Course Title:
Politics in Latin America

Course Number:
PSC 5683-221

Course Description:
Despite its geopolitical and economic importance for the United States and our deep historic ties marked by frequent intervention, Latin America rarely receives sustained attention by U.S. policy-makers. Yet Latin America is the source of more U.S. oil imports than the Persian Gulf, we trade as much with Latin America as with the European Union, and we export twice as much to Mexico as we do to China. Latin America is the primary source for the illicit flow of labor and drugs into the United States as well as the location of significant enduring insurgencies. We ignore Latin America at our peril. Moreover, a study of the international relations of the U.S. and Latin America reveals patterns and experiences from which we can learn much for our relations with other world regions. This course introduces students to the study of politics of Latin America, including the domestic politics of Latin American countries and the international relations of Latin American countries with each other and with the United States. We will seek to understand some of the fundamental interests, ideas, and institutions that shape politics in Latin America, exploring first some general themes and then focusing on four specific country studies.

Class Dates, Location and Hours:
Dates: November 13-18, 2012
Location: Stuttgart, Germany. See site director for class room 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: October 15, 2012

Site Director:
Antonette Colaninno. Stuttgart Army Education Center. DSN: 431-3304; FAX 431-2571 or CIV 07031-15-2580; FAX 07031-15-2571. E-mail: apstuttgart@ou.edu

Professor Contact Information:
Course Professor: Charles D. Kenney, Ph.D.
Mailing Address: Department of Political Science
455 W. Lindsey
DAHT, Room 205
Norman, OK 73019-2001
Telephone Number: (405) 325-2061
Fax Number: (405) 325-0718
E-mail Address: ckenney@ou.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 Follett/AP Bookstore located in the Oklahoma Memorial Union, 900 Asp Ave., Norman, OK. Orders can be placed online at www.oklahomaunion.bkstr.com or by telephone at 866-369-9713 (toll free in the U.S.) or 405-325-5960 (outside the U.S.). E-mail orders may be sent to oklahomaunion@bkstr.com. Representative are available from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. CST Monday through
Thursday and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. CST on Friday. Summer hours: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. CST. Faxed orders may be placed 24 hours a day to 866-223-5607 (toll free in the U.S.) or 405-325-7140 (outside the U.S.).


3. Materials posted on the OU Desire to Learn (D2L) system: Access D2L at [http://learn.ou.edu](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: The Follett/AP Bookstore 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 the Follett/AP Bookstore.

**Course Objectives:**

The objectives of this course are:

1. to introduce the student to the study of domestic politics and international relations of Latin America;
2. to develop in the student the conceptual tools to apply this knowledge to new problems and cases.

**Assignments, Grading and Due Dates:**

**Pre-class Assignment (25%):**

This class requires a significant amount of pre-class reading and a substantial writing assignment that must be completed before the first class meeting. Students will need to reserve time in the weeks leading up to the first day of class to complete this assignment.

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. If you cannot access the D2L site, contact the instructor at ckenney@ou.edu to receive the assignment. It is the student’s responsibility to obtain and complete the assignment before the first class meeting.

It is essential in this class that you follow the citation and documentation requirements set out in the assignment. The source of all information must be cited with page numbers and all quoted material must be identified as such.

The completed pre-class assignment must be sent to the D2L drop-box by midnight on the Sunday before the first class meeting. An identical hard-copy of the assignment must be brought to the first class meeting. Late papers will receive a grade deduction for each day late.

**In-class Quizzes: (20%)**

Several quizzes will be given during the course to test your knowledge of the specific country studies included in the pre-class reading assignment. See the reading assignment above. These readings should be completed before the beginning of the course since there will be very little time available once the course begins.

**Final Exam/Paper: (40%)**

You will be asked to write a paper of approximately 12-15 pages that will be due on Sunday, three weeks after the final class, and that must be sent to the drop-box at the D2L course site. The specific exam question and assignment will be given out at the end of the class. You must document your sources of information carefully and completely, identify quoted material, and attach a list of works cited.
Grading:
This is a letter-graded course and students will receive an A, B, C, D, or F.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
<th>Percent of Grade</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-class assignment</td>
<td>Sunday before first class meeting</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation and</td>
<td>During class sessions</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attendance</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>In-class quizzes</td>
<td>During class sessions</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Paper</td>
<td>Three weeks after the final class</td>
<td>40</td>
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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

Charles D. Kenney, Ph.D.

Education

• 1998  Ph.D., Political Science, University of Notre Dame
• 1996  M.A., Political Science, University of Notre Dame
• 1980  B.A., Philosophy, University of Notre Dame

Current Positions

• Advanced Programs Professor since 1998
• Associate Professor of Comparative and Latin American Politics, University of Oklahoma, Norman, Oklahoma

Frequently Taught Advanced Programs Courses

• PSC 5683  Latin American Politics
• PSC 5600  Democracies & Democratization

Major Areas of Teaching and Research Interest

• Comparative politics, democratization, democratic theory
• Regime change, democratic breakdown, transitions from authoritarian rule
• Political violence, revolution, terrorism, guerrilla warfare
• Political institutions, constitutional design, parties and party systems, elections and electoral systems, presidentialism and parliamentarism
• Latin American politics, Latin American international relations, politics in developing countries
• Political philosophy: ancient, modern, and contemporary; the American Founding

Representative Publications and Presentations


Representative Honors and Awards Received

Dr. Kenney lived in Peru from 1978-79 and 1984-1991, was a Fulbright Fellow at the Pontificia Universidad Catolica del Peru in 2000, and is the past chair of the Peru Section of the Latin American Studies Association. He was a member of the Latin American Studies Association delegation of international electoral observers for the 2000 Peruvian elections and the National Democratic Institute and Carter Center joint international mission in 2001. Dr. Kenney won the 2006 Kinney-Sugg award as the Outstanding Professor in the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Oklahoma.

Major Professional Affiliations

• American Political Science Association
• Latin American Studies Association