General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff
Unit Convenor
Rodrigo Acuna
rodrigo.acuna@mq.edu.au
Contact via rodrigo.acuna@mq.edu.au

Credit points
3

Prerequisites
12cp at 100 level or above

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description
This unit is taught in English and gives a panoramic view of the history and politics of Latin America, from the Spanish conquest to contemporary issues. It is expected that students acquire a broad regional understanding that allows them to reflect and assess present developments such as post-revolutionary Cuba, controversial Venezuela and the war for resources. Students also have an opportunity to learn about the research on Latin America conducted at Macquarie to inspire and encourage them into future research projects. This unit follows a continuous assessment pattern and there is no formal final exam.

Important Academic Dates
Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at https://students.mq.edu.au/important-dates

Learning Outcomes
On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

To identify major historical and political events in Latin America.
To have a general knowledge of its literature, painting, music and film.
To have a general understanding of the forces that mould Latin American social, political and artistic development.
To discuss with a certain degree of confidence the major topics covered in this course.
General Assessment Information

Indicative examples of assessment tasks will be available on iLearn.

Assessment Tasks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Hurdle</th>
<th>Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-term essay</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Week 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-Class test</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Weeks 2-12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Participation

Due: Ongoing
Weighting: 20%

Beginning in Week 2, tutorial attendance and participation are required. Tutorials will explore the content and themes from the previous week’s lecture; students will be expected to engage in critical analysis of unit readings also. Tutorials are a compulsory component of this unit. No more than two tutorials should be missed. Absence from more than two tutorials needs to be supported by relevant documentation such as medical certificates (submitted online via https://ask.mq.edu.au). Unexplained absence more than two tutorials is a possible ground for exclusion from the unit.

Please arrive on time for classes. Arriving late is very disruptive. All classes start five minutes past the hour. If you should arrive late, it is your responsibility to ensure you are marked on the class roll and to find out what you have missed.

- Reading: • Recognise key issues and themes in weekly readings and lectures.
- Spoken Interaction: • Communicate with tutor and fellow students based on issues and themes of weekly readings. • Ask questions which deepen or broaden the tutorial discussion.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- To have a general understanding of the forces that mould Latin American social, political and artistic development.
- To discuss with a certain degree of confidence the major topics covered in this course.

Mid-term essay

Due: Week 7
Weighting: 40%
2000 words essay on topics week 1-7.

On successful completion you will be able to:

• To identify major historical and political events in Latin America.
• To have a general understanding of the forces that mould Latin American social, political and artistic development.

In-Class test
Due: **Weeks 2-12**
Weighting: **40%**

1 hour in-class test on all topics weeks 2 -12.

On successful completion you will be able to:

• To identify major historical and political events in Latin America.
• To have a general knowledge of its literature, painting, music and film.

Delivery and Resources

WEEKLY READINGS

Week 2:


Week 3:


Week 4:


Week 5:


Week 6:
Grace Livingstone, America’s Backyard: The United States and Latin America from the Monroe Doctrine to the War on Terror (London: Zed books: 2009), 71-100, 244-247.


Week 7


Week 8


Week 9

Domínguez Ruvalcaba, Héctor, ‘Translating the Queer: Body Politics and Transnational Conversations’. Online at:

Week 10


https://unitguides.mq.edu.au/unit_offerings/80294/unit_guide/print

Week 11


Week 12


Acuña, R., ‘From Allende to the Pink Tide: Issues Past and Present with the Left in Power’, *Journal of Iberian and Latin American Research* (JILAR), vol. 21, no. 3 (November 2015), 405-414.

TECHNOLOGY USED AND REQUIRED

Online Unit

Login is via: [https://ilearn.mq.edu.au/](https://ilearn.mq.edu.au/)

Is my unit in iLearn?: [http://help.ilearn.mq.edu.au/unitonline/](http://help.ilearn.mq.edu.au/unitonline/) to check when your online unit will become available.

Technology

Students are required to have regular access to a computer and the internet. Mobile devices alone are not sufficient.

For students attending classes on campus we strongly encourage that you bring along your own laptop computer, ready to work with activities in your online unit. The preferred operating system is Windows 10.

Students are required to access the online unit in iLearn by the end of Week 1 and follow any relevant instructions and links for downloads that may be required. If applicable, students are required to download the relevant language package prior to Week 2.

Please contact your course convenor *before* the end of Week 1 if you do not have a suitable laptop (or tablet) for in-class use.

- For central technical support go to: [http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/](http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/)
- For student quick guides on the use of iLearn go to: [http://mq.edu.au/iLearn/student_info/guides.htm](http://mq.edu.au/iLearn/student_info/guides.htm)

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central](http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/). Students
should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:


In addition, a number of other policies can be found in the Learning and Teaching Category of Policy Central.

**Student Code of Conduct**

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: [https://students.mq.edu.au/support/student_conduct/](https://students.mq.edu.au/support/student_conduct/)

**Results**

Results shown in *iLearn*, or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in eStudent. For more information visit [ask.mq.edu.au](http://ask.mq.edu.au).

**Student Support**

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit [http://students.mq.edu.au/support/](http://students.mq.edu.au/support/)

**Learning Skills**

Learning Skills ([mq.edu.au/learningskills](http://mq.edu.au/learningskills)) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to improve your marks and take control of your study.

- **Workshops**
- **StudyWise**
- **Academic Integrity Module for Students**
- **Ask a Learning Adviser**

**Student Enquiry Service**

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at [ask.mq.edu.au](http://ask.mq.edu.au)

**Equity Support**

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the Disability Service who can provide...
Graduate Capabilities

Discipline Specific Knowledge and Skills

Our graduates will take with them the intellectual development, depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content in their chosen fields to make them competent and confident in their subject or profession. They will be able to demonstrate, where relevant, professional technical competence and meet professional standards. They will be able to articulate the structure of knowledge of their discipline, be able to adapt discipline-specific knowledge to novel situations, and be able to contribute from their discipline to inter-disciplinary solutions to problems.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- To identify major historical and political events in Latin America.
- To have a general understanding of the forces that mould Latin American social, political and artistic development.
- To discuss with a certain degree of confidence the major topics covered in this course.

Assessment tasks

- Participation
- Mid-term essay
- In-Class test

Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking

We want our graduates to be capable of reasoning, questioning and analysing, and to integrate and synthesise learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments; to be able to critique constraints, assumptions and limitations; to be able to think independently and systemically in relation to scholarly activity, in the workplace, and in the world. We want them to have a level of scientific and information technology literacy.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- To identify major historical and political events in Latin America.
• To have a general knowledge of its literature, painting, music and film.

Assessment tasks
• Mid-term essay
• In-Class test

Effective Communication
We want to develop in our students the ability to communicate and convey their views in forms effective with different audiences. We want our graduates to take with them the capability to read, listen, question, gather and evaluate information resources in a variety of formats, assess, write clearly, speak effectively, and to use visual communication and communication technologies as appropriate.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes
• To have a general knowledge of its literature, painting, music and film.
• To discuss with a certain degree of confidence the major topics covered in this course.

Assessment tasks
• Participation
• In-Class test

Engaged and Ethical Local and Global citizens
As local citizens our graduates will be aware of indigenous perspectives and of the nation's historical context. They will be engaged with the challenges of contemporary society and with knowledge and ideas. We want our graduates to have respect for diversity, to be open-minded, sensitive to others and inclusive, and to be open to other cultures and perspectives: they should have a level of cultural literacy. Our graduates should be aware of disadvantage and social justice, and be willing to participate to help create a wiser and better society.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcome
• To identify major historical and political events in Latin America.

Assessment tasks
• Mid-term essay
• In-Class test

Capable of Professional and Personal Judgement and Initiative
We want our graduates to have emotional intelligence and sound interpersonal skills and to demonstrate discernment and common sense in their professional and personal judgement.
They will exercise initiative as needed. They will be capable of risk assessment, and be able to handle ambiguity and complexity, enabling them to be adaptable in diverse and changing environments.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Learning outcomes**

- To have a general knowledge of its literature, painting, music and film.
- To have a general understanding of the forces that mould Latin American social, political and artistic development.
- To discuss with a certain degree of confidence the major topics covered in this course.

**Assessment tasks**

- Participation
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**Commitment to Continuous Learning**

Our graduates will have enquiring minds and a literate curiosity which will lead them to pursue knowledge for its own sake. They will continue to pursue learning in their careers and as they participate in the world. They will be capable of reflecting on their experiences and relationships with others and the environment, learning from them, and growing - personally, professionally and socially.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Learning outcome**

- To have a general knowledge of its literature, painting, music and film.

**Assessment task**

- In-Class test

**Changes from Previous Offering**

Every year the guest lecturers for this course are encouraged to update the readings students are provided with. This is likewise the case for the content of their lectures which is provided through power point presentations.

**Other teaching staff**

Dr. Rodrigo Acuña

Dr. Waldo Garrido

Dr. Jane Hanley

Associate Professor Estela Valverde