
Course plan

B2.521 - Latin America in World Politics

Credits: 4.0

Subject coordinator

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Presentation

Description

The course is designed to give students a good command and understanding of the theory and practice of international relations in the Latin America region. The course analyses the impact that the end of the Cold War has had in the regional context in two levels, the intraregional level and the global one. In addition,

in different block units will analyse the specificities of the different national systems in shaping the current international relations of the main actors of the zone.

The course is divided into four activity-centered units. The first one is dedicated to the Theoretical Approach & International Relations Dynamics in Latin America. As part of a global master in diplomacy and international affairs this part, will be centered in reviewing the impact of the Cold War and its end in the shaping and views that the region has applied both in its internal and external relations. There has been an enormous evolution within the political, economic and social contexts of most of the Latin American countries within the last half of century. In this sense, the analysis of Latin America's global engagement over the last 30 years contributes significantly to the study of international relations theory and foreign policy analysis.

The second one is dedicated to the Latin America Foreign Policies and its extra regional actors. There has been a debate whether international systemic or domestic approaches best explain Latin American foreign policies. The contribution of scholars is to identify when and why one set of variables is more useful than another. Moreover, democratization and globalization have made such an exercise more complex given the multiplication of domestic and international, governmental and nongovernmental actors that now influence foreign policy decisions. In this sense, it will be of interest to learn different foreign policies, as Argentina, Brazil, Venezuela, Cuba and Mexico cases.

The third part will be focus on Integration and Multilateralism, a very crucial point in understanding Latin America. In here, the end of the Cold War, did indeed create a new scenario that was develop through the 1990's Liberal Decade, which redefined and reshaped the region in the new world order. Lastly, the fourth final part, is dedicated for the student to explore different topics which after the course will have the ability to properly analyse:

Objectives and competences

On completion of the course successful students should be able to:

- Demonstrate a sophisticated and critical knowledge of the theoretical and practical frameworks of international diplomacy applied to the Latin American Context;
- Analyse the application of the theoretical and practical frameworks to specific problems arising in foreign policy of the Latin American countries;
- Think critically and analytically;
- Communicate concepts and ideas in a scholarly and professional manner;
- Work autonomously and demonstrate good planning skills.

Content

Unit 1: Theoretical Approach & International Relations Dynamics in Latin America.

Unit 2: Latin America Foreign Policies and extra regional actors

Unit 3: Integration and Multilateralism

Unit 4: Current challenges and dilemmas in Latin American world politics

Resources

Bibliography and information sources

The course will follow the Routledge Handbook of Latin America in the World. In addition, the different course instructors might require the reading of extra bibliography in order to complement the readings.
