This course offers an introduction to the study of U.S.-Latin American relations. It draws on the theory and history of international politics to shed light on the roots and contemporary dynamics of the complex and often uneasy coexistence between the two poles of the Western Hemisphere. After an overview of the main theoretical perspectives within the field of international relations that can be used to understand the nature of the inter-American system, the course devotes five classes to trace the historical interaction between the United States and its southern neighbors. These classes seek to explain the intertwining between the policies of a rising great power - and, since 1945, an established superpower - towards what it rapidly came to define as its natural sphere of influence, on the one hand, and the diverse strategies employed by the Latin American nations to deal with the continental power asymmetry, on the other. Special attention will be paid to the political, military, economic and ideological dimensions of the resulting relationship since the end of the Cold War.

The rest of the seminar focuses on the latter period to capture the central processes and key issue-areas of current U.S.-Latin American relations. It looks in detail at five elements of the post-1990 regional agenda: the principle of collective defense of democracies; the so-called “transnational” threats and their centrality to the hemispheric security dialogue; the international political economy of trade, finance and competing regional integration projects; the institution of the Organization of American States (OAS); and the political challenges to Washington’s hegemony. Case studies - the 2016 impeachment in Brazil, the post conflict in Colombia, the Venezuela-Nicaragua-Cuba “anti-imperialist triangle”, the US-Cuba normalization, the TPP negotiations and the increasing Chinese presence in Latin America - are used to illustrate the multifaceted and evolving nature of inter-American relations at the dawn of the twenty-first century.

The main goal of this course is to provide a detailed understanding of contemporary Latin American policies with a focus on: 1) The recent regional transformations in domestic matters and their impacts on the Latin American countries’ foreign policies; 2) The bilateral and
multilateral relations between the United States and Latin American countries; 3) The multiple existing regional integration schemes and their role on the United States-Latin America relations; 4) The response of regional institutions towards the emergence of new transnational agents.

Assessment Components

The students will be evaluated based on their performance on four main assessments: a) Class participation and attendance*; b) One role-play activity; c) One research paper**; d) A 20 minutes oral presentation.

(*) Students participation is a central axis of this course, including group exercises. It counts for 15 percent of the grade. Class attendance is mandatory. Class meetings provide a chance to discuss the readings, evaluate cases and work through the arguments.

(**) One final paper (5000 words); the specific topic being previously agreed upon with the instructor. The goal is to familiarize students with the core literature on a specific topic, and help them develop transferable analytical, research and writing skills. Guidelines on the research paper will be distributed in class.

Requirements:
Participation and attendance: 15 percent
Role-plays: 20 percent
Paper Draft: 15 percent
Final Paper: 25 percent
Oral Presentation: 25 percent

Assessment Expectations

In order to clearly define expectations of students and outlining common criteria by which student performance will be compared, two guidelines will be uploaded to the NYU Classes platform: one for the Final Research Paper and one for the oral presentations.

Grade A: The student makes excellent use of empirical and theoretical material and offers well structured arguments in his/her work. The student writes comprehensive essays / exam questions and his/her work shows strong evidence of critical thought and extensive reading.

Grade B: The candidate shows a good understanding of the problem and has demonstrated the ability to formulate and execute a coherent research strategy.

Grade C: Work is acceptable and shows a basic grasp of the research problem. However,
the work fails to organize findings coherently and is in need of improvement.

**Grade D:** The work passes because some relevant points are made. However, there may be a problem of poor definition, lack of critical awareness, poor research.

**Grade F:** The work shows that the research problem is not understood; there is little or no critical awareness and the research is clearly negligible.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade conversion</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>A-</th>
<th>76-73</th>
<th>C</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100-93</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>92-90</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>72-70</td>
<td>C-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>89-87</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>69-67</td>
<td>D+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>86-83</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>66-60</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>82-80</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>59-0</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79-77</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>C+</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Exams and Submission of work**

Final Exam dates cannot be changed under any circumstance.

Mid term exam dates will be scheduled with each professor and it must be before the break. Unexcused absences from exams are not permitted and will result in failure of the exam. If you are granted an excused absence from examination (with authorization, as above), your lecturer will decide how you will make-up the assessment component, if at all (by make-up examination, extra coursework, or an increased weighting on an alternate assessment component, etc.).

Written work due in class must be submitted during the class time to the professor.

**Final essays must be submitted to the professor in print and electronic copy.** If the student is not in Buenos Aires, he/she must send a printed copy via express postal mail (i.e. FeDEX, DHL, UPS, etc) to the NYU Center in Buenos Aires - Anchorena 1314 - (C1425ELF) Argentina. This copy must arrive before or on the date of established deadline.

**Attendance Policy**

- NYU’s Global Programs (including NYU Buenos Aires) must adhere to a strict policy regarding course attendance. **No unexcused absences are permitted.**
- Each unexcused absence will be penalized by deducting 1% from the student's final course grade.
- Absences are only excused if they are due to illness, religious observance or emergencies.
- Absences due to illness or mental health issues must be discussed with the Assistant Director for Academics Affairs, María Pirovano Peña within one week of your return to class.
- A doctor's note excusing your absence is mandatory.
- **The date on the doctor's note must be the date of the missed class or Exam**
- Being absent to any kind of examination must be informed at or before the time of said examination via email to the Assistant Director of Academic Affairs, María Pirovano Peña (mpp6@nyu.edu).
- Requests to be excused for non-illness purposes must be discussed with your professors prior to the date(s) in question. (If you want the reasons of your absence to be treated confidentially and not shared with your professor, please contact the Assistant Director of Academics Affairs, Maria Pirovano Peña mpp6@nyu.edu.)
- If students have more than four unexcused absences, they will fail the course.
- Each class lasts one hour and half or two hours. **Missing one class represents one absence. For those courses that meet once a week (three-hour block), missing one class represents two absences.**
- Students are responsible for making up any work missed due to absence.
- NYU BA also expects students to arrive to class promptly (both at the beginning and after any breaks) and to remain for the duration of the class. Three late arrivals or early departures (10 minutes after the starting time or before the ending time) will be considered one absence. Missing more than 20 minutes of a class will count as a full absence.
- Please note that for classes involving a **field trip or other external visit,** transportation difficulties are never grounds for an excused absence. It is the student’s responsibility to arrive at an agreed meeting point in a punctual and timely fashion.
- Make-up classes for Holidays are mandatory as regular scheduled classes.
- Students observing a religious holiday during regularly scheduled class time are entitled to miss class without any penalty to their grade. This is for the holiday only and does not include the days of travel that may come before and/or after the holiday. Students must notify their professor and the Office of Academic Support in writing via email one week in advance before being absent for this purpose.

### Academic Accommodations

Academic accommodations are available for students with documented disabilities. Please contact the Moses Center for Students with Disabilities at 212-998-4980 or see their website (http://www.nyu.edu/life/safety-health-andwellness/students-with-disabilities.html) for further information. Students with disabilities who believe that they may need accommodations in a class are encouraged to contact the Moses Center for Students with Disabilities at (212) 998-4980 as soon as possible to better ensure that such accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion. For more information, see Study Away and Disability.

### Late Submission of Work

Late work should be submitted **in person** to the Assistant Director for Academics Affairs **during office hours** (Mon - Fri, 9.30 am to 5 pm), who will write on the essay or other work the date and time of submission, in the presence of the student. Another member of the administrative staff can accept the work, in person, in the absence of the Assistant Director for Academics Affairs and will write the date and time of submission on the work, as above.

Work submitted within 5 weekdays after the submission time without an agreed extension receives a penalty of 10 points on the 100 point scale.

Written work submitted after 5 weekdays after the submission date without an agreed extension fails and is given a zero.

**Language Courses:** Work submitted within 2 days after the submission time without an agreed extension receives a penalty of 10 points on the 100-point scale. Written work submitted after 2 days after the submission date without an agreed extension fails and is given a zero.

**Please note** end of semester essays must be submitted on time.
Plagiarism Policy

Academic Integrity

Academic Integrity is intimately related to the teaching and learning process. When writing research papers, you need to keep in mind that plagiarism includes the use of another person's words, ideas, judgment, images or data as though they were your own, whether intentionally or unintentionally. It also includes presenting and/or paraphrasing discourse or ideas from a published work (in print or on internet) without quotation marks and clear without acknowledgment of the original source.

For formatting in your papers, refer to MLA guidelines.

On matters regarding academic integrity, refer to the section “Academic Standards and Discipline” in the College of Arts and Science Bulletin http://bulletin.cas.nyu.edu/page/academic.policies#STANDARDS and to “Statement on Academic Integrity” in NYU Expository Writing Program: Policies and Procedures: http://www.nyu.edu/cas/ewp/html/policies__procedures.html#statementacademicintegrity

All your written work must be submitted as a hard copy AND in electronic form to the instructor.

It is expected that the student follow the rules on academic honesty and intellectual integrity established by NYU University.
The following bibliography is listed in alphabetical order by author’s surname. If the readings are marked with a C, they will be made available in a coursepack (the information on how to obtain it will be provided as soon as possible and in advance of the beginning of classes). Readings marked with an E will be e-mailed, also in advance of the start of the course. Those readings marked with an I can be directly downloaded from the internet using the stated links. Please note that many of the readings marked with E and I are also available from NYU’s electronic library.


Supplemental Texts(s)

Internet Research Guidelines

Additional Required Equipment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topics and Assignments</th>
<th>Readings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1    | August 30 (Tuesday) | Course overview / Introduction: theoretical perspectives | This syllabus.  
|      | September 1st (Thursday) |                                | Walt.  
|      |              |                                | Snyder.  
| 2    | September 6  | Post-Cold War                        | Eikson  
|      | September 8  |                                | Golden  
|      |              |                                | Palmer  

Page 8 of 7
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reference(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 3</td>
<td>September 13, 15</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The institutionalization of Inter-American relations: OAS</td>
<td>Castañeda, Muñoz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>September 15</td>
<td>Insulza, Meyer, Segovia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 4</td>
<td>September 20, 22</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>One page paper draft</strong></td>
<td>Crandall: chs. 4, 7 and 8.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Bonner.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 5</td>
<td>September 27, 29</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>First methodological approaches to social science research</td>
<td>Walliman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>September 29, 29</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Economics and Contending Regionalisms (Part I)</td>
<td>Tussie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Nolte/Comini</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Malamud</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Feldman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 4</td>
<td>October 4, 6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Economics and Contending Regionalisms (Part II)</td>
<td>Tussie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Nolte/Comini</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Malamud</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Feldman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Paper Draft (2000 words)</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Spring Break</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 7</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 18</td>
<td>October 18, 20</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 20</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 8</td>
<td>October 25, 27</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 27</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 9</td>
<td>November 1, 3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Role-playing: OAS (Planning)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 9</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Role-playing: OAS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Curtis</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
10 November 8

negotiations, commercial and financial networks

November 10

Co-curricular activity: Argentine Council for International Relations (CARI)

11 November 15

US and the Latin American regionalism

November 17

12 November 22

Challenger I

November 24

13 November 29

Challenger II

December 1

14 December 2 (Friday)

Oral Presentations

December 6

December 13

Final paper due (5000 words)

Classroom Etiquette

The use of Blackberrys, phones and IPods in class are forbidden

Required Co-curricular Activities

Suggested Co-curricular Activities

Page 10 of
Your Instructor

Nicolás Comini is Director of the Master in International Relations (Universidad del Salvador, Argentina). He is doctor in Social Sciences from the Universidad de Buenos Aires. He holds a MA in Latin American Integration (Universidad Nacional de Tres de Febrero) and BA in International Relations from Universidad del Salvador. His research interests today are in the field of the US-Latin American relation, regional integration and the international security. His books include suRamericanizados: la integración regional desde la Alianza al kirchnerismo (2016), Políticas Públicas regionales. Un abordaje sectorial de la Integración Latinoamericana (2016) and De cadencias y disonancias, representaciones alternativas de la integración regional en el siglo XXI: América Latina, Asia y Europa del Este (2014). He has been granted by the Deutsche Akademische Austauschdienst (DAAD), the Johns Hopkins University's Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) and the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS), the Università degli Studi di Torino and the United States Department of State and Fulbright Commission.