

Spring 2010
130b/Women and Politics in Latin America
Tues./Friday 9-10:30AM
Office Hours: TF, 3-4:30pm

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Course Description:

As regime change and political movements have swept across the Latin American region in the last few decades, women have participated in increasing numbers – with increasingly diverse goals. The growing research focused on such participation offers a wealth of theoretical and empirical challenges to assumptions about both about gender and politics. Drawing on the experiences of women in countries from El Salvador to Brazil, this colloquium examines a series of related issues. What does gender mean, and how does it motivate different women to become politically involved? How are the three principal political regime types of Latin America informed by gender ideology? What have been their impacts on women, and what have been women's responses? How do class, ethnicity/race, regional solidarity, national politics, and international opportunities influence current women's organizing? What does Latin American feminism look like?

Course grades will be based on the following assignments. The four essays are to be four-pages long (worth 25% each), typed, double spaced, include citations and a bibliography, and follow good essay form. The format should follow either the MLA or Kate Turabian's *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses and Dissertations*. Grades on late assignments will be penalized a portion of a letter grade for each day that they are late.

Books for Purchase:

Alvarez, Sonia E. *Engendering Democracy in Brazil*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 1990.

Baldez, Lisa. *Why Women Protest: Women's Movements in Chile* (Cambridge, England: Cambridge University Press, 2002)

Caldwell, Kia Lilly. *Negras in Brazil: Re-envisioning Black Women, Citizenship, and the Politics of Identity*. (Piscataway, NJ: Rutgers University Press, 2007)

Dandavati, Annie G. *The Women's Movement and the Transition to Democracy in Chile*. NY: Peter Lang Publishing, 1996.

Guzman Bouvard, Marguerite. *Revolutionizing Motherhood: Las Madres de Plaza de May* (Wilmington: SR Books, 1994).

Htun, Mala. *Sex and the State: Abortion, Divorce, and the Family under Latin American Dictatorships and Democracies* (Cambridge University Press, 2003)

Smith, Lois M. and Alfred Padula. *Sex and Revolution: Women in Socialist Cuba*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1996.

Stephen, Lynn. *Women and Social Movements in Latin America: Power From Below*. Austin, TX: University of Texas Press, 1997. Entire.

Course Outline:

• **Week 1: Introduction**

Jan. 19 & 22

http://www.thedialogue.org/PublicationFiles/power_schwindt-bayer.pdf (for Friday)

• **Week 2: Gender Analysis in Latin America.**

Jan. 26 & 29 What is gender? What does it look like in Latin America? How does it affect women's interests?

Scott, Joan. "Gender: A Useful Category of Analysis," in J. Scott, *Gender and the Politics of History*. New York: Columbia University Press, 1988. (available on LATTE course website)

Scott, Joan. "American Historical Review Forum: Unanswered Questions," *American Historical Review*, Dec2008, Vol. 113 Issue 5, p1422-1429. (available on LATTE course website)

Franco, Jean. "The Gender Wars." *NACLA*, Vol XXIX, No. 4. (Jan/Feb 1996).
<http://www.hartford-hwp.com/archives/42a/038.html>

Hawkesworth, Mary. 2005. "Engendering Political Science: An Immodest Proposal." *Politics & Gender*. 1(1): 141-156.

Htun, Mala . 2005. "What it Means to Study Gender and the State." *Politics & Gender*. 1(1):157-166.

Alvarez, Ch. 1

• **Week 3: Gender and Politics in Latin America**

Feb.2 & 5 How does gender influence how women and men participate in politics?

Baldez, chapter 1.

Scott Desposato and Barbara Norrander, "The Gender Gap in Latin America: Contextual and Individual Influences on Gender and Political Participation," *British Journal of Politics*, S. 39, 141–162

http://www.rimisp.org/proyectos/seccion_adicional.php?id_proyecto=180&id_sub=329

- **Weeks 4&5: Women, Gender, and Authoritarianism.** How have women mobilized against – and for – authoritarian regimes? How are such regimes gendered?

Week 4: Chile

Feb. 9 & 12

Crummett, Maria de los Angeles. “El Poder Feminino: The Mobilization of Women Against Socialism in Chile.” *Latin American Perspectives*. Vol. IV, No. 4 (Fall 1977)
<http://www.jstor.org/stable/2633179?seq=1>

Dandavati, Introduction, Chapters 1-3.

Baldez, rest of book.

Week 5: Holiday

Feb. 16 & 19

Week 6: Argentina

Feb. 23 & 26

Guzman Bouvard, entire.

Week 7: Brazil

March 2 & 5

Alvarez, Ch. 2-9 **Topics to be selected**

Htun, Mala, “Puzzles of Women’s Rights in Brazil,” *Social Research*, Fall 2002, Vol. 69 Issue 3, p733-751 (Available on LATTE course website)

- **Weeks 8,9,& 10: Women, Gender, and Revolution.** What roles have women played in revolutionary movements? How have women been incorporated in revolutionary regimes? To what extent has there been a “revolution within the revolution” in Cuba and Nicaragua?

Week 8: Women and Revolution

March 9 & 12

Lobao, Linda. "Women in Revolutionary Movements: Changing Patterns of Latin American Guerrilla Struggle," in G. West and R.L. Blumberg, eds., *Women and Social Protest*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1990.

Kampwirth, Karen. 2002. *Women and Guerrilla Movements: Nicaragua, El Salvador, Chiapas, Cuba*. University Park: Penn State Press.

Jocelyn Viterna, "Pulled, Pushed and Persuaded: Explaining Women's Mobilization into the Salvadoran Guerrilla Army," *American Journal of Sociology*, Jul2006, Vol. 112 Issue 1, p1-45 (Available on LATTE course website)

Week 9: Cuba

March 16 & 19

Smith & Padula, entire.

Week 10: Nicaragua

March 23 & 26

Byron, Kristine. "Doris Tijerino: Revolution, Writing, and Resistance in Nicaragua," *NWSA Journal*, Fall2006, Vol. 18 Issue 3, p104-121.

Luciak, Ilja A.. "Gender equality and electoral *politics* on the left: A comparison of El Salvador and Nicaragua.," *Journal of Interamerican Studies & World Affairs*, Spring98, Vol. 40 Issue 1, p39-64. (Available on LATTE course website)

Cupples, Julie. "Counter-revolutionary **women**: gender and reconciliation in post-war Nicaragua," *Gender & Development*, Nov2004, Vol. 12 Issue 3, p8-18. (Available on LATTE course website)

Babb, Florence. "Negotiating spaces: Gender, economy, and cultural politics in Post-Sandinista Nicaragua," *Identities*, Aug97 (Available on LATTE course website)

Week 11: Holiday

Mar. 30 & April 2

- **Weeks 12&13: Women, Gender, and Democratization.** What has democratization brought for women? To what extent have they been incorporated? What challenges remain, what strategies have been employed? How gendered are democratic regimes?

Week 12: Gendered Transitions

April 6 & April 9

Htun, Mala, entire.

Alvarez, Ch. 10-11.

Dandavati, Ch. 4.

Video Showing: In Women's Hands

Week 13: Women and Democracy

April 13 & April 16

Dandavati, Ch. 5, Conclusion.

Escobar-Lemmon, Maria; Taylor-Robinson, Michelle M.. Women Ministers in Latin American Government: When, Where, and Why? *American Journal of Political Science*, Oct2005, Vol. 49 Issue 4, p829-844 (Available on LATTE course website)

Schwindt-Bayer, Leslie A.. "Still Supermadres? Gender and the Policy Priorities of Latin American Legislators," *American Journal of Political Science*, Jul2006, Vol. 50 Issue 3, p570-585 (Available on LATTE course website)

• **Weeks 14&15: Local Women's Movements.** What types of women's organizing are developing in Latin America at the local level? Who is involved, what is addressed, how is change sought?

Week 14: Grassroots groups

April 20 & April 24

Stephen, entire.

Huiskamp, Gerard. "Identity politics and democratic transitions in Latin America: (Re)organizing women's strategic interests through community activism," *Theory & Society*, Jun2000, Vol. 29 Issue 3, p38 (available on LATTE course website)

Week 15: Race, Ethnicity and Politics

April 27 & April 30

Caldwell, Kia Lilly. *Negras in Brazil: Re-envisioning Black Women, Citizenship, and the Politics of Identity*. (Piscataway, NJ: Rutgers University Press, 2007)

Week 17: Organizing at the Regional and Global Level and Conclusions

May 4

How have Latin American feminisms changed over the last decades? What are the sources of cooperation and tension among activists?

Alvarez, Sonia E.; Friedman, Elisabeth Jay; Beckman, Ericka; Blackwell, Maykei; Chinchilla, Norma Stoltz; Lebon, Nathalie; Navarro, Marysa; Tobar, Marcela Ríos. *Signs: Journal of Women in Culture & Society*, Winter2003, Vol. 28 Issue 2, p537 (available on LATTE course website)

Horton, Lynn R “After Democracy: Advances and Challenges for *Women's* Movements in Latin America, “. *Latin American Politics & Society*, Spring2007, Vol. 49 Issue 1, p165-176. (available on LATTE course website)

Donna Goodman, “The Struggle for Women’s Equality in Latin America,” *Dissent Voice*, March 13, 2009.
<http://dissentvoice.org/2009/03/the-struggle-for-womens-equality-in-latin-america/>