



U.S.-Latin American Relations

HISL 685-01 – Fall 2004 – Hebert Hall 200 – T 3:30pm – 6:00pm

Prof. Justin Wolfe

Office Hours: W 1:30 - 4:00 PM or by appt.

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

The countries of Latin America and the United States have had a complicated, intertwined history from at least the early nineteenth century. Both were born in the midst of Liberalism's promise, both early avatars of national independence and republican government. Despite this closeness, their relations have been fraught, not least because of anti-Catholic attitudes of in the early U.S. In this class we will explore how the diplomatic, economic, social and cultural relations between these regions have changed over time. Over the length of this course we will talk in both general terms about these relations and look at the histories of specific countries and regions in Latin America.

GRADING POLICY AND ASSIGNMENTS

The success of this class depends on your critical reading and active participation in discussion. Each week for which we have readings, you will be expected to bring a concise and relevant question about one of the readings. The success of this class depends on your active critical reading and participation in discussion. Be prepared!

Your final grade will be determined as follows:

- Research paper topic proposal and preliminary bibliography (10%)
- Document analyses (10% each = 20%)
- Historiography paper (20%)
- Research paper (35%)
- Participation/Discussion (15%)

Three absences from class will result in your automatic withdrawal from the class.

All assignments are due in class on the date noted. If you turn in an assignment late without having cleared it with me 48 HOURS BEFORE THE DUE DATE, you will be marked down one letter grade for each day that it is late (e.g., from a "A" to a "B", etc.). All emergency excuses must be received through your academic advisor.

BOOKS FOR THE COURSE

All of the following books are available for purchase at the University Book Store. You can also buy them online (including used) by going to: <http://tinyurl.com/38xuk>. All readings marked with ☩ are found on BlackBoard.

Reginald Horsman, *Race and Manifest Destiny: Origins of American Racial Anglo-Saxonism* (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1986).

Louis A. Perez, *The War of 1898: The United States and Cuba in History and Historiography* (Charlotte: University of North Carolina Press, 1998).

Mary A. Renda, *Taking Haiti: Military Occupation and the Culture of U.S. Imperialism, 1915-1940* (Charlotte: University of North Carolina Press, 2001).

Eric P. Roorda, *The Dictator Next Door: The Good Neighbor Policy and the Trujillo Regime in the Dominican Republic, 1930-1945* (Durham: Duke University Press, 1998)

Nick Cullather, *Secret History: The CIA's Classified Account of its Operations in Guatemala, 1952-1954* (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1999).

Van Gosse, *Where the Boys Are: Cuba, Cold War America and the Making of a New Left* (New York: Verso, 1993).

Martha Huggins, *Political Policing: The United States and Latin America* (Durham: Duke University Press, 1998).

CLASS SCHEDULE

8/31 Introduction to the seminar

9/7 Approaching U.S.-Latin American Relations

☩ Lars Schoultz, "Preface" and "Two Centuries Later," in *Beneath the United States: A History of U.S. Policy Toward Latin America* (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1998), p. xi-xvii, 367-386.

☩ Peter H. Smith, "Introduction: International Systems and U.S.-Latin American Relations," in *Talons of the Eagle: Dynamics of U.S.-Latin American Relations* (New York: Oxford, 2000), p. 1-8.

☩ Cole Blasier, "Explaining U.S. Responses (1910-1961)," in *The Hovering Giant: U.S. Responses to Revolutionary Change in Latin America, 1910-1985* (Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press, 1985), p. 211-238.

☩ Gilbert M. Joseph, "Close Encounters: Toward a New Cultural History of U.S.-Latin American Relations," in Gilbert M. Joseph, Catherine C. Legrand, and Ricardo D. Salvatore, eds., *Close*

Encounters of Empire: Writing the Cultural History of U.S.-Latin American Relations (Durham: Duke University Press, 1998), pp. 3-46.

9/14 From the Monroe Doctrine to Manifest Destiny

Reginald Horsman, *Race and Manifest Destiny: Origins of American Racial Anglo-Saxonism* (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1986).

Bring your copy of the document handed out last week, along with your annotations and analysis.

9/21 Cuban Independence? U.S. Imperialism?

Louis A. Perez, *The War of 1898: The United States and Cuba in History and Historiography* (Charlotte: University of North Carolina Press, 1998).

Bring your copy of the document handed out last week, along with your annotations and analysis.

9/28 American Preoccupations

Mary A. Renda, *Taking Haiti: Military Occupation and the Culture of U.S. Imperialism, 1915-1940* (Charlotte: University of North Carolina Press, 2001).

10/5 What Makes a Good Neighbor?

Eric P. Roorda, *The Dictator Next Door: The Good Neighbor Policy and the Trujillo Regime in the Dominican Republic, 1930-1945* (Durham: Duke University Press, 1998)

10/12 Project Presentations

Your research proposal will need to be emailed to everyone in the class by Saturday (10/9) midnight. In class, turn in your research proposal and preliminary bibliography and be prepared to briefly present your project (5 minutes max.). Students will be expected to read every proposal and come prepared with questions and comments.

10/19 Secrets and Lies: Democracy, Sovereignty and the Cold War

Nick Cullather, *Secret History: The CIA's Classified Account of its Operations in Guatemala, 1952-1954* (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1999).

10/29 Historiography Papers Due

Turn in your historiography paper by 5:00pm today. Class will not meet.

11/2 Revolutionary Fads and Cold War Fashions

Van Gosse, *Where the Boys Are: Cuba, Cold War America and the Making of a New Left* (New York: Verso, 1993).

11/9 Coercion, Violence and Foreign Relations

Martha Huggins, *Political Policing: The United States and Latin America* (Durham: Duke University Press, 1998).

⊕ P.W. Singer, “An Era of Corporate Warriors?” “The Privatized Military Industry Distinguished,” “Why Security Has Been Privatized,” and “Public Ends, Private Military Means?” in *Corporate Warriors: The Rise of the Privatized Military Industry* (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2004), 3-18, 40-8, 49-72, 206-215.

11/16 Paper Drafts Due

Turn in your completed draft paper in class. Bring enough copies for me and every other student. You will also give a brief (5 minutes max.) presentation on a) how your paper has changed since your original proposal; and b) what you believe you still need to do before turning in your final paper.

11/23 Thanksgiving Break - No Class

Keep working on your own paper and finish up your peer reviews.

11/30 Peer Reviews

Bring your reviews and the papers with your comments on them to return them to their respective authors. Bring a copy of each review for me. Be prepared to participate in a brief discussion of each paper, offering helpful comments. Peer reviews will be graded as part of your participation.

Final paper is due Wednesday, December 8, by 5pm. Lateness penalties begin after 5pm.