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Politics and Policy in Latin America

This course will cover the politics of policy making in Latin America.

The first part will focus on understanding the problems of economic development in the region. It will address how and why Latin America is different by looking at its economic outcomes, economic and social policies and political institutions. It will also look at different examples of how political institutions shape policy outcomes. The second part will ground the distinctiveness of Latin America in its history, and show why understanding this is critical for comprehending why it is so different from the United States. It will explore how these historical factors persist, for example, how the legacy of authoritarianism shapes redistributive policies and how these historical foundations have created the weak Latin American states we see today. The third part of the course will look at how groups such as civil society or violent actors can also shape policymaking and welfare in this region. Finally, it will discuss some perspectives on whether some countries in the region have managed to find ways to change their political institutions and subsequently their social and economic policies with the prospect of creating a more prosperous society.

The aim of this course is for students to gain empirical knowledge on the region's politics and policies as well as a practical understanding of political factors that shape policy outcomes.

Book

Stein, Ernesto et al. (2006), *The Politics of Policy*. Washington D.C. Inter-American Development Bank and David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies, Harvard University.

<http://www.insiemeargentina.it/section/image/attach/ThePoliticsOfPolicies2006Report.pdf>

1. Why don't things work in Latin America?

The Water War in Cochabamba

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hn9wujK0ho4>

<http://democracyctr.org/bolivia/investigations/bolivia-investigations-the-water-revolt/bolivias-war-over-water/>

<http://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2002/04/08/leasing-the-rain>

Galiani, Sebastian., Paul Gertler and Ernesto Schargrodsky “Water for life: The impact of the privatization of water supply on child mortality” *Journal of Political Economy*, Volume 113, 2005, pp. 83-120

Post, Alison (2009) “Pathways for Redistribution: Privatization, Regulation, and Incentives for Pro-Poor Investment in the Argentine Water Sector” *International Journal of Public Policy*. Vol.4, No. 1/2, pp. 51-75.

2. How is Latin America Different? Economic Outcomes

Present evidence on economic growth, poverty, social mobility, inequality, social capital, trust and attitudes etc.

Thorp, Rosemary (1998) *Progress, Poverty and Exclusion: An Economic History of Latin America in the Twentieth Century*. Washington D.C.: Inter-American Development Bank.

3. How is Latin America Different? Economic and Social Policies.

Present evidence on education, infrastructure, redistribution and social policy, tax policy, policy dynamics (policy changing continuously).

Stokes, Susan C., Thad Dunning, Marcelo Nazareno, and Valeria Brusco (2013) *Brokers, Voters, and Clientelism: The Puzzle of Distributive Politics*. Cambridge University Press: New York.

Stein, Ernesto et al. (2006), *The Politics of Policy*. Washington D.C. Inter-American Development Bank and David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies, Harvard University. Read Part III

4. How is Latin America Different? Political Institutions.

Present data from: <http://comparativeconstitutionsproject.org/> on Constitutional instability in Latin America.

This has been gathered by Tom Ginsburg, James Melton and Zachary Elkins (see “The Endurance of National Constitutions” *John M. Olin Law & Economics Working Paper* No. 511 <http://www.law.uchicago.edu/files/file/511-tg-endurance.pdf>)

Samuels, David and Richard Snyder (2001) "The Value of a Vote: Malapportionment in Comparative Perspective" *British Journal of Political Science*, 31:4 (October): 651-71.

Present data from Latin America from the Polity Project. Also from Besley and Pearson's website: http://www-2.iies.su.se/pop/Data_1.html

Iaryczower, Matías, Mariano Tomassi and Pablo Spiller "Judicial Independence in Unstable Environments. Argentina: 1935-1998." *American Journal of Political Science*, Vol. 46, N° 4, October 2002, pp. 699-716.

Stein, Ernesto et al. (2006), *The Politics of Policy*. Washington D.C. Inter-American Development Bank and David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies, Harvard University. Read Part II

5. What is the connection between Political Institutions and Policy Outcomes?

Stein, Ernesto et al. (2006), *The Politics of Policy*. Washington D.C. Inter-American Development Bank and David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies, Harvard University. Read Part IV

Mcmillan, John and Pablo Zoido (2004) "How to Subvert Democracy: Montesinos in Peru," *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, American Economic Association, vol. 18(4), pages 69-92, Fall.

Finan Frederico and Laura Schechter (2012) "Vote-buying and Reciprocity" *Econometrica*, 2012, 80(2): 863-882.

Ferraz, Claudio and Frederico Finan (2008) "Exposing Corrupt Politicians: The Effect of Brazil's Publicly Released Audits on Electoral Outcomes" *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 123(2): 703-745.

Hsieh, Chang-Tai, Ted Miguel, Daniel Ortega, and Francisco Rodriguez (2011) "The Price of Political Opposition: Evidence from Venezuela's Maisanta" *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 3: 196-214.

6. Why is Latin America Different: Deep Historical Trajectories

Acemoglu, Daron and James A. Robinson (2012) *Why Nations Fail*, Crown Publishers: New York, Chapter 1.

Engerman Stanley L. and Kenneth L. Sokoloff (1997). “Factor Endowments, Institutions and Differential Paths of Growth among New World Economies”, in Stephen H. Haber (ed.), *How Latin America Fell Behind*, Stanford University Press, Stanford, CA.

Dell, Melissa (2010) “The Persistence Effects of Peru’s Mining Mita”. *Econometrica*, Vol. 78, No. 6 (November, 2010), 1863–1903

Mariátegui, José Carlos (1928) *Seven Interpretive Essays on Peruvian Reality*. University of Texas Press, Austin.

7. Connecting the Past to the Present

Haber, Stephen et. al. (2008) *Mexico since 1980*, Cambridge University Press

De la O, Anna (2006) “Do Conditional Cash Transfers Affect Electoral Behavior? Evidence from a Randomized Experiment in Mexico” *American Journal of Political Science*, Vol. 57, Issue 1, pp. 1-14.

8. Military Regimes and their Legacies

Bautista, Maria Angelica (2014) “Political Effects of State-led Repression: The Chilean Case” (working paper)

Falleti, Tulia G. (2011) “Varieties of Authoritarianism: The Organization of the Military State and its Effect on Federalism in Argentina and Brazil.” *Studies in Comparative International Development*, 46 (2), 137-162.

Menaldo, Victor and Michael Albertus (2014) “Gaming Democracy: Elite Dominance During Transition and Prospects for Redistribution”. *British Journal of Political Science*, Forthcoming

Londregan, John (2007) *Legislative Institutions and Ideology in Chile*. Cambridge University Press

9. The Weak Latin America State

Gibson, Edward (2005) “Boundary Control: Subnational Authoritarianism in Democratic Countries”, *World Politics* 58, October 2005.

Bergman Marcelo (2009) *Tax Evasion and the Rule of Law in Latin America*. Penn State University Press.

Acemoglu, Daron, James A Robinson, and Rafael J Santos (2013) “The Monopoly of Violence: Evidence from Colombia” *Journal of the European Economic Association* 11, no. S1: 5-44

Von Hau, Matthias (2008), “State Infrastructural Power and Nationalism: Comparative Lessons from Mexico and Argentina” *Studies in International Comparative Development*, 43(3/4).

10. Civil Society

Hirschman, Albert O. (1984) *Getting Ahead Collectively: Grassroots Experiences in Latin America*. Pergamon Press, University of Texas.

Jonathan Fox (2007) *Accountability Politics: Power and Voice in Rural Mexico*, Oxford University Press, 2007.

Stein, Ernesto et al. (2006), *The Politics of Policy*. Washington D.C. Inter-American Development Bank and David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies, Harvard University. Read Chapter 5

Gianpaolo Baiocchi, Patrick Heller, and Marcelo K. Silva (2011) *Bootstrapping Democracy: Transforming Local Governance and Civil Society in Brazil*. Stanford University Press.

11. Crime and Violence

Dell, Melissa (2011), “Trafficking Networks and the Mexican Drug War”, Unpublished Manuscript.
http://scholar.harvard.edu/files/dell/files/121113draft_0.pdf

Lederman, Daniel and Fajnzylber, Pablo and Loayza, Norman (2002) “Inequality and Violent Crime”. *Journal of Law and Economics*, Vol. 45, No. 1, Part 1. Available at SSRN: <http://ssrn.com/abstract=303838>

Di Tella, Rafael, Sebastian Edwards and Ernesto Schargrodsky (Eds) (2010) *The Economics of Crime: Lessons for and from Latin America*. University of Chicago Press.

12. A New Latin America?

Shefter, Martin (1977) "Party and Patronage: Germany, England, and Italy" *Politics & Society*. December, No. 7: 403-451

Hunter, Wendy (2007) "The Normalization of an Anomaly: The Workers' Party in Brazil." *World Politics* 59:3 (April): 440–475.

Luis Felipe López-Calva and Nora Claudia Lustig (2010) *Declining Inequality in Latin America: A Decade of Progress?* Brookings Institution Press.

Philip, George and Francisco Panizza (2011) *The Triumph of Politics*, London: Polity.