NYU Buenos Aires
POL-UA 9780_B01
Interamerican Relations

We know that you may be taking courses at multiple locations this semester. If you are enrolled in this course 100% remotely and are not a Go Local/Study Away student for this course site, please make sure that you’ve completed the online academic orientation via NYU Classes so you are aware of site specific support structure, policies and procedures. Please contact the site academic staff (Jorgelina Loza: jml19@nyu.edu) if you have trouble accessing the NYU Classes site.

If you are attending in person, you will be assigned a seat on the first day and are expected to use that seat for the entire semester due to NYU COVID-19 safety protocol.

Instructor Information

- Nicolás Matías Comini, Doctor.
- Anchorena 1314 CP (C1425EFL), Buenos Aires, Argentina.
- + 54 11 4828-5214
- Office hours: Mondays and Thursdays from 8pm to 9pm (Buenos Aires Time) and/or by appointment [https://nyu.zoom.us/j/2588551738 ]
- Zoom course meeting: https://nyu.zoom.us/j/2588551738
- nmc8@nyu.edu

Course Information

- POL-UA 9780_B01
- Interamerican Relations
- This course offers an introduction to the study of U.S.-Latin American relations. After a brief 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 to trace the historical interaction between the United States and its southern neighbors. 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 the post-1990 regional agenda. Case studies – the 2016 impeachment in Brazil, the post conflict in Colombia, the protests across the region, the Venezuelan crisis, the US-Cuba normalization, the TPP, G20 negotiations, the upcoming elections in Latin America 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.
Virtual (online) class meeting days and times: Tuesdays and Thursdays: 10.00am – 11.15am, Buenos Aires Time.
  ○ Zoom link to the class: https://nyu.zoom.us/j/2588551738
  ● Buenos Aires Academic Calendar

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

Upon Completion of this Course, students will be able to:
  ● Understand the main debates around the United States-Latin America relationship.
  ● Be aware of the key multilateral cooperation organizations in Latin America.
  ● Recognize tensions, opportunities and challenges that Latin American countries face.

Course Requirements
The students will be evaluated based on their performance on five main assessments:

Class Participation
Students participation is a central axis of this course, including group exercises. It counts for 10 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 role-play activity
Students will represent different countries in a G20 summit, debating on three topics of the organization's agenda.

One draft research paper
Students will present a Paper Draft of 800 words. Its goal is to present the research advances and a deeper development of a chosen topic. They will need to describe more deeply and with solid arguments the ideas, research questions and objectives presented in a one-page paper draft.
An 8-minutes oral presentation
Students will give an 8-minutes oral presentation. It will be focused on the progress of the draft paper and will include: the topic, general delimitation, unit of analysis; research problem and research question; the hypotheses; objectives; main selected theories/authors/literature; brief description of the research advances; and conclusions (personal opinion and criticism is encouraged to be shared). Before the presentation, students will be able to pre-record a draft version and send it over to the professor in order to get feedback and make adjustments, if necessary.

One final paper (1500 words)
The draft paper will culminate with a final paper. The final paper is the final stage of the draft paper and should consider the feedback from the oral presentation. Its 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.

Grading of Assignments
The grade for this course will be determined according to the following formula:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignments/Activities</th>
<th>% of Final Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation and attendance</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Role-play</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paper Draft</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Paper</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oral Presentation</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Letter Grades

Letter grades for the entire course will be assigned as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>94-100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>3.67</td>
<td>90-93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>3.33</td>
<td>87-89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>84-86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>2.67</td>
<td>80-83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>2.33</td>
<td>77-79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>2.00</td>
<td>74-76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>1.67</td>
<td>70-73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>1.33</td>
<td>67-69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>65-66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>.00</td>
<td>Below 65</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

View Grades

Grades will be available on the NYU Classes site.
# Course Schedule
## Topics and Assignments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week/Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Assignment Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Session 1 1-28-2021 | Course overview / Introduction           | Syllabus  
First writing assignment  
One-pager guidelines  
Paper guidelines  
Class structure guidelines | Read syllabus; Identify topics of interest about Latin America               |
| Session 2 2-2-2021   | Theoretical perspectives                 | Routledge Handbook of Latin America in the World  
*Part II* (pp. 45-84) | Read articles;  
Additionally, in class we will discuss *Shifter*’s paper (2 pages).          |
| Session 3 2-4-2021   | Theoretical perspectives                 | Routledge Handbook of Latin America in the World  
*Part II* (pp. 85-111) | Read articles;  
Additionally, in class we will discuss *Nugent*’s paper (7 pages).            |
| Session 4 2-9-2021   | From 60’s to 90s  
**First writing assignment:** one-pager on theoretical perspectives | Routledge Handbook of Latin America in the World  
*Part I* (pp. 25-30) | Read articles;  
Additionally, in class we will discuss *Halperín Donghi*’s *Chapter VIII* (pp. 292-313). |
| Session 5 2-11-2021  | From 60’s to 90s                           | Routledge Handbook of Latin America in the World  
*Part I* (pp. 30-39) | Read articles;  
Additionally, in class we will discuss *Halperín Donghi*’s *Chapter IX* (pp. 338-354). |
<p>| 2-16-2021 Site holiday | No Classes &amp; Academic Center Closed - Site Holiday | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session 6</th>
<th>The institutionalization of Inter-American relations: OAS (I)</th>
<th>Routledge Handbook of Latin America in the World <strong>Chapter 21</strong> (pp 311-328)</th>
<th>Read articles; Additionally, in class we will discuss <strong>Kinosian</strong>'s paper (2 pages).</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Session 7</td>
<td>The institutionalization of Inter-American relations: OAS (II)</td>
<td><strong>External Guest: Stefano Palestini</strong></td>
<td>Read article; Additionally, in class we will discuss <strong>Palestini Céspedes</strong>' paper (1 page).</td>
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<tr>
<td>Session 8</td>
<td>Waves of regionalism <strong>One-pager draft</strong></td>
<td>Routledge Handbook of Latin America in the World <strong>Chapter 17</strong> (pp 249-264)</td>
<td>Submit one-pager draft; Read articles; Additionally, in class we will discuss <strong>Malamud</strong>'s paper (20 pages).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Session 9</td>
<td>Contending Regionalisms: Mercosur</td>
<td>Routledge Handbook of Latin America in the World <strong>Chapter 19</strong> (pp 281-297)</td>
<td>Read articles; Additionally, in class we will discuss <strong>Lopez/Muñoz</strong>'s paper (17 pages).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Session 10</td>
<td>Contending Regionalisms: Unasur, ALBA &amp; CELAC</td>
<td>Routledge Handbook of Latin America in the World <strong>Chapter 20</strong> (pp 298-310)</td>
<td>Read articles; Additionally, in class we will discuss <strong>Muhr</strong>'s paper (15 pages).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Session 11</td>
<td>Contending Regionalisms: from NAFTA to USMCA</td>
<td>Routledge Handbook of Latin America in the World <strong>Chapter 18</strong> (pp 265-280)</td>
<td>Read articles Additionally, in class we will discuss <strong>Krugman</strong>'s paper (8 pages).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Session 12</td>
<td>Latin American in the beginning of the XXI</td>
<td>Routledge Handbook of</td>
<td>Read articles;</td>
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<tr>
<td>Session</td>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Topic</td>
<td>Read Articles</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>3-16-2021</td>
<td>Latin American in the beginning of the XXI Century (II): BRICS</td>
<td>Routledge Handbook of Latin America in the World Chapter 14 (pp. 211-222)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>3-18-2021</td>
<td>Latin American in the beginning of the XXI Century (III): Obama’s second administration</td>
<td>Reid (pp. 45-53) &amp; Piccone (10 pages)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>3-19-2021</td>
<td>Make up day (02/16). Latin America during transition to Trump’s administration</td>
<td>Wojczewski (19 pages)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>3-23-2021</td>
<td>Defense Regionalism</td>
<td>Mijares (25 pages)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>3-25-2021</td>
<td>Defense, security and social rights</td>
<td>Routledge Handbook of Latin American in the World Chapter 11 (pp 376-390)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>3-30-2021</td>
<td>Crime and Violence in Latin America</td>
<td>External Guest: Flavia Carbonari</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Topic</td>
<td>Reading Material</td>
<td>Discussion Notes</td>
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<tr>
<td>4-1-2021</td>
<td>No Classes &amp; Academic Center Closed - Site Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Session 19</td>
<td>Global Governance: G-20 + role play preparation</td>
<td><em>Slaughter</em> (pp. 1-19)</td>
<td>Read articles; Additionally, in class we will discuss <em>Bishop &amp; Payne</em>’s paper (16 pages).</td>
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<tr>
<td>4-6-2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Session 20</td>
<td><strong>Role-play: G20 (session I)</strong></td>
<td>Apply role-play guidelines</td>
<td>Prepare your presentation, following the role-play guidelines.</td>
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<tr>
<td>4-8-2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Session 21</td>
<td><strong>Role-play: G20 (session II)</strong></td>
<td>Apply role-play guidelines</td>
<td>Prepare your presentation, following the role-play guidelines.</td>
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<tr>
<td>4-13-2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Session 22</td>
<td>International Economic Relations I</td>
<td><em>Routledge Handbook of Latin American Politics</em>  Chapter 24 (pp. 364-379)</td>
<td>Identify key challenges, risks and opportunities for the Latin American countries. Additionally, in class we will discuss <em>Mesquita &amp; Stein</em>’s paper (chapter 1, 18 pages).</td>
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<tr>
<td>4-15-2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Session 23</td>
<td>Make-up day (04/01) International Economic Relations II</td>
<td><em>Routledge Handbook of Latin American Politics</em>  Chapter 24 (pp. 158-180)</td>
<td>Identify key challenges, risks and opportunities for the Latin American countries. Additionally, in class we will discuss <em>Busso &amp; Messina</em>’s paper (chapter 2, 18 pages).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-19-2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Session 24</td>
<td>Business Politics in the Americas</td>
<td><em>Routledge Handbook of Latin American Politics</em>  Chapter 18 (pp. 273-284)</td>
<td>Identify key challenges, risks and opportunities for the Latin American countries. Additionally, in class we will discuss <em>Rodrick</em>’s paper (pp. 80-89).</td>
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<tr>
<td>4-20-2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Session 25</td>
<td>Current Context. Political change in Latin America &amp; US role</td>
<td>Lecture and discussion: TBA based on the most sensitive topics of the moment.</td>
<td>Identify key challenges, risks and opportunities for the Latin American countries.</td>
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<tr>
<td>4-22-2021</td>
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Course Materials

Required Textbooks & Materials

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.

Core textbooks
Additional readings


Page 11

• Palestini Céspedes, Stefano, “OAS Secretary General’s Third Way Stumbles”, *Centre for Latin American & Latino Studies*, American University, 2017. 
  https://aulablog.net/2017/06/30/oas-secretary-generals-third-way-stumbles/.


  https://www.aeaweb.org/articles?id=10.1257/jep.32.2.73

  https://www.nytimes.com/2020/01/21/opinion/international-world/latin-america-elites-protests.html


Resources

• Access your course materials: [NYU Classes](nyu.edu/its/classes)

• Databases, journal articles, and more: [Bobst Library](library.nyu.edu)

• Assistance with strengthening your writing: [NYU Writing Center](nyu.mywconline.com)

• Obtain 24/7 technology assistance: [IT Help Desk](nyu.edu/it/servicedesk)

Course Policies

Hygiene/Physical Distancing policies

• Students will be assigned/choose a seat on the first day of class. For NYU COVID-19 Safety protocols, please use the same seat for the duration of the semester.
Attendance and Tardiness

Studying at Global Academic Centers is an academically intensive and immersive experience, in which students from a wide range of backgrounds exchange ideas in discussion-based seminars. Learning in such an environment depends on the active participation of all students. And since classes typically meet once or twice a week, even a single absence can cause a student to miss a significant portion of a course. To ensure the integrity of this academic experience, class attendance at the centers or online through NYU Classes if the course is remote synchronous/blended, is expected promptly when class begins. Unexcused absences will affect students' semester participation grade. If you have scheduled a remote course immediately preceding/following an in-person class, you may want to discuss where at the Academic Center the remote course can be taken Students are responsible for making up any work missed due to absence. Repeated absences in a course may result in failure.

SITE SPECIFIC ABSENCE REPORTING POLICY

Students are responsible for making up any work missed due to absence. This means they should initiate email and/or office hour discussions to address any missed lectures and assignments and arrange a timeline for submitting missed work.

Classroom Etiquette/Expectations

Things to consider:

● Please be mindful of your microphone and video display during synchronous class meetings. Ambient noise and some visual images may disrupt class time for you and your peers.
● If you are not using your cell phone to follow the lesson, cell phones should be turned off or in silent mode during class time.
● Make sure to let your classmates finish speaking before you do.
● Please do not eat during class and minimize any other distracting noises (e.g. rustling of papers and leaving the classroom before the break, unless absolutely necessary)
● If deemed necessary by the study away site (ie COVID related need), synchronous class sessions may be recorded and archived for other students to view. This will be announced at the beginning of class time.
● Students should be respectful and courteous at all times to all participants in class. Consider using the chat function or “raise hand” function in order to add your voice to class discussions especially if leaving the video on presents challenges.

Final Exams

Final exams must be taken at their designated times. Should there be a conflict between final exams, please bring it to the attention of the site Academic representative as soon as this is known to facilitate alternate arrangements. Final exams may not be taken early, and students should not plan to leave the site before the end of the finals period.

Late Assignment
1) Written work due in class must be submitted during the class time to the professor.
2) Late work should be emailed to the faculty as soon as it is completed.
3) Late work will be reduced for a fraction of a letter grade (e.g., A to A-, A- to B+, etc.) for every day it is late, including weekends.
4) Written work during the semester that is submitted 5 days after the submission date (including weekends) without an agreed extension fails and is given a zero.
5) Students who arrive to class late for an exam do not have automatic approval to take extra time to complete the exam.
6) Students who miss an exam (including the final) without previously arranged permission will receive a zero on that exam.
7) Assignments due during finals week that are submitted more than 3 days without previously arranged extensions will not be accepted and will receive a zero. Any exceptions or extensions for work during finals week must be discussed with the Site Director.

Incomplete Grade Policy

An “incomplete” is a temporary grade that indicates that the student has, for good reason, not completed all of the course work. This grade is not awarded automatically nor is it guaranteed; rather, the student must ask the instructor for a grade of “incomplete,” present documented evidence of illness, an emergency, or other compelling circumstances, and clarify the remaining course requirements with the instructor.

In order for a grade of “incomplete” to be registered on the transcript, the student must fill out a form, in collaboration with the course instructor and the academic administration at the site; it should then be submitted to the site’s academic office. The submitted form must include a deadline by which the missing work will be completed. This deadline may not be later than the end of the following semester.

Academic Honesty/Plagiarism

As the University's policy on "Academic Integrity for Students at NYU" states: "At NYU, a commitment to excellence, fairness, honesty, and respect within and outside the classroom is essential to maintaining the integrity of our community. By accepting membership in this community, students take responsibility for demonstrating these values in their own conduct and for recognizing and supporting these values in others." Students at Global Academic Centers must follow the University and school policies.

The presentation of another person’s words, ideas, judgment, images, or data as though they were your own, whether intentionally or unintentionally, constitutes an act of plagiarism.

NYU X takes plagiarism very seriously; penalties follow and may exceed those set out by your home school. All your written work must be submitted as a hard copy AND in electronic form to the lecturer. Your lecturer may ask you to sign a declaration of authorship form.

It is also an offense to submit work for assignments from two different courses that is substantially the same (be it oral presentations or written work). If there is an overlap of the subject of your assignment with one that you produced for another course (either in the
current or any previous semester), you MUST inform your professor.

For guidelines on academic honesty, clarification of the definition of plagiarism, examples of procedures and sanctions, and resources to support proper citation, please see:

NYU Academic Integrity Policies and Guidelines
NYU Library Guides

Religious Observances
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 local Academics team in writing via email at least 7 days before being absent for this purpose.

Inclusion, Diversity, Belonging and Equity
NYU is committed to building a culture that respects and embraces diversity, inclusion, and equity, believing that these values – in all their facets – are, as President Andrew Hamilton has said, “...not only important to cherish for their own sake, but because they are also vital for advancing knowledge, sparking innovation, and creating sustainable communities.” At NYU BA, we are committed to creating a learning environment that:

• fosters intellectual inquiry, research, and artistic practices that respectfully and rigorously take account of a wide range of opinions, perspectives, and experiences; and

• promotes an inclusive community in which diversity is valued and every member feels they have a rightful place, is welcome and respected, and is supported in their endeavours.

Moses Accommodations Statement
Academic accommodations are available for students with documented and registered disabilities. Please contact the Moses Center for Student Accessibility (+1 212-998-4980 or mosecsd@nyu.edu) for further information. Students who are requesting academic accommodations are advised to reach out to the Moses Center as early as possible in the semester for assistance. Accommodations for this course are managed through the site sponsoring the class once you request it.

Instructor Bio/About Your Instructor
Nicolás Comini is a 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, regionalism and technology.
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. He was Director of the Master and BA Degree Programs in International Relations (Universidad del Salvador, Argentina).

His books include:

*Otras miradas y otras voces. Visiones críticas de las Relaciones Internacionales* (2018)
*suRamericanizados: la integración regional desde la Alianza al kirchnerismo* (2016)
*Políticas Públicas regionales. Un abordaje sectorial de la Integración Latinoamericana* (2016)
*De cadencias y disonancias, representaciones alternativas de la integración regional en el siglo XXI: América Latina, Asia y Europa del Este* (2014).