
ANTH 421
Contemporary Latin American Society
GFC Hours 3-0
Winter 2023

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| Instructor: | Dr. Ben M. McKay | Lecture Location: | PF 114 |
| Phone: | 403-220-4853 | Lecture Days/Time: | Mon/Wed 2pm-315pm |
| Email: | Ben.mckay@ucalgary.ca | | |
| Office: | ES 756 | | |
| Office Hours: | 11am-1pm Mon/Wed or by appointment | | |

Prerequisite(s): ANTH 321

COURSE DESCRIPTION

A wave of progressive left governments swept through Latin America at the dawn of the twenty-first century, signaling a rejection of the neoliberal model of development and new opportunities for socio-economic change. New development models based on the principles of autonomy, sovereignty, redistribution, and Indigenous worldviews were adopted and even included in constitutions throughout the region. This course examines the implications of these changes for Latin American societies, their continued reliance on natural resource extraction and the changing state-society-capitalist relations over time. Key themes covered in the course include colonial legacies, Indigenous movements, development models, neo-extractivism, and other key issues shaping Latin American societies today.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

The Department of Anthropology and Archaeology is committed to student knowledge and skill development.

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

- Understand the key issues, theories and debates shaping contemporary Latin American society
- Explain the rise of progressive left movements as a response to neoliberal policies
- Write an analytical essay, engaging with course concepts and theories
- Discuss and present an in-depth analysis of an important contemporary issue in Latin America

- Think critically and engage with complex concepts
- Work in a team-oriented manner

READINGS AND TEXTBOOKS:

- All readings are required and are available on D2L.

REQUIRED TECHNOLOGY and EQUIPMENT:

- A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security and malware updates
- A current and updated web browser
- Broadband internet connection

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSESSMENT

1- In-class assignments: 10%

A total of five in-class assignments will be held throughout the semester, each worth 2% of your final grade. These will be based on the required readings assigned for that week, so make sure you come to class prepared and having done the required readings.

2- Film Review: 15%

Students will write a 1000-word (excluding bibliography) film review. Due March 15th (upload to D2L before midnight).

3- Mid-term Exam #1, February 15th: 25%

Short answers and multiple choice. All materials in-class and in the readings up to and including February 15th will be covered. Exam is closed book.

4- Mid-term Exam #2, April 12th: 15%

Short answers and multiple choice. All materials in-class and in the readings between March 6th and March 22nd (inclusive) will be covered. Exam is closed book.

5- Group Presentations, March 27th- April 5th: 20%

Students will be organized into groups and present on a topic of choice approved by the instructor. All group members will receive the same grade based on a grading rubric which will be posted on D2L. More details will be discussed in class.

6- Peer review: 5%

Each group will act as peer reviewers for another group, asking informed questions and offering constructive criticism.

7 – Guest lecture reflection: 10%.

Write a 1000-word reflection on a guest lecture of choice. Reflection should not only summarize the talk, but reflect on its content and relate the themes discussed to course material. More details to be discussed in class. Due April 5th (upload to D2L before midnight).

*Late assignments will be penalized by 10% per day.

Students may provide supporting documentation for an exemption/special request. This may include, but is not limited to, a prolonged absence from a course where participation is required, a missed course assessment, a deferred examination, or an appeal. Students are encouraged to submit documentation that will support their situation. The decision to provide supporting documentation that best suits the situation is at the discretion of the student. Students cannot be required to provide specific supporting documentation, such as a medical note. Falsification of any supporting documentation will be taken very seriously and may result in disciplinary action through the Academic Discipline regulations or the Student Non-Academic Misconduct policy.

Missed examinations/tests cannot be made up without the approval of the instructor. Students who miss a test/exam have up to **48 hours** to contact the instructor to ask for a makeup test/exam. It is at the instructor's discretion if they will allow a make-up exam. Students who do not schedule a makeup test/exam with the instructor within this **48-hour period** forfeit the right to a makeup test/exam. At the instructor's discretion, a makeup exam may differ significantly (in form and/or content) from a regularly scheduled exam. Once approved by the instructor a makeup exam must be written within **two weeks** of the missed exam on a day/time scheduled by the instructor.

Reappraisal of Graded Term Work: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-2.html>

Reappraisal of Final Grade: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-3.html>

Department of Anthropology and Archaeology Grading Scheme:

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| A+ | 95 – 100% | B+ | 80 – 84.9% | C+ | 67 – 70.9% | D+ | 55 – 58.9% |
| A | 90 – 94.9% | B | 75 – 79.9% | C | 63 – 66.9% | D | 50 – 54.9% |
| A- | 85 – 89.9% | B- | 71 – 74.9% | C- | 59 – 62.9% | F | < 50% |

*****Please note that no extra credit or 'make up' work is available in this class*****
You do not need to pass each course component to earn a passing grade in the class

Land Acknowledgement

The Department of Anthropology and Archaeology acknowledges the traditional territories of the people of the Treaty 7 region in Southern Alberta, which includes the Blackfoot Confederacy (comprising the Siksika, Piikani, and Kainai First Nations), as well as the Tsuut'ina First Nation, and the Stoney Nakoda (including the Chiniki, Bearspaw, and Wesley First Nations). The City of Calgary is also home to Métis Nation of Alberta, Region 3.

Acknowledgment and Respect for Diversity

The Department of Anthropology and Archaeology views diversity of identity as a strength and resource. Your experiences and different perspectives are encouraged and add to a rich learning environment that fosters critical thought through respectful discussion and inclusion.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit <https://live-ucalgary.ucalgary.ca/student-services/access>. Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor or the Department Head. The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/accommodation-students-disabilities-procedure>.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY

Academic integrity is the foundation of the development and acquisition of knowledge and is based on values of honesty, trust, responsibility, and respect. We expect members of our community to act with integrity. The University Calendar includes a statement on the principles of conduct expected of all members of the university community (including students, faculty, administrators, any category of staff, practicum supervisors, and volunteers), whether on or off university property. This statement applies in all situations where members of the university community are acting in their university capacities. All members of the university community have a responsibility to familiarize themselves with the principles of conduct statement, which is available at: www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html.

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

The University of Calgary is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect.

Academic dishonesty is not an acceptable activity at the University of Calgary, and students are **strongly advised** to read the Student Misconduct section in the University Calendar at: www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-3.html. Often, students are unaware of what constitutes academic dishonesty or plagiarism. The most common are (1) presenting another student's work as your own, (2) presenting an author's work or ideas as your own without adequate citation, and (3) using work completed for another course. Such activities will not be tolerated in this course, and students suspected of academic misconduct will be dealt with according to the procedures outlined in the calendar at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-academic-misconduct-procedure>

For students wishing to know more about what constitutes plagiarism and how to properly cite the work of others, the Department of Geography recommends that they attend Academic Integrity workshops offered through the Student Success Centre: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity>

INSTRUCTOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Course materials created by professor(s) (including course outlines, presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the professor(s). These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the professor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing. Information on Instructor Intellectual Property can be found at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/intellectual-property-policy>

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY ACT

Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary.

COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/acceptable-use-material-protected-copyright-policy>) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorized sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks, etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

SUPPORTS FOR STUDENT LEARNING, SUCCESS, AND SAFETY

Please visit the Registrar's website at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines> for additional important information on the following:

- Wellness and Mental Health Resources
- Student Success Centre
- Student Ombuds Office
- Student Union (SU) Information
- Graduate Students' Association (GSA) Information
- Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points
- Safewalk

TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE*

**Schedule/readings subject to change at the discretion of the instructor*

| | Mon | Topic and Required Readings | Wed | Topic and Required Readings |
|---|--------|--|--------|---|
| 1 | 9-Jan | Introduction to the Course | 11-Jan | Modernization and Dependency in Latin America |
| | | | | Kay (2019) |
| | | | | Frank (1966) |
| 2 | 16-Jan | Indigenous development in Latin America | 18-Jan | Indigenous Movements |
| | | Postero (2019) Indigenous development in Latin America | | Silva, E. (2015). Indigenous Peoples' Movements, Developments, and Politics in Ecuador and Bolivia', Handbook of Social Movements across Latin America. |
| | | Postero (2017) Introduction | | Di Giminiani (2019) Indigenous Activism in Latin America |
| 3 | 23-Jan | Coloniality, colonialism, and decoloniality | 25-Jan | Open veins of Latin Ameifca |
| | | Rivera Cusicanqui (2012) | | Farthing, L., & Fabricant, N. (2018). Open Veins Revisited: Charting the Social, Economic, and Political Contours of the New Extractivism in Latin America. <i>Latin American Perspectives</i> , 45(5), 4–17. https://doi.org/10.1177/0094582X18785882 |
| | | Esguerra Muelle (2019) | | |
| | | Cupples (2022) Ch.2 | | |
| | | *In-class assignment #1 | | |
| 4 | 30-Jan | Neoliberal multiculturalism | 1-Feb | The rise and fall of the Pink Tide |
| | | Hale (2005) Neoliberal multiculturalism | | Case study – Bolivia |
| | | Hale (2019) | | McKay (2018) TWQ |
| | | | | Enriques and Page (2019) |
| | | | | Further reading: Levy and Larrabure (2021) |
| 5 | 6-Feb | Neo-extractivism and the commodities consensus | 8-Feb | Latin America in the vortex of social change |

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| | | Burchardt and Dietz (2014) Svampa (2015) | | Veltmeyer (2020) https://doi.org/10.1016/j.worlddev.2020.104916 *In-class assignment #2 |
| 6 | 13-Feb | Midterm Review | 15-Feb | Midterm #1 (25%) |
| 7 | 20-Feb | Reading week | 22-Feb | |
| 8 | 27-Feb | Film Screening Even the rain | 1-Mar | Film Screening Even the rain |
| 9 | 6-Mar | Agrarian extractivism in Latin America McKay et al (2021) *In-class assignment #3 | 8-Mar | Brazil case study Readings TBA |
| 10 | 13-Mar | The war on drugs in Latin America Correa-Cabrera (2019) Gutierrez (2020) *In-class assignment #4 | 15-Mar | Colombia case study Readings TBA Film Review Due (15%) |
| 11 | 20-Mar | Indigenous cosmovision: Buen Vivir/Sumak Kawsay | 22-Mar | Bolivia case study |
| | | Prada (2013) *In-class assignment #5 | | Readings TBA |
| 12 | 27-Mar | Group presentations (3 groups, 20 minutes each) | 29-Mar | Group presentations (3 groups, 20 minutes each) |
| 13 | 3-Apr | Group presentations (3 groups, 20 minutes each) | 5-Apr | Group presentations + Midterm #2 Review Guest lecture reflection due (10%) |
| 14 | 10-Apr | Easter Monday (no class) | 12-Apr | Midterm #2 (15%) |

IMPORTANT DATES

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| M Jan 9 | First day of Winter Term lectures |
| R Jan 19 | Last day to drop a class without a financial penalty |
| F Jan 20 | Last day to add or swap a course |
| F Jan 27 | Fee payment deadline for Winter Term full and half courses. |
| Feb 20-24 | Reading Break. No classes. |
| F Apr 7 | Good Friday, University closed. No classes. |
| M Apr 10 | Easter Monday, University closed. No classes. |
| W Apr 12 | Winter Term Lectures End. Last day to withdraw with permission from Winter Term half courses. |
| Apr 15-26 | Winter Final Exam Period |

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-schedule.html#fall2017>