

**GEOGRAPHY 371
H (3-0) (AREA II)**

INTRODUCTION TO LATIN AMERICA

Instructor: Dario Bustamante
E-mail: bustaman@ucalgary.ca
Office Hours: by appointment

Official Course Description:

A survey of the physical, cultural and historical geography of Latin America.

Course Topics:

1. Introduction: General comparison to other world regions, outstanding characteristics-physical/cultural.
2. Physical landscape: Natural regions-physiography and drainage and climate. Natural vegetation and soils. Native animal life.
3. Historical background: Pre-Columbian Amerindian cultures. European background, exploration, conquest and settlement. Historical development: colonial period, independence movement, modern period.
4. Cultural Features: Population: historical and present-day trends. Distribution and settlement patterns, urbanization. Races, languages, religions.
5. Economy: Historic economic development. Characteristics of the economy: general features of underdevelopment.

Prerequisite: Any course in Geography or consent of the Department.

Text:

Clawson, David L., *Latin America and the Caribbean: Lands and Peoples*. Latest Edition, WCB Publishers.

Grading:

There will be Three exams:

First Exam (Thursday, May 25)	Chapters 1-4	Worth 30%
Second Exam (Thursday, June 8)	Chapters 5-8**	Worth 30%
Final Exam (Registrar-scheduled: June 28-30)	Chapters 9-13	Worth 40%

Final course grade will be determined by cumulative point system. Course grades will not be curved. It is not essential to pass one component of the course in order to receive a passing grade in the course as a whole.

****For chapter 6, a complementary orientation will be given in the class.**

Grading System:

A+ (96-100); A (90-95); A- (86-89); B+ (81-85); B (77-80); B- (71-76);
C+ (65-70); C (62-64); C- (59-61); D+ (55-58); D (50-54); F (0-49).

For additional detailed course information posted by the Instructor see Blackboard at:

<http://blackboard.ucalgary.ca>

Plagiarism

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. Quite 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 proper referencing and 3) using work completed for another course. This activity will not be tolerated in this course and students conducting themselves in this manner will be dealt with according to the procedures outlined in the calendar.

Re: Posting of Grades and Picking-up of Assignments

- Assignments will be handed back only in class or by the Professor at pre-arranged time(s).
- If you would like to receive your assignment through the mail, please include an appropriately sized self-addressed, stamped envelope with your assignment when you hand it in to the professor.
- Posting of grades will be at the discretion of each Professor and, if posted, they will be scrambled. Please note, grades will not be available in the Geography office.

Contact Information for Student and Faculty Representation

- SU VP Academic Phone: 220-3911 and e-mail: suvpaca@ucalgary.ca
- SU Faculty Rep. Phone: 220-3913 and e-mail: socialscirep@su.ucalgary.ca

Campus Safewalk

Campus Security, in partnership with the Student's Union, provides the Safewalk service, 24 hours a day, to any location in campus including the LRT, parking lots, bus zones and University residences. Contact Campus Security at 220-5333 or use a help phone, and Safewalkers or campus security officer will accompany you to your Campus destination.