

## 17.S951. New Research on Latin American Politics

Spring 2016

Wednesday 1:30-3:30  
E53-485

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This course will cover significant new research on Latin America politics and political economy, mostly books, articles, and papers from the last five or so years, some of it as yet unpublished. As such, the course is not a 'field seminar' designed to give an overview and history of the field, but rather concentrates on just the latest breaking trends. The weekly topics cover a mix of new themes that have developed in the last decade like the left, violence and politics, and state formation, as well as long standing areas of research where significant new theories have emerged on clientelism, business politics, state capitalism, inequality, parties, and elections.

Course requirements (with grading weights) include: participation in seminar discussions including leading seminar discussions several times (30%); three 4-page (double spaced) reviews of the weekly reading (30%); and a final presentation (5%) and paper (35%). The weekly reviews should be posted to Stellar by 9am on Wednesday so that everyone can consult them before class. A two page paper proposal, with a one page bibliography, is due by late March, and the final paper of around 20 pages is due at the beginning of exam week. Papers should focus on a week or two of the readings and place those readings in a broader survey of the literature both other contemporary studies and the trajectory of the research line over the past decade. The paper format should follow roughly article-length reviews in journals like *World Politics* or *Comparative Politics*.

Students will need to buy or borrow the required books marked with \*. Articles, manuscripts, papers, and some scanned book chapters will be on Stellar.

## Week 1 (2/3). **Introduction and Organization**

## Week 2 (2/10). **State Formation and Path Dependence**

Dell, Melissa. 2010. "The Persistent Effects of Peru's Mining Mita." *Econometrica* 78 (6): 1863–1903.

Soifer, Hillel. 2015. *State Building in Latin America*. New York: Cambridge University Press. Chapters 1-2, 4.

Kurtz, Marcus. 2013. *Latin American State Building in Comparative Perspective: Social Foundations of Institutional Order*. New York: Cambridge University Press. Chapters 1 & 2.

### Further reading

Mahoney, James. 2010. *Colonialism and Postcolonial Development: Spanish America in Comparative Perspective*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Centeno, Miguel. 2002. *Blood and Debt: War and the Nation-State in Latin America*. University Park: Pennsylvania State University Press.

## Week 3 (2/17). **The Rise and Decline of the Left in Latin America**

Mazduca, Sebastián L. 2013. "The Rise of Rentier Populism." *Journal of Democracy* 24 (2): 108–22.

Eaton, Kent. 2014. "Recentralization and the Left Turn in Latin America Diverging Outcomes in Bolivia, Ecuador, and Venezuela." *Comparative Political Studies* 47 (8): 1130–57.

Levitsky, Steven, and Kenneth Roberts, eds. 2011. *The Resurgence of the Latin American Left*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press. Intro.

Handlin, Samuel. 2016. *States of Polarization: State Crisis, Party System Change, and Democratic Erosion in Post-Cold War South America*. Manuscript. Chapters TBD.

### Further reading

Flores-Macías, Gustavo. 2012. *After Neoliberalism: the Left and Economic Reforms in Latin America*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Daniela Campello. 2015. *The Politics of Market Discipline in Latin America*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

**24 February. No class**

#### **Week 4 (3/2). Inequality and Social Welfare I**

de la O, Ana. 2015. *Crafting Policies to End Poverty in Latin America: The Quiet Transformation*. Cambridge University Press. Chapters 2-4.

Candelaria Garay. "Including Outsiders: Social Mobilization, Electoral Competition and Social Policy in Latin America." Chapters 1 & 2.

Huber, Evelyne, Francois Nielsen, Jenny Pribble, and John D. Stephens. "Politics and inequality in Latin America and the Caribbean." *American Sociological Review* 71, no. 6 (2006): 943-963.

#### Further reading

Huber, Evelyne, and John Stephens. 2012. *Democracy and the Left: Social Policy and Inequality in Latin America*. Chicago: Chicago University Press.

López-Calva, Luis, and Nora Lustig. 2010. "Explaining the Decline in Inequality in Latin America: Technological Change, Educational Upgrading, and Democracy." In *Declining Inequality in Latin America*, ed. Luis López-Calva and Nora Lustig. Washington, DC: Brookings Institution.

#### **Week 5 (3/9). Inequality and Social Welfare II**

Alisha C. Holland. 2015. "Forbearance as Redistribution: The Politics of Enforcement Against Latin America's Urban Poor." Chapters 1, 2, and 6.

\*Michael Albertus. 2015. *Autocracy and Redistribution: The Politics of Land Reform*. New York: Cambridge University Press. Chapters TBD.

Bueno, Natalia. 2015. "Bypassing Your Enemy: Distributive Politics, Credit Claiming, and Non-State Organizations in Brazil." Working Paper.

#### **Week 6 (3/16). Drug Trafficking, Crime, and Politics**

Bateson, Regina and Nicholas Smith. 2012. "Vigilantism: A Research Agenda for Political Science." *Working Paper*.

Benjamin Lessing. 2013. *Making Peace in Drug Wars: Crackdowns and Cartels in Latin America*. Book Manuscript. Chapters TBD

F. Daniel Hidalgo and Benjamin Lessing. "Endogenous State Weakness: Paramilitaries and Electoral Politics in Rio de Janeiro" (with Benjamin Lessing). Working Paper.

Calderón, Gabriela, Gustavo Robles, Alberto Díaz-Cayeros, and Beatriz Magaloni. 2015. "The Beheading of Criminal Organizations and the Dynamics of Violence in Mexico." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 59 (8): 1455–85. doi:10.1177/0022002715587053.

#### Further reading

*Studies in Comparative International Development*, September 2013 special issue.

### **Week 7 (3/30). Business Politics**

Fairfield, Tasha. 2014. *Private Wealth and Public Revenue: Business Power and Tax Politics in Latin America*. New York: Cambridge University Press. Chapters 1-3.

Flores-Macias, Gustavo. 2014. "Financing Security through Elite Taxation: The Case of Colombia's Democratic Security Taxes," *Studies in Comparative International Development* 49: 4 (December).

Bandeira-de-Mello, Rodrigo. 2015. "Betting on the Winner: The Effect of Local Elections on Corporate Political Activity Outcomes". *Working Paper*.

#### Further reading

Etchemendy, Sebastián. 2011. *Models of Economic Liberalization: Business, Workers, and Compensation in Latin America, Spain, and Portugal*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Yadav, Vineeta. 2011. *Political Parties, Business Groups, and Corruption in Developing Countries*. New York: Oxford University Press.

### **Week 8 (4/6). Patronage, Clientelism, and Vote Buying**

\*Susan C. Stokes, Thad Dunning, Marcelo Nazareno, Valeria Brusco. 2013. *Brokers, Voters, and Clientelism: The Puzzle of Distributive Politics*. NY: Cambridge UP. Chapters 2-4.

Weitz-Shapiro, Rebecca. "What wins votes: Why some politicians opt out of clientelism." *American Journal of Political Science* 56.3 (2012): 568-583.

Larreguy, Horacio. "Monitoring political brokers: Evidence from clientelistic networks in Mexico". Working Paper.

Rodrigo Zarazaga, S.j. "Brokers Beyond Clientelism: A New Perspective Through the Argentine Case." *Latin American Politics and Society* 56, no. 3 (September 1, 2014): 23–45.

#### Further reading

Szwarcberg, Mariela. *Mobilizing Poor Voters: Machine Politics, Clientelism, and Social Networks in Argentina*. Cambridge University Press, 2015.

Grindle, M. S. (2012). *Jobs for the Boys: Patronage and the State in Comparative Perspective*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press

Ezequiel Gonzalez Ocantos, Chad Kiewiet de Jonge, and David Nickerson. 2013. "The Conditionality of Vote-Buying Norms: Experimental Evidence from Latin America." *AJPS*.

Daniel W. Gingerich. 2012. "Can Institutions Cure Clientelism? Assessing the Impact of the Australian Ballot in Brazil."

Weitz-Shapiro, Rebecca. 2014. *Curbing Clientelism in Argentina: Politics, Poverty, and Social Policy*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

### **Week 9 (4/13). Parties and Elections**

Lupu, Noam. *Party Brands in Crisis: Partisanship, Brand Dilution, and the Breakdown of Political Parties in Latin America*. Cambridge University Press, 2015. Chapters TBD

\*Roberts, Kenneth M. *Changing Course in Latin America*. Cambridge University Press, 2015. Chapters 1-3.

#### Further reading

Luna, Juan Pablo. 2014. *Segmented Representation: Political Party Strategies in Unequal Democracies*. New York: Oxford UP.

Hunter, Wendy. 2010. *The Transformation of the Workers' Party in Brazil, 1989-2009*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

### **Week 10 (4/20). Authoritarianism and Democratization**

\*Mainwaring, Scott and Aníbal Pérez-Liñán. 2014. *Democracies and Dictatorships in Latin America: Emergence, Survival*. New York: Cambridge University Press. Chapters TBD.

\*Steven Levitsky and Lucan A. Way. 2010. *Competitive Authoritarianism: Hybrid Regimes after the Cold War*. Chapters 1, 2, and 4.

Hidalgo article on authoritarian legacies

#### Further readings

“State of the Field: Political regimes and the Study of Democratic Politics” in Peter Kingstone and Deborah J. Yashar, eds. *Routledge Handbook of Latin American Politics*. Routledge 2012.

### **Week 11 (4/27). New Forms of State Intervention**

Musacchio, Aldo, and Sergio Lazzarini. 2014. *Leviathan Evolving: New Varieties of State Capitalism in Brazil and Beyond*. Chapters 1 and 2.

Bril-Mascarenhas, Tomás, and Alison Post. 2015. “Policy Traps: Consumer Subsidies in Post-Crisis Argentina” *Studies in Comparative International Development* 50(1): 98-120.

Matthew Amengual. 2016. *Politicized Enforcement in Argentina: Labor and Environmental Regulation*. New York: Cambridge University Press. Chapters TBD.

#### Further reading

Crespi, Gustavo, Eduardo Fernández-Arias, and Ernesto Stein. 2014. *Rethinking Productive Development: Sound Policies and Institutions for Economic Transformation*. IDB and Palgrave.

Devlin, Robert, and Graciela Moguillansky. 2011. *Breeding Latin American Tigers: Operational Principles for Rehabilitating Industrial Policies in the Region*. Washington, DC: World Bank.

### **Week 12 (5/4). Student presentations**

### **Week 13 (5/11) Student presentations**