



International Affairs 4270

Inter-American Relations

Summer 2009

Instructor:
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Objectives

This class will introduce students to the broad structures and processes of international relations of the Western Hemisphere and explore a number of historical and current substantive issues that have affected American countries such as the Cold War, trade, drugs, immigration, and even terrorism! Much of the material will be approached within the context of US-Latin American relations, but will also focus on inter-Latin American relations, as well as relations with the non-Latin countries. We will explore the extent to which security, economics, and ideas intersect and compete to determine the relations among these countries. Questions underlying the course will include: Can and should the US and other American countries be equal partners in hemispheric relations? Can we even understand each other?

Required Texts

- LaRosa & Mora. *Neighborly Adversaries*.
- M. Reid. *Forgotten Continent: The Battle For Latin America's Soul*
- Readings in the Library
- Readings on the Internets

Readings are supplemental; their purpose is to give insight into a variety of perspectives and class discussions will not always repeat what they say. Students are, however, responsible for the concepts and themes contained in them.

Evaluation

Final grades will be composed of the following elements:

Attendance and Participation: Since these will be relatively small classes, everyone will be expected to have done assigned readings and be able to discuss them.

Issue Reports: Each student will be assigned an issue to follow throughout the semester, reporting on its history, the actors involved, and so forth.

Midterm: Self-explanatory

Final Exam: Given at the end of the semester. Could take a variety of forms. Details will follow.

Grades are apportioned thusly:

Participation	15%
Issue Reports	15%
Midterm	35%
Final Exam	35%

The grading scale is as follows:

93.4 – 100 = A
89.5 – 93.3 = A–
86.7 – 89.4 = B+
83.4 – 86.6 = B
79.5 – 83.3 = B–
And so forth

Tentative Course Outline

As usual, this schedule is subject to announced changes according to our progress or the whim of the instructor. Daily reading assignments will be hammered out each week.

Week 1: Intro Business

- L&M Intro & Part I
- Reid 1,2

Week 2: National Origins, Hegemony, & War

- L&M Parts II & III
- Reid 3

Week 3: San José

Week 4: Cold War & Interventionism

- L&M Part IV
- Reid 4 – 6

Week 5: Actors & Issues

- L&M Part V
- Reid 7 – 9

Week 6: Actors & Issues

- L&M Part VI
- Reid 10 – 12