The University of Oklahoma  
College of Continuing Education  
Advanced Programs – Course Syllabus

Course Title:  
Problems in International Relations: Inter-American Politics

Course Number:  
PSC 5550-220

Course Description:  
This course is designed to introduce students to the patterns of economic, political, and security relationships which characterize the Inter-American system. We will be examining how the countries of Latin America have interacted with one another and with the historical hegemonic power in the region, the United States. We will also be exploring the rise of new actors, such as China and Iran, that have changed the dynamic of hemispheric foreign relations in recent years.

Class Dates, Location and Hours:  
Dates: February 4-9, 2014  
Location: Lakenheath, England. See Site Director for classroom location.  
Hours: Tue-Fri 6:00-9:30 p.m.; Sat-Sun 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.  
Last day to enroll or drop without penalty: January 6, 2014

Site Director:  
Andrea Curtis. Phone: 44-1638-52-6186; DSN 226-6186; Fax: 44-1638-532827; E-mail: aplakenheath@ou.edu

Professor Contact Information:  
Course Professor: Jeffrey J. Ryan, Ph.D.  
Mailing Address: Department of Political Science  
Old Main 428  
University of Arkansas  
Fayetteville, AR 72701  
Telephone Number: (479) 575-3356  
Fax Number: (479) 575-6432  
E-mail Address: Jeffrey.J.Ryan-1@ou.edu or jeffr@uark.edu  
Professor availability: The professor will be available via e-mail to students before and after the class sessions. On-site office hours are half an hour before and after each class session, by appointment.

Textbook(s) and Instructional Materials:  
Student materials are available at the OU Follett Bookstore located at 1185 Asp Avenue; Norman, OK. Orders can be placed online at www.oklahoma.bkstr.com. Faxed orders may be placed 24 hours a day at (405) 325-7770. Representatives are available by phone at (405) 325-3511 or (800) 522-0772 (toll-free) or E-mail at 0831mgr@fheg.follett.com from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday; and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday (CST). Summer hours: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday (CST). (Text prices are available online.)

2. Materials posted on the OU Desire to Learn (D2L) system: The readings will be a combination of academic articles relating to the subjects we are covering as well as contemporaneous news and original source materials that provide real-time context for our discussions. Access D2L at http://learn.ou.edu; enter your OU NetID (4+4) and password, and select course to access material. Please contact your local Site Director if you require assistance.

Note: Follett is the Advanced Programs contractual textbook provider. Should text changes become necessary after publication of the course syllabus, Advanced Programs will facilitate text returns/refunds only for texts purchased through Follett.

Course Objectives:
The course objective is to familiarize students with both the historical background and recent transformations that have shaped the dynamics of the Inter-American system. A part of this process will be providing students the conceptual and theoretical tools needed to effectively analyze the foreign policy-making process in developing and emerging states. Specific objectives include:

1. To introduce students to the historical background of US-Latin American relations
2. To examine transformations in the Inter-American system in the post-Cold War era
3. To analyze the foreign policy making process in large states (e.g., Brazil, Argentina, Mexico, etc.) vs. small ones (e.g., Nicaragua, Costa Rica, El Salvador, etc.)
4. To discuss how emerging economic powerhouses such as Brazil are transforming hemispheric relations
5. To investigate the role of new actors in the region such as China, India, the EU and Iran and analyze the likely impact that will have on the future evolution of the Inter-American system.

Course Topics (Subject to change):
- Age of Empire: US Imperialism in Latin America from the Monroe Doctrine to the Roosevelt Corollary
- Mr. Roosevelt’s Neighborhood: FDR and the Good Neighbor Policy
- The Wine is Bitter: Latin America during the Cold War
- Continental Drift: US-Latin American relations in the Post-Cold War era
- Emerging Powers: Brazil, Mexico and Argentina
- Ants Among the Elephants: Foreign policy of small states
- Looking Elsewhere: China, India and the Middle East as new hemispheric players

Assignments, Grading and Due Dates:

Pre-Class Assignment: (30%)
As is customary in many AP courses, students will be expected to complete a substantial amount of reading as well as a written assignment prior to the onset of classes. You are strongly encouraged to begin working on this course several weeks before our first meeting, since as you know better than most, work schedules can fluctuate wildly and unpredictably. The pre-class assignment is due no later than the beginning of the second day of classes. (Important: Unless the student submits this assignment at least 72 hours before the first class period, it is unlikely that the instructor will be able to provide feedback until after the course has ended.) Work submitted after the deadline may be progressively downgraded.

Specifics regarding the pre-class reading and writing assignments will be available at the D2L site for this course approximately one month before the first class meeting. As noted above, if you need help accessing the D2L system, contact your Site Manager promptly, since D2L will be the chief portal through which all course-related activity will pass. It is the student’s responsibility to obtain and complete the assignment by the second day of classes. The completed pre-class assignment should be sent to the D2L drop-box using the file name protocol: LASTNAME-SITE CODE-ASSIGNMENT NUMBER (e.g., for the pre-class assignment at Ramstein it would be RYAN-RA-1.docx).
In-Class Simulation (20%)

On the last day of class we will conduct a team-based in-class simulation exercise. The details of the simulation will be provided on the first night of class, but the general thrust of the exercise is to reproduce the foreign policy environment of specified countries during a regional crisis situation. Each team will represent a particular state, with each member assigned by other team members to a specific role in the foreign policy making establishment (e.g., president, foreign minister, defense minister, etc.) of that state. The simulation will begin with a defined crisis situation and will be driven thereafter by ‘status updates’ reflecting real-time developments based on the actions taken by the teams. We will set aside time during the week to allow for pre-simulation discussion and team preparation.

Post-Class Assignment: (40%)

There will be a final written assignment due two weeks after the final class, which like its pre-class counterpart, should be sent to the drop-box at the D2L course site. Also like that first written assignment, details regarding the post-class work will be discussed in class/posted to D2L and should use the same file name protocol, but designate the assignment number as 2.

For both pieces of written work (indeed, for any written work), it is crucial that you appropriately cite any and all sources for material that is not your own. Any of the predominantly used academic citation styles are acceptable, including use of a reference page, footnotes/endnotes, etc. What is categorically not acceptable is a failure to adhere to proper citation requirements. If you are at all unclear regarding citation standards, it is imperative that you familiarize yourself with such standards before submitting any written work.

Participation (10%)

Students are expected to participate during class discussions. Questions are always encouraged and your perspective on an issue is very welcome. Class discussions will clearly be greatly enhanced if everyone has done the assigned reading for that period prior to class, so you are strongly encouraged to do so.

Grading:

This is a letter-graded course: A, B, C, D, or F. Course grades will be based on two written assignments (pre-class and post-class), an in class simulation, and overall class participation according to the following weighting scheme:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
<th>Grade Weight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class Participation</td>
<td>Throughout the course</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-Class Assignment</td>
<td>No later than second day of class</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simulation Exercise</td>
<td>TBA (8 hours)</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post Seminar Assignment</td>
<td>2 weeks after last day of class</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Notice: Failure to meet assignment due dates could result in a grade of I (Incomplete) and may adversely impact Tuition Assistance and/or Financial Aid.
Policies and Notices

Attendance/Grade Policy

Attendance and participation in interaction, individual assignments, group exercises, simulations, role playing, etc. are valuable aspects of any course because much of the learning comes from discussions in class with other students. It is expected that you attend all classes and be on time except for excused emergencies.

Excused absences are given for professor mandated activities or legally required activities such as emergencies or military assignments. Unavoidable personal emergencies, including (but not limited to) serious illness; delays in getting to class because of accidents, etc.; deaths and funerals, and hazardous road conditions will be excused.

If you are obtaining financial assistance (TA, STAP, FA, VA, Scholarship, etc.) to pay all or part of your tuition cost, you must follow your funding agency/institution’s policy regarding “I” (Incomplete) grades unless the timeline is longer than what the University policy allows then you must adhere to the University policy.

Students who receive Financial Aid must resolve/complete any “I” (Incomplete) grades by the end of the term or he/she may be placed on “financial aid probation.” If the “I” grade is not resolved/completed by the end of the following term, the student’s Financial Aid may be suspended make the student ineligible for further Financial Aid.

Students are responsible for meeting the guidelines of Tuition Assistance and Veterans Assistance. See the education counselor at your local education center for a complete description of your TA or VA requirements.

Academic Honesty

Honesty is a fundamental precept in all academic activities and … [you] have a special obligation to observe the highest standards of honesty. Academic misconduct in any form is inimical to the purposes and functions of the University and is therefore unacceptable and is rigorously proscribed. Academic misconduct includes:

cheating (using unauthorized materials, information, or study aids in any academic exercise), plagiarism, falsification of records, unauthorized possession of examinations, intimidation, and any and all other actions that may improperly affect the evaluation of a student’s academic performance or achievement; assisting others in any such act; or attempting to engage in such acts.

All acts of academic misconduct will be reported and adjudicated as prescribed by the student code of the University of Oklahoma. All students should review the “Student’s Guide to Academic Integrity” found at http://www.ou.edu/provost/integrity

Accommodation Statement

The College of Continuing Education [Advanced Programs] is committed to making its activities as accessible as possible. For accommodations on the basis of disability, please contact your OU Site Director.

Course Policies

Advanced Programs policy is to order books in paperback if available. Courses, dates, and professors are subject to change. Please check with your OU Site Director. Students should retain a copy of any assignments that are mailed to the professor for the course. Advanced Programs does not provide duplicating services or office supplies.

Copyright

Any and all course materials, syllabus, lessons, lectures, etc. are the property of professor teaching the course and the Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma and are protected under applicable copyright.

For more information about Advanced Programs, visit our website at: http://www.goou.ou.edu/
INSTRUCTOR VITA
Jeffrey J. Ryan, Ph.D.

Education
• 1989 Ph. D., Political Science, Rice University
• 1987 M.A., Political Science, Rice University
• 1983 B.A., Technical Journalism, Colorado State University

Current Positions
Associate Professor of Political Science and Latin American Studies, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR (1990-present)

Frequently Taught Advanced Programs Courses
• Political violence, revolution, terrorism, guerrilla warfare
• Political institutions, parties and party systems, electoral turnout, anti-immigrant voting
• Decentralization, municipal reform, local government

Major Areas of Teaching and Research Interest
• Political violence, revolution, terrorism, guerrilla warfare
• Political institutions, parties and party systems, electoral turnout, anti-immigrant voting
• Decentralization, municipal reform, local government
• Dr. Ryan’s dissertation focused on the dynamics of insurgency in Latin America from 1956-1986 based on a simulation of guerrilla-regime interactions. Subsequent work looked at the relationship between democratization and revolutionary movements in the region. His current research focuses on two different themes: Nicaraguan immigration and anti-immigrant party support in Costa Rica; and the impact of terrorist incidents on civil liberties in target countries.

Teaching Awards
• Dr. John and Mrs. Lois Imhoff Award for Outstanding Teaching and Student Mentorship (2011)
• Fulbright College Master Teacher Award (1996)

Representative Publications

Representative Presentations
• Dr. Ryan has presented his work at numerous conferences in the United States, as well as in international settings such as Cuba, Guatemala, Ecuador, Colombia, Chile, Venezuela, Mexico and Argentina.