

---

**AN/IR320 LATIN AMERICA:  
DEVELOPMENT AND POLITICAL PERSPECTIVES FROM THE US AND EUROPE  
IES Barcelona Syllabus – Last updated: June 4th, 2008**

**DESCRIPTION:** The course offers a vision of Latin America development through its history and its relationship with the US and Europe. The course is divided in three modules.

First - Latin America under the hegemony of the US. This module studies the historical and social processes which occurred in Latin America starting with World War II and through the Cold War, considering the predominant role of the US at this time.

Second - Subordinated Social Sectors – This module observes the consequences of the above processes and the political role of social sectors with less power in Latin America: peasants, indigenous populations and women.

The course is complemented with a series of directed activities (Field Studies) which enable us to learn about the relationship between Catalonia and Cuba during the 19<sup>th</sup> century. These relations have marked the history, the culture and the economy of Catalonia. (3 credits)

**PREREQUISITE:** Advanced Spanish language level

**INSTRUCTOR:** Jordi Gascón

**METHOD OF PRESENTATION:**

LECTURES: Scientific articles, historical documents and brief newspaper articles that will allow us to introduce the topics of the course.

FILM VIEWINGS: Documentary film to introduce the topics of course.

FIELD STUDIES: Related to the relationship between Catalonia and Cuba in 19<sup>th</sup> century.

**LANGUAGE OF PRESENTATION:** Spanish

**REQUIRED WORK AND FORM OF ASSESSMENT:** Class Participation (10%); Homework (20%); Midterm Exam (25%); Final Exam (25%); Essay (20%)

**IES ATTENDANCE POLICY:** Attendance is mandatory for all IES classes, including field studies. Students are permitted 3 absences in IES area studies courses and 5 absences in IES Spanish language courses with no impact on the final grade. These include absences due to illness, delayed flights, interviews, family celebrations, or any other personal commitments. Beyond these absences, one half of a letter grade will be deducted from the final grade for each additional absence. If a student is absent more than 7 times for area studies courses or 10 times for language courses, the student will receive an F for the course.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:** By the end of the course, students are able to:

- To analyze the historical, social and economic processes of Latin America under US hegemony.  
MODULE I
- To analyze how these processes affect living conditions for most of the Latin American population.  
MODULE II
- To distinguish Catalan-Latin America relationships throughout the 19<sup>th</sup> Century and their consequences today in Catalan economy and society. FIELD STUDIES

**CONTENT:**

Session 1: Presentation, course objectives and evaluation mechanisms

Session 2&3: Independence, the formation of new republics, and the opening of the markets

*Required readings:*

Fragmento de la carta que el ministro inglés de asuntos exteriores, George Canning, envió al embajador de EEUU en Londres, Richard Rush (20 de agosto de 1823). 1pp

Session 4&5: Establishment of the Agro-Export Model (1880-1930)

Session 6&7: Latin America in the Cold War: Nationalist governments, coup d'etats and US invasions  
*Required readings:*

Fragmento del discurso del Presidente de la República de México, Lázaro Cárdenas, decretando la nacionalización de la Industria Petrolera (México DF, 18 de marzo de 1938). 2 pp

Session 8: Latin America in the Cold War: The Cuban Revolution and the Kennedy Administration  
*Required readings:*

Memorandum secreto de Richard N. Goodwin al presidente J. F. Kennedy: Conversación con el comandante Ernesto "Che" Guevara. 4 pp

Session 9: Latin America in the Cold War: Revolutionary movements and civil wars. The triumph of the Nicaraguan Revolution, the Contras' War and the roll of the European civil society (1979-1990)

Session 10-11: The end of the Cold War: The end of the Latin American Left? The Right Populism. The "fujimorismo" in Peru.

Session 12: The end of the Cold War: Cuba, Economic crisis and the accentuation of the US and European pressure

*Required readings:*

"Michael Moore afronta el éxito o la ley" (Newspaper article)

Session 13: Midterm Exam

Session 14: A new way for development?: The '80 crisis of and the rise of Neoliberalism

Session 15: A new way for development?: Mexico, US and the NAFTA

Film viewing: El tigre suelto y el burro amarrado (Nicaragua, 2005, 25 min)

Session 16: A new way for development?: Argentina: Privatizations and the roll of the European multinationals corporations

Film viewing: Memoria del saqueo (Argentina-Francia, 2004, 45 min)

Session 17-18: '90 and '00: Venezuela: The Social Movements and the return of the nationalist governments.

Film viewing: La revolución no será transmitida (Venezuela, 2003, 25 min)

Session 19: The Independence of Europe and the indigenous population. The cases of Argentina and Ecuador

*Required readings:*

Pineda Camacho, Roberto "La Casa Arana en el Putumayo: El Caucho y el Proceso Esclavista" *Revista Credencial Historia* n°160. 2003. 5 pp

Session 20: European and US multinational corporations and the Rights of the Indigenous Peoples

*Required readings:*

González Reyes, Luis "Responsabilidad ambiental de las trasnacionales españolas" *Rebelión*. 2008

Session 21: Rural migration: the indigenous "invade" the city. The Peruvian case

Session 22: Peasants versus agro-export model: Who must Latin American agriculture feed? (I)

Film viewing: Oro Verde (Holanda, 2003. 25 min)

Desmarais, Annete-Aurélie (2002) The Vía Campesina: Consolidating an International Peasant and Farm Movement *The Journal of Peasant Studies* 29(2)

Session 23: Peasants versus agro-export model: Who must Latin American agriculture feed? (II)

*Required readings:*

"Ethanol: Castro was right" *The Economist*, 2008 (Newspaper article)

Session 24: Female political participation: From "Madres de la Plaza de Mayo" (Argentina) to the "Ruta Pacífica de las Mujeres" (Colombia)

## FINAL EXAM

### REQUIRED READING:

Canning, George "Fragmento de la carta que el ministro inglés de asuntos exteriores, George Canning, envió al embajador de EEUU en Londres, Richard Rush," (20 de agosto de 1823)

Cárdenas, Lázaro "Discurso del Presidente de la República de México, Lázaro Cárdenas, decretando la nacionalización de la Industria Petrolera (México DF, 18 de marzo de 1938)" (fragmento)

Desmarais, Annete-Aurélie (2002) The Vía Campesina: Consolidating an International Peasant and Farm Movement *The Journal of Peasant Studies* 29(2)

El País (2007) "Michael Moore afronta el éxito o la ley" (Newspaper article)

González Reyes, Luis (2007) "Responsabilidad ambiental de las transnacionales españolas" *Rebelión*

Goodwin, Richard N. (1961) "Memorandum secreto de Richard N. Goodwin al presidente J. F. Kennedy: Conversación con el comandante Ernesto "Che" Guevara"

Pineda Camacho, Roberto (2003) La Casa Arana en el Putumayo: El Caucho y el Proceso Esclavista [\*Revista Credencial Historia\*](#) 160

The Economist (2007) "Ethanol: Castro was right" (Newspaper article)

### RECOMMENDED READING:

Bethell, Leslie, ed. (1986-1987) *The Cambridge History of Latin America, vol. IV, V and VI*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press

Coatsworth, John H. & Alan M. Taylor, eds. (1998) *Latin America and the World Economy Since 1800*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press.

Foders, Federic & Manfred Feldsieper, eds. (2000) *The Transformation of Latin America: Economic Development in the Early 1990s*. Cheltenham & Northampton: Edward Elgar Press.

Korol, Juan Carlos & Enrique Tandeter (1999) *Historia económica de América Latina: Problemas y procesos*. Buenos Aires: Fondo de Cultura Económica.

Marcus-Delgado, Jane & Martín Tanaka (2001) *Lecciones del final del Fujimorismo* Lima: IEP.

Martínez Alier, Joan & Arcadi Oliveras (2003), *¿Quién debe a quién?: Deuda ecológica y deuda externa*. Barcelona: Icaria.

Petras, James & Henry Veltmeyer (2005) *Social Movements and State Power: Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia, Ecuador* Pkluto Press.

Vázquez Montalbán, Manuel (1998) *Y Dios entró en La Habana*. Barcelona: El País Aguilar.

Xalma, Cristina (2007) *Cuba ¿Hacia dónde?: Transformación política, económica y social en los noventa. Escenarios de futuro*. Barcelona: Icaria.

Bryceson, Deborah et al., eds. (2000) *Disappearing Peasantries?: Rural Labour in Africa, Asia and Latin America*. London: Intermediate Technology.

Gavaldá, Marc (2003) *La recolonización: Repsol en América Latina*. Barcelona: Icaria.

Klein, Naomi (2007) *The Shock Doctrine: The rise of disaster capitalism*. New York: Metropolitan Books

Lappé, Frances M. y otros (2005) *Doce mitos sobre el hambre*. Barcelona: Icaria.

---

IES is compliant with international and US copyright laws. It obtains permission from publishers to reproduce materials in electronic format or in course readers. Please, note that the copyright for this syllabus is retained both by the instructor and IES Barcelona.

- 
- Martínea-Alier, Joan (2006) *El ecologismo de los pobres: conflictos ambientales y lenguajes de valoración*. Barcelona: Icaria&Flacso
- Matos Mar, José (2004) *Desborde popular y crisis del Estado: 20 años después*. Lima: Fondo Editorial del Congreso. 2004
- Mies, Maria & Vandana Shiva (1997) *Ecofeminismo*. Barcelona: Icaria.
- Millet, Damien & Toussaint, Éric (2006) *Los tsunamis de la deuda*. Barcelona: Icaria. 2006
- Bretón, Víctor / Roca, Albert (1999) *Los límites del desarrollo: Modelos "rotos" y modelos "por reconstruir" en América Latina y África*. Barcelona: Icaria.
- Eade, Deborah & Ernst Ligteringen (2001) *Debating Development: NGOs and the Future*. London: Oxfam.
- Escobar, Arturo (1995) *Encountering Development: The Making and Unmaking of the Third World*. Princeton Univ Press.
- Sogge, David (2004) *Dar y tomar: ¿Qué sucede con la ayuda internacional?* Barcelona: Icaria.
- Viola, Andreu (2000) *Antropología del Desarrollo: Teorías y estudios etnográficos en América Latina*. Barcelona: Paidós. 2000.
- Zabala, Idoe (2006) *El Banco Mundial y su influencia en las mujeres y en las relaciones de género*. Bilbao: Hegoa.