Course Information
M W 16:00-17:30 PM
Instruction in English

Contact Information
carola.ramon.berjano@gmail.com
liarguero@gmail.com

Course Description
This course will study the development patterns of Latin America since colonial times to present days. Dependency from external factors has underpinned Latin America’s economic development. This course will focus on the specific issues that determined the economic development of the region as a whole, as well as that of individual countries. The first part of this course will focus on economic history. In the second part, students are expected to choose one country from a list of Latin American countries and conduct research. A case study of the chosen country’s patterns of development and how economic history forged present-day conditions/issues/disparities/insertion in the world will be presented, both orally - approximately 25 minutes followed by a 10-15 discussion – as well as written, both with a substantial weigh in the total final grade of the course, as seen below. The third part of the course will focus on the future prospects of Latin American development, future dilemmas and strategies.

Course Requirements
Class attendance is required of all students at UB. A 75% attendance to classes is mandatory to keep the regular student status. An electronic system keeps track of attendance. Students have to slide an electronic card every class to comply with the attendance policy. Class participation is very important; there will be several class discussions, which will rely heavily on student participation. Students are expected to conduct research for the final paper and consult the digital library (EBSCO) for that purpose. UB holds to the view that plagiarism constitutes intellectual theft and is a serious breach of acceptable conduct. Any student caught plagiarizing will immediately be given a “no credit” for all courses taken in the semester. There will be no make ups for classes falling on public holidays.
*For a better understanding of the comparable table for grading: check the student handbook in orientation kit packet.

**Grading Policy**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Participation</th>
<th>10 %</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Paper presentation (oral &amp; written)</td>
<td>30 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm</td>
<td>25 %</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>35 %</td>
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Passing the final exam is mandatory in order to promote the course.

**Required Textbooks and Materials**

*Ramon Berjano & Argüero, Course Reader.*

**Academic Calendar**

**Week 1**
**Monday March 5**
Introduction. Presentation of the course The importance of integration in the current world scenario. Peace through integration. The three waves of regionalism. (Argüero)

**Wednesday March 7**
Introduction. Presentation of the course. Discussion: Do historical patterns of development determine the “fate” of certain countries? Introduction to the economic history of Latin America. (Ramón)

**Week 2**
**Monday March 12**
Latin America in the world economy: growth, development and trade. (Argüero)

**Wednesday March 14**
The economics of knowledge. Innovation and intangible capital. Creative destruction. Technological progress in economic growth. Knowledge as a non rival and partially excludable good. Monopoly and competition. (Argüero)

**Week 3**
**Monday March 19**
Social and private rates of return to investments in education and R&D. Mapping R&D activity. Technological capabilities of Latin American countries. (Argüero)

**Wednesday March 21**
Successes and failures of the agroexporting model and the import substitution model in Latin America (Ramón)

**Week 4**
**Monday March 26**
Exports according to technological intensity. From cultural to social and economic integration. (Argüero)

**Wednesday March 28**
Preferential Trade Agreements. Agreements and trade. Trade and poverty. The four stages of Mercosur. The entrance of Venezuela and energy needs. ZICOSUR: A new kind of regional cooperation? (Argüero)

**Week 5**
**Monday April 2: National Holiday**

**Wednesday April 4**
Commercial relations of Latin America with the USA and Europe. The failed ALCA and the retreating influence of the USA in the region. ALBA and the integration of "leftist" governments. (Argüero)

**Week 6**
**Monday April 9**
Summit of the Americas in Mar del Plata. The boom of commodities and new axes of power. 2008 crisis and its aftermath in the region. (Argüero)
**Wednesday April 11**
The emergence of China and its impact on Latin American Economies (Ramón)

**Week 7**
**Monday April 16**
Trade with Asia. Entering the Asian market. Asian integration and Latin America. ¿Threat or opportunity? (Argüero)
**Wednesday 18**
Pacific Alliance (Peru, Mexico, Colombia, Chile): From free trade to harmonization of policies. (Argüero)

**Week 8**
**Monday April 23**
Midterm exam
**Wednesday April 25**
Is it possible to have a long term and successful strategy with Asia Pacific and China? (Ramón)

**Week 9**
**Monday April 30: National Holiday**
**Wednesday May 2**
Inquiries about group work. (Ramón)

**Week 10**
**Monday May 7**

**Wednesday May 9**
Integration in the automotive sector. Production capabilities and dependence on foreign companies. Managing conflicts. Cases in South America: Botnia **conflict** (Uruguay & Argentina), Landlocked Bolivia and its access to the Pacific Ocean. (Argüero)

**Week 11**
**Monday May 14** Energy: Reserves, tendencies and countries’ strategies in the 21st Century. Integration in the energy sector. Sustainability and recent trends in the energy sector: solar energy in Chile, offshore oil in Brazil, Shale O&G in Argentina. (Argüero)

**Wednesday May 16**
Discussion: why has Latin America consistently lagged behind in economic development? What are the main factors behind this? (Ramón)

**Week 12**
**Monday May 21**
**Oral presentations (2 x 40’)**

**Wednesday May 23**
**Oral presentations (2 x 40’)**

**Week 13**
**Monday May 28**
**Oral presentations (2 x 40’)**

**Wednesday May 30**
Main areas of inward FDI. Region’s potentials. Outward FDI. Exports of finished products from South America. Largest companies by country. Moving up the value chain. FDI and its effects in developing economies. Flows of FDI to South America. (Argüero)

**Week 14**
**Monday June 4**
Open discussion: Latin America in the 21st Century’s economy: globalization, trade and cooperation. (Ramón)

**Wednesday June 6**
Review for the final exam. (Argüero)

**Week 15**
"**Students holding a tourist visa will not be allowed to take final exams, they have to go to the 17 Floor to clear the hold**"

**Monday June 11**
**Final Exam**
Wednesday June 13
Final Grade Sheet and signature of “Hoja de situación” (attendance is mandatory).

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

- Argüero, L. (2016), "The ever 'under construction' Mercosur", UB.
- Ramon Berjano (2018), Handout PALAS 400, UB
- Laurssen, F. (ed.) (2010), Comparative Regional Integration, Ashgate.