

(LATHOT-sp'17-full-170101)

**HISTORY OF LATIN AMERICAN THOUGHT and IDEOLOGIES:
Identity and Integration
INS 584/LAS 603/ HIS 396**

**Spring 2017
Tuesdays and Thursdays 12:30PM – 1.45PM
Room: Dooly 117**

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Content

The evolution of Latin American thought and ideologies can be traced back in one stage to the combination of obtaining political sovereignty and the search for national identity. Once this double goal was tentatively identified and put in places justice and human rights became an urgent agenda. Lately, the original seeking for national identity has been combined with the need or the convenience of a wider regional integration sentiment and schemes to compete in the complex global economy and novel political offers of the world.

While Cubans with different inclinations profess unquestioned reverence for patriot and writer José Martí, the former president of Venezuela, Hugo Chávez, claimed his populist policies to be dictated by the thinking of Simón Bolívar. While the governments of most of Latin American countries have opted in the last decade for moderate or open neoliberal development policies, others, like Brazil, and most recently Bolivia, Ecuador, Nicaragua, have insisted that social-oriented measures are the only way to reduce poverty and inequality. In any event, the teachings and life experiences of nation-building figures and writers in Latin America have a long tradition of influence in the shaping of societies and in the formulation of political and economic blueprints. In addition to this task, the Latin American countries have been experimenting with different schemes of regional integration, consultation and cooperation, fostering different levels of inter-state identity and unity. In sum, in the era of globalization, Latin American identity is still in the making.

Who are we? The Latin Americans ask themselves that question. Nations are born or imagined. Nation-states are what their citizens and leaders want them to be. A scholarly concept called “Latin American Thought” is the answer reflected in the mirror. It is how Latin Americans see themselves and how they wanted to build their nation-states. Latin American writers, intellectuals, statesmen, and thinkers have devoted much attention to a fundamental topic: the search for national identity and political organization. This central theme has been developed in different subtopics: the future of Latin American civilization; political independence; culture, originality and tradition; economic autonomy and

sustainable development; attitude towards the United States; language and literature; social and racial conflicts; search for protection for human rights.

This course/seminar will explore the evolution of Latin American thought and ideologies in three levels: (1) a review of Latin American political and intellectual history; (2) an in-depth reading of the classical writings of the main "pensadores," the Latin American political, social and economic thinkers, and the main protagonists of the sociological and political essay, whose main interest was and is the inquest of the national identity, social and economic development, and (3) a comparative consideration of the main ideological trends of the past and the present and their future prospects for the reshaping of Latin America, nationally and regionally.

Requisites

Two minipapers/take home exams/essays, one combined major final paper, and class participation/reports.

- (1) Two selected topics take-home **essays-minipapers**, 600-800 words (40%, 20 points each). These minipapers/essays are developed for themes A (topics I to VI, dedicated mainly to history and culture) and B (topics VII to X, predominantly politics and ideologies). These essays (suggested examples will be distributed and discussed) are composed of a title, a lead statement, a narrative, an analysis/opinion and a conclusion. The essay should give reference to a combination of at least five variations of sources (original writings of authors or ideologies, direct critical studies about them, historical contextual analysis, and a news item to anchor the relevance of the topic to today's Latin America. At least 1 bibliographical source should be in Spanish. The grade is subdivided in the following categories: basic research, originality of topic/today's reading, precise sources, organization, and (subject to agreement, a short/informative verbal presentation/question-answer). Each minipaper/essay is to be sent to all participants (by agreement) and instructor by email by 9am on Monday, Feb. 29 (theme A) and on March 28 (theme B). Format: single space, send file and then copy and paste essay text on the same message. General evaluation (not grades, which will be give individually) of these essays will be sent back to authors within one week of delivery. Then participants will have one week time to send new version for an improved grade

Further details for essay 1

Essay 1

This is an offer for your creativity:

Choose one of these questions and develop it in an essay of 600-700 words, illustrated by 4 balanced sources.

1. Summarize selected ideas of Bolívar. Stress, if feasible, 1-2 that in your view make most sense today-

2. Outline the main message of the thought by Sarmiento. Explain the historical setting, either Argentine or Latin-American wide. Would be say similar statements today?
3. Select one these (or combine them): Rodó, Martí and Darío, regarding the development of a unique Latin American identity.
4. Select one classic Latin American novel- summarize the plot and deal with its social-political aims.
5. Define the Latin American essay of identity. Select one classic example. Summarize its main ideas.
6. Construct you own innovative question (based on any author of trend). Be bold and creative. Deliver a bold essay revealing angles that stress the timely value of your choice.

You will find in Blackboard (at the bottom of “content”) a section-folder called “Roy-drafts”. These are actually “drafts”, rewritten pieces, of lectures, comments, selected analysis, that deal with fractions of the course. Use them as a gift from your instructor. You will find ideas familiar, reflecting passages of the lectures.

Also, in the “syllabus” section you will find samples of advanced papers. Imagine them shorter and descriptive. The model fits for the commentaries of essays 1 and 2

(2) One major **paper**, 1,500-2,000 words (40%).

The paper can be totally original in scope or can be an expansion of mini-paper I or II (above), or a combination. In any event, it has to link somehow with topics in Theme III to demonstrate its timely relevancy. This is composed of an introduction (about 500 words) to place the selected topic in the proper historical context; a rigorous examination (about max 800 words) of the main elements of the selected thinker's main works or the main characteristics of an ideology; a bibliography (with at least 8 academic sources of varied nature as in minipapers), and a contribution/conclusion (max 400 words) to new knowledge documented by creative comments and reference to sources not included in basic bibliographies. This 40% of the final grade is subdivided in the following categories (10 points each): #1 originality (new ideas, bold propositions, current reading), #2 organization (subdivisions, paragraph structure, use of lead), #3 research and bibliography, and #4 coherent scholarly format (MLA, Chicago, "new" social sciences, etc.) and language (spelling and basic grammar). Same format: single space, copy and paste on message, plus file attached. Final papers can be written in English or Spanish.

(3) **Class participation** (20%) based on oral presentations, comments and extra credit for brief reports on guest lectures, other activities and presentations, films, community or university events on any of the topics of the course

Basic book (ordered at bookstore and placed on reserve at Richter Library):

Krauze, Enrique. Redeemers: ideas and power in Latin America New York, NY: Harper, 2011. F1407 .K73 2011/ isbn 13-978-0-06-093844-4 pbk; Spanish alternative:

- Redentores: ideas y poder en América Latina. Buenos Aires/México: Debate. Random House/Mondadori, 2011. isbn 978-987-1786-22-0/
 Wood, James A. Problems in Latin American History: Sources and interpretations. Lanham, MD: Rowman and Littlefield, 2014. f1413.p76 2014 isbn 978-1-4422-1860-4 (pk).

Suggested books for background reading and research, placed on reserve at Richter Library, and selectively available on Blackboard

- Bethell, Leslie (ed.) Ideas and Ideologies in Twentieth Century Latin America. Cambridge/NY: Cambridge University Press, 1996. ISBN 0521-46833-7 H53.L3 I34 1996
 Bethell, Leslie. Latin America since 1930: Ideas, Culture and Society. Vol. 10 of The Cambridge History of Latin America. NY: Cambridge, 1984. F1410.C1834 1984 V. 10.
 Fuentes, Carlos. The Buried Mirror: Reflections on Spain and the New World. N.Y. Houghton, 1992. DP96.F84 1992 isbn 0395479789.
 Nuccetelli, Susana. Latin American Thought.: Philosophical Problems and Arguments. Boulder, CO: Westview Press, 2002. isbn: 0-81-33-6553-8 B1001 .N8 2002
 Márquez, Iván. Contemporary Latin American Social and Political Thought: An Anthology. Lanham, Maryland, 2008. H62.5.I3c65.2008 isbn 10-7425-3992-x
 Schutte, Ofelia. Cultural Identity and Social Liberation in Latin American Thought. Buffalo, NY: State University of NY, 1993. f1414.36 1993 ISBN 0-7914-1317-9

Basic Outline Schedule

Theme #A: Political history and cultural development

Tuesday, January 17

Thursday, January 19

Topic I. Introduction; Focus: Identity, Literature, Ideas, Ideology

“What Latin America means?”

Introductory Readings:

Krauze, “Preface”

Schutte, Ofelia. "Introduction", Cultural Identity

Tuesday, January 24

Thursday, January 26

Topic II. From the impact of Spain (and Portugal) to the United States influence

Questions:

“Latin America today, the lasting past”

Fuentes, Carlos. The Buried Mirror, "The Virgin and the Bull"; "The Conflict of the Gods",
"Children of La Mancha", "The Price of Freedom",

Tuesday, January 31

Thursday, February 2

Topic III. Independence and consolidation

“What really happened in the 19th Century?”

Focus: Simón Bolívar

Readings:

Bolívar, Simón. "Address Delivered at the Inauguration of the Second National Congress in
Angostura.

_____. "Message to the Congress of Bolivia,"

_____. "The Jamaica Letter“

García Márquez, Gabriel. El general en su laberinto; The General in His Laberynth

Fuentes, Carlos, "The Price of Freedom", The Buried Mirror.

Wood, “Ch. I: Independence

Tuesday, February 7

Thursday, February 9

Topic IV. The Race to Build a Nation.

Focus: **Domingo Faustino Sarmiento**, Civilization or Barbarism

“What were the models for Latin America after independence?”

Readings

Wood, Ch. III, “Caudillos”

Wood, Ch. V, “Race and Nation Building”

Chasteen, John Charles, "Making Sense of Caudillos and 'Revolutions' in Nineteenth-Century Latin America", in Chasteen, John Charles, and Joseph S. Tulchin. Problems in Modern Latin American History pp. 37-68.

Fuentes, Carlos. The Buried Mirror. Ch. 10-11-12-13

Tuesday, February 14

Thursday, February 16

Rebirth by literature and intellectual activity

Topic V. The Image of the United States and search for an autonomous identity.

Focus: **Martí, Darío, Rodó**

“What was the context of the turn of the Century?”

“What was the role and the perception of the United States?”

Introductory Readings:

Krauze, “Martí: the martyrdom of the Liberator”; “Rodó: the Hispanic-American homily”.

Expanded:

Wood, Ch. VI, “Nationalism”

Martí, Selected essays, "Nuestra América"

Darío, Rubén. "Ode to Roosevelt"

Tulchin, Robert, "Inter-American Relations", in Chasteen/Tulchin

Tuesday, February 21:

Topic VI. The Novel and the Essay in identity development

The Essay of National Identity

“Can literature shape a society?”; “Can intellectual activity reflect political reality?”

Readings:

Krauze, “García Márquez: in the shadow of the patriarch”; “Vargas Llosa: creative parricide”.

Expanded:

Martínez-Estrada, Ezequiel. "Civilization and Barbarity," in X-Ray of the Pampa,

Thursday, February 23

The role of the novel

Focus: selected works of novelists of the 20th century

Background readings: Schutte, Ofelia. "Philosophy and the Problem of Cultural Identity: from Ramos to Salazar Bondy", Ch. 3; "The humanity of Mestizaje", Ch. 4, Cultural Identity.

Samples of novels:

- Fuentes, Carlos, La muerte de Artemio Cruz, La región más transparente, Gringo Viejo
- Gallegos, Rómulo, Doña Bárbara
- Miguel Angel Asturias, El Señor Presidente
- Mario Vargas Llosa, Conversación en La Catedral
- Gabriel García Márquez, Cien años de soledad
- José Maria Arguedas, Los ríos profundos
- Jorge Icaza, Huasiungo
- Mariano Azuela, Los de abajo

Theme #B: The need for change and reform in a turbulent XXth Century

Tuesday, February 28

Thursday, March 2

Submit Theme “A” paper/essay

Topic VII. Failed Revolutions, Populism, Reform

Focus: From the Mexican Revolution to Peronism

“What was the balance of political activity in Latin American in the 20th Century in shaping society?”

Basic readings: Krauze, “Octavio Paz: the poet and the revolution”; “Vasconcelos: the cultural caudillo”; “Eva Perón: the Madonna of the shirtless ones”.

Suggested readings:

Wood, Ch. VIII, “Populism”

Octavio Paz, The Labyrinth of Solitude

Fuentes, Carlos. "Land and Liberty", "Unfinished Business", The Buried Mirror,

Fuentes, Carlos. The Death of Artemio Cruz.

Monday, March 7

Thursday, March 9

Topic VIII. The Revolutionary Solutions: from failed Marxism to the Cuban Revolution and other drastic experiments

“Why real revolutions did not succeed in Latin America?”; “Why the Cuban exception?”

Basic readings:

Krauze, “Mariátegui: indigenous Marxism”; “Che Guevara: the saint enraged”; “Subcomandante Marcos: the rise and fall of a guerrillero”

Wood, Ch. IX, “Social Revolutions”

Expanded readings:

José Carlos Mariátegui, Seven Interpretative Essays on Peruvian Reality

Mariátegui, José Carlos. "Outline of the Economic Revolution," Seven Interpretative Essays

Guevara, Ernesto "Che." "General Principles of Guerrilla Warfare,"

Márquez, Part IV

Schutte, Ofelia. "Social Liberation, Identity, and the Recovery of Early Marxist Thought",

Ch. 1; "Mariátegui's Socialist Anthropology", Ch. 2, pp. 35-71, Cultural Identity.

Tuesday March 14 and Thursday, March 16: no class- breakand

Tuesday, March 21

Religion and politics

“What has been the role of religion in the evolution of Latin America?”

Topic IX. The Reformist Ideas from the Church

Focus: **Christian Democratic Thought**

Readings:

Caldera, Rafael. "Nuestra concepción de la democracia".

Frei Montalva, Eduardo. "Paternalismo, pluralismo y movimientos reformistas cristianodemócratas en Latinoamérica."

Roy, Joaquín (ed). El pensamiento demócratacristiano.

Thursday, March 23

Topic X. **Christianity and Revolution**

Focus: **Liberation Theology**

Basic reading: Krauze, “Samuel Ruiz: the apostle of the Indians”

Expanded readings:

Gutiérrez, Gustavo. A Theology of Liberation: history, politics, and salvation.

Márquez, Part II

Schutte, Ofelia. "Consciousness on the side of the oppressed... “ Cultural Identity.

Wood, Ch. IV, “Liberalism and the Catholic Church”

Tuesday, March 28

Thursday, March 30

Topic XI. Social Democracy: politics and socioeconomic development

“Why Latin America did not develop strong socialdemocratic parties?”

Focus: **Víctor Raúl Haya de la Torre**

Readings:

Haya de la Torre, Victor Raúl. "Aprismo, Marxism, and Historical Time-Space,"

Betancourt, Rómulo. "A Government Program,"
 Figueres, José. "Unity and Culture,"

Thursday, March 30 to Monday, April 4
Submit Essay 2 (Theme B)

Answer one of these questions (600-700 words)

- 1. Define populism in general**
- 2. Outline the main dimensions of Peronism**
- 3. Analyze the defining profile of the Cuban Revolution**
- 4. Explain why the Castro regime managed to confront the United States**
- 5. What are the main features of Christian Democracy in Latin America?**
- 6. What are the defining dimensions of Liberation Theology in Latin America?**

Theme #C:

**Latin America today in a global economy and new political and cultural landscape.
 Legacy of the past and alternatives**

Tuesday, April 4
Thursday, April 6

Topic XII. Economic issues, dependency, and neoliberalism

“What has been the impact of technocratic experiments?”

Focus: **Raúl Prebisch**

Readings:

Wood, Ch. XI, “The Global Economy”

Prebisch, Raúl. “Change and development” (Márquez)

Klaren, Peter F. "The Dilemmas of Development", Chasteen/Tulchin

Tuesday, April 11
Thursday, April 13

Topic XIII: Regional integration in comparative perspective

Subtopics:

- Change in a globalized economy
- Regional integration and neo-liberalism

- National, sub-regional and continental integration
- Obstacles: poverty, inequality, national disintegration, nationalism.
- Outside factors: the US, Europe, other global actors
- What has been the role of the model/reference of the European Union?
- Examples and experiments to be considered:

Regional entities

- Mercosur
- Andean Community
- Caribbean integration
- Central America

- ALADI
- SELA

- CELAC
- UNASUR
- ALBA

Other:

- Alliance of the Pacific
- Ibero-American summits
- The North-American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA)
- The failure of the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA)

How these experiments and realities reflect a sense of integration and shared identity?
 What is to be a Latin-American?

Tuesday, April 18

Thursday, April 20

Topic XIV. Ideas and ideology in the future of Latin America: new and old trends.

A complete review of the course

Themes and topics to be considered while drafting papers 3

- Authoritarianism
- The ideology of the military
- Repression
- Neopopulism
- Neoindigenism
- Survival of Marxism

- Liberal democracy and its consolidation
- Presidentialism
- The role of political parties
- A return to the past?
- The end of history or the end of ideologies?
- Politics of economics
- Are intellectuals obsolete?
- Brains behind the power?
- The press and the power

Basic readings:

Krauze, “Hugo Chávez: the hero worshiper”

Expanded readings:

Márquez, Part V

Fuentes, The Buried Mirror, Ch. 16, 313-329)

Tuesday, April 25

Thursday, April 27

Review

Reports by participants

- By Saturday, April 16, send a paragraph (100-150 words) summarizing your project for paper 3.
- On Monday, April 18, be prepared to present a summary (10 minutes) of the content and answer a few questions.
- We also need a couple of new sources not used before in the other papers.

Final paper due at a day to be agreed on exam dates (to be scheduled around April 27-May 3).