1991) 'ECLA and the Formation of Latin American Doctrine in the 1940s' Working Paper Series No: 106. Frank, A. G. (1966) "The Development of Underdevelopment" Monthly Review. Kay C. (1990) The Latin American Contribution to Development Theory, Working Paper Series No: 82. Kerner, D. (2003) "ECLAC, transnational corporations and the quest for a Latin American development strategy" CEPAL Review 79. Prebisch, R. (1950) The Economic Development of Latin America and Its Principal Problems. New York: ECLA.
	8. Week	Midterm week (No lecture)	
	9. Week	Forms of State / Political Regimes / Development Strategies: Populism / Corporatism / ISI – Part I	Bruton, H. (1989), Chapter: "Import Substitution" Hirschman, A. (1968): "The Political Economy of Import-Substituting Industrialisation in Latin America",

			Quarterly Journal of Economics, Vol.82, No.1. O'Donnell, G. (1977) "Corporatism and the Question of the State". Pinto, A. (1978): "False Dilemmas and the Real Options in Current Latin American Debate", CEPAL Review, No.6, pp.27-44. Waterbury, J. (1999) "The Long Gestation and Brief Triumph of Import Substituting Industrialization" World Development 27(2): 323-341.
	10. Week	Forms of State / Political Regimes / Development Strategies: Populism / Corporatism / ISI – Part II	Bruton, H. (1989), Chapter: "Import Substitution" Hirschman, A. (1968): "The Political Economy of Import-Substituting Industrialisation in Latin America", Quarterly Journal of Economics, Vol.82, No.1. O'Donnell, G. (1977) "Corporatism and the Question of the State". Pinto, A. (1978): "False Dilemmas and the Real Options in Current Latin American Debate", CEPAL Review, No.6, pp.27-44. Waterbury, J. (1999) "The Long Gestation and Brief Triumph of Import Substituting Industrialization" World Development 27(2): 323-341.
	11. Week	Forms of State / Political Regimes / Development Strategies: From Bureaucratic Authoritarianism to Competition State and Regionalism – Part I	Cammack, P. (1985) Chapter: "The Political Economy of Contemporary Military Regimes in Latin America: From Bureaucratic Authoritarianism to Restructuring". Cammack, P. (1997) Chapter: "Democracy and Dictatorship in Latin America, 1930-1980". Cardoso, F.H. (1979) Chapter: "On the Characterisation of Authoritarian Regimes in Latin America". Collier, D. (1979) Chapter: "Overview of the Bureaucratic-Authoritarian Model". Jenkins, R. (1991): 'The Political Economy of Industrialisation: A Comparison of Latin American and East Asian Newly Industrialising Countries', Development and Change, Vol.22. Mortimore, M. & W. Peres (2001) "Corporate Competitiveness in Latin America and the Caribbean" CEPAL Review 74. O'Donnell, G. (2001) "Reflections on Contemporary South American Democracies" Journal of Latin American Studies 33, pp. 599-609. Phillips, N. (2003) "The Rise and Fall of Open Regionalism? Comparative Reflections on Regional Governance in the Southern Cone of Latin America" Third World Quarterly, Vol 24, No 2, pp 217–234. Stepan, A. (1985) Chapter: "State Power and the Strength of Civil society in the Southern Cone of Latin America". Tedesco, L. & J. Barton (2004) The State of Democracy in Latin America.
	12. Week	Forms of State / Political Regimes / Development Strategies: From Bureaucratic Authoritarianism to Competition State and Regionalism – Part II	Cammack, P. (1985) Chapter: "The Political Economy of Contemporary Military Regimes in Latin America: From Bureaucratic Authoritarianism to Restructuring". Cammack, P. (1997) Chapter: "Democracy and Dictatorship in Latin America, 1930-1980". Cardoso, F.H. (1979) Chapter: "On the Characterisation of Authoritarian Regimes in Latin America". Collier, D. (1979) Chapter: "Overview of the Bureaucratic-Authoritarian Model".

			Jenkins, R. (1991): ‘The Political Economy of Industrialisation: A Comparison of Latin American and East Asian Newly Industrialising Countries’, Development and Change, Vol.22. Mortimore, M. & W. Peres (2001) “Corporate Competitiveness in Latin America and the Caribbean” CEPAL Review 74. O’Donnell, G. (2001) “Reflections on Contemporary South American Democracies” Journal of Latin American Studies 33, pp. 599-609. Phillips, N. (2003) “The Rise and Fall of Open Regionalism? Comparative Reflections on Regional Governance in the Southern Cone of Latin America” Third World Quarterly, Vol 24, No 2, pp 217–234. Stepan, A. (1985) Chapter: “State Power and the Strength of Civil society in the Southern Cone of Latin America”. Tedesco, L. & J. Barton (2004) The State of Democracy in Latin America.	
	13. Week	Neoliberal Transformation in Latin America	Aguilar de Medeiros, C. (2009) “Asset-Stripping the State: Political Economy of Privatization in Latin America” New Left Review 55. Petras, J and H. Veltmeyer (2014) Extractive Imperialism in the Americas: Capitalisms New Frontier (Brill). Sader, E (2008) “The Weakest Link: Neoliberalism in Latin America” New Left Review (52).	
	14. Week	Latin America’s Left Turn and its Demise	Ellner, S. (2004) ‘Leftist Goals and the Debate over Anti-Neoliberal Strategy in Latin America’, Science & Society 68 (1), pp.10-32. Gwynne, R. and Kay, C (2000) ‘Views from the Periphery: Futures of Neoliberalism in Latin America’, Third World Quarterly 21 (1) pp.141-156. Rovira Kaltwasswer, C (2010) ‘Moving Beyond the Washington Consensus: The Resurgence of the Left in Latin America’, International Politics and Society 3, pp.52-62. Spronk, Susan and Jeffry R. Webber (2014) Chapter: “Introduction – Systemic Logics and Historical Specificity: Renewing Historical Materialism in Latin American Political Economy”. Stahler-Sholk (2007) “Resisting Neoliberal Homogenization: The Zapatista Autonomy Movement”, Latin American Perspectives 153 34(3), pp. 48-63. Stolowitz, B. (2004) ‘The Latin American Left: Between Governability and Change’.	
	15. Week	Concluding Discussion		
Course Evaluation Criteria	In-Term Studies		Quantity	Percentage %
	Mid-terms		1	%40
	Quizzes			%
	Assignments			%
	Attendance		1	%10
	Practice			%
	Project			%
	Final examination		1	%50
	Total			100%

Disability Policy	If you have a documented disability (e.g., visual, hearing, or physical impairment, etc.) that may influence your performance in this course, it is recommended to meet with the Engelsiz AYBU (https://aybu.edu.tr/engelsiz/content_list-327-yildirim-beyazit-universitesi-engelsiz-universite-birimi-yonergesi.html) to arrange for reasonable conditions (such as accommodation, etc.) to ensure an equitable opportunity to meet all the requirements of this course. You may also contact the relevant authority of the Faculty of Political Sciences. You should communicate your needs to the course instructor as soon as possible to ensure that any course needs concerning exams, lecture materials, etc. are met.
Artificial Intelligence (AI) Tools Usage Policy	Assessment in this course is based on one midterm examination, one final examination, and attendance and class participation; therefore, no assignments, projects, or written work are required. Students are welcome to use generative artificial intelligence (AI) tools (e.g., ChatGPT, Claude) as supplementary "study assistants" to help understand course materials, review complex topics, and prepare for exams. However, since all examinations will be conducted in-class (proctored), the use of AI tools or any smart devices during exams is strictly prohibited and will be treated as a direct violation of academic integrity (cheating).