

PEOPLES & CULTURES OF LATIN AMERICA (PCLA)

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Mon/Weds/Fri 11-11:500 (Hoover 004B) CRN#20856

Office hours by appointment

This course will introduce you to some of Latin America's diverse contemporary cultures. We will explore themes such as race, class, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, violence, language, urban and rural life. Our goal is to arrive at an understanding of how these categories impact culture. The ethnographies we'll be reading will provide us with detailed examples of everyday life among communities in Mexico, the Andes of South America, Cuba, and Brazil.

This course will push you to read closely, make your voice heard, and learn from your peers. There will be no midterm or final exam and all quizzes will be open-book. But you will be expected to participate during each class meeting, make a presentation, read in-depth, and turn in two essays. In order to succeed in this class, you must attend all class meetings and participate daily by answering or asking questions during our discussion period. Please come to class with at least one question or insight to bring to the discussion.

During most class meetings, there will be a student presentation or two, a class discussion, and occasional lectures on special topics or film screenings.

Grade breakdown:

Moodle quizzes:	20%
Participation:	20%
Prezi presentation:	20%
2 Essays:	40%

Required texts:

The Hold Life Has (Allen)
Cuban Color in Tourism and *La Lucha* (Roland)
The Meanings of Macho (Gutmann)
Laughter Out of Place (Goldstein)

Moodle:

Quizzes on Moodle will open 24 hours before each class meeting and will close the moment class begins. I will not reopen quizzes. All reading and the corresponding Moodle quiz must be completed by the day on which it appears on the syllabus. Updates to the syllabus will be posted on Moodle. Check frequently!

Participation:

Bring a notebook to class each day, take notes, and engage with the presentations, discussions, films, and lectures. Also, set aside one page of your notebook for cataloguing the questions or insights you prepare to bring to the discussion. You will turn in this list (including the date and the discussion contribution) at the end of the semester. This is part of your participation grade. For full participation credit, you will be expected to attend class daily and on-time and to make your voice heard (in a meaningful way) at least once a day. You may miss class once during the semester with no adverse affect on your grade. Lateness, cell phone/tablet/laptop use, private conversations or any other behavior that detracts from student engagement will adversely affect your participation grade.

Prezi:

Once during the semester, you will be expected to work extra hard to get a thorough understanding of the course reading and some supplemental material of your choosing (with professor's approval). You'll give a presentation using Prezi expanding on one of the themes in the chapter (Prezi.com) (Powerpoint is only allowed with prior approval and under exceptional circumstances). Ideally, you should bring us up to date on a major theme in the reading. For example, if the chapter talks about gender inequality in Mexico in the 1990s, a great theme would be to talk about if and how this is different today, using reliable contemporary sources and examples. Or if you are interested in a country we don't read about this semester, expand on one of the themes -- for example, drug laws -- and use this as a jumping off point to discuss drug policy in,

El Salvador, for example. Please rely on me for guidance on sources. Prezis should follow the guidelines in the grading rubric. Your presentation is worth 20% of your grade. If you need to reschedule, find someone in class to trade presentation dates with. It is your responsibility to make sure you sign up to present and that your technology does not betray you. Be sure to backup your Prezi and give yourself several days to work on it. No excuses will be accepted for failure to be adequately prepared. Links to completed Prezis must be emailed to me before the start of class in order to receive full credit. You must complete the Prezi assignment in order to pass this class. (See rubric on Moodle) If you prefer to make presentations in pairs you will have the option of presenting once alone or twice in pairs.

Essays:

Our semester is divided into four regions, Peru, Cuba, Mexico, and Brazil. You will be required to turn in essays about two of the four places. All students must turn in an essay on the Peru reading, but the other one is up to you. Each essay should be exactly **five paragraphs long** and must include the following:

- Original title and name on the first page.
- 12-point Times New Roman font, 1" margins, stapled together.
- An original argument ("I argue that _____") in the first paragraph.
- Support for original argument in paragraphs 2-4. Must properly cite book at least 3 times.*
- Conclusion reinforcing argument and support in final paragraph.
- Author referred to by last name.
- Book referred to as "ethnography," "text," or "monograph." Not novel.
- Careful proofreading. Your paper must not read/look like a 1st draft.
- Appropriate spelling and word choice (e.g. there, their, they're) and grammar.

* Be sure to always include the author and page number for anything you quote or paraphrase. <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/02/> is a good resource.

If you know or suspect you have problems with writing, see me well before the due date or ask a writing tutor to help you proofread your paper. Appropriate grammar and spelling are important and will impact your grade. Essays shorter or longer than five paragraphs will not be accepted. Late papers will not be accepted. Possible essay topics will be discussed in class weekly during our discussions. Taking notes during these conversations will make essay writing a much easier process!

Essay Due Dates:

2/27: Essay on Peru (required)

+ Choose one additional essay to submit:

3/20: Essay on Cuba

4/17: Essay on Mexico

5/3: Essay on Brazil

Week	Date	Reading	Due Dates, In-Class Projects
1			
	Fri 1/27		Course Intro
2	Mon 1/30	Allen, Preface 1 & 2, Introduction	
	Weds 2/1	Allen, Ch. 1	
	Fri 2/3	Allen, Ch. 2	
3	Mon 2/6	Allen, Ch. 3	
	Weds 2/8	Allen, Ch. 4	
	Fri 2/10		Prezi Workshop In Class
4	Mon 2/13	Allen, Ch. 5	
	Weds 2/15	Allen Ch. 6	
	Fri 2/17	Allen Ch. 7	
5	Mon 2/20	Allen, Ch. 8	
	Weds 2/22	Allen, Ch. 9	
	Fri 2/24	Allen, Epilogue & Afterword	
6	Mon 2/27	Roland, Ch. 1	First Paper Due In Class
	Weds 3/1	Roland, Ch. 2	
	Fri 3/3	Roland, Ch. 3	
7	Mon 3/6	Roland, Ch. 4	
	Weds 3/8	Roland, Ch. 5 & Epilogue	
	Fri 3/10	"Black in Latin America" Documentary	
Spring Break			
8	Mon 3/20	Gutmann Intro	Cuba Paper due (optional)
	Weds 3/22	Gutmann Ch. 1	
	Fri 3/24	Gutmann Ch. 2	
9	Mon 3/27	Gutmann Ch. 3	
	Weds 3/29	Gutmann Ch. 4	
	Fri 3/31	Gutmann Ch. 5	
10	Mon 4/3	Gutmann Ch. 6	
	Weds 4/5	Gutmann Ch. 7	
	Fri 4/7	Gutmann Ch. 8	
11	Mon 4/10	Gutmann Ch. 9	
	Weds 4/12	Gutmann Ch. 10	
	Fri 4/14	Goldstein Introduction (1-17) & History (49-57)	
12	Mon 4/17	Goldstein Ch. 1 (18-49)	Mexico Paper Due (Optional)
	Weds 4/19	Goldstein Ch. 2 (58-101)	
	Fri 4/21	Goldstein Ch. 3 (102-135)	
13	Mon 4/24	Goldstein Ch. 4 (136-173)	
	Weds 4/26	Goldstein Ch. 5 (174-225)	
	Fri 4/28	Goldstein Ch. 6 (226-258)	
14	Mon 5/1	Goldstein Ch. 7 (259-274)	
	Weds 5/3	No Class	Brazil Paper Due (Optional)