Instructor: Dr. Christina Wagner Faegri  
Email: faegri@chapman.edu  
Class meetings: Wed. 4:00-6:45pm, Argyros Forum Room 206B  
Office hours: Wed. 2:30-4:00pm; by appointment  
Skype hours: Sun. 8:00pm-9:00pm; by appointment (Skype name: Cfaegri)

Required Texts:  

Catalog Description:  
No prerequisite. An analysis of the governing and political processes in selected Latin American countries. Topics include democratization, state structures, economic development, human rights, democratic reform, and the influence of U.S. foreign policy. (offered every year). 3 credits.
Department of Political Science Program Learning Outcomes:
We expect the following learning outcomes from our majors:

(Democratic Citizen)
1. Demonstrate an appreciation for the possibilities and responsibilities of national and global citizenship, including understanding opportunities for political participation and an ability to use critically the many sources of information about politics to make political choices and solve political problems.
2. Identify political principles and theories connected with democratic citizenship.
3. Be able to use theoretical perspectives to identify and explain domestic and global political problems and the linkages among them.

(Critical Thinking)
4. Identify domestic and international policy issues facing the U.S and the world community and able to critically analyze policy choices.
5. Demonstrate the habit of accession sources of political knowledge and the skill to critically interpret, assess and apply evidence.
6. Apply rigorous criticism to all political ideas, principles, and be able to propose alternative paradigms.

(Research Skills)
7. Demonstrate writing component and carefully articulated empirical research papers and demonstrate effective oral and written communication skills regarding the study of politics.
8. Employ research skills including the ability to conceptualize a research question, formulate a testable research hypothesis, and apply relevant statistical techniques, and draw appropriate conclusions from their analysis.

(Theoretical and Practical Knowledge)
9. Students will differentiate political structures, institutions, and governing processes in the U.S and other countries.
10. Students will be trained as a new generation of leading political scientists who employ a clear understanding of current theoretical debates, cutting edge methodological techniques, and deep area of knowledge to answer important substantive questions in the world today.

Course Learning Outcomes:
Designed to provide an introduction to the politics and democratic governance in Latin America, students will learn how the profound economic crises of the 1980s and the transition to democracy since the later 1970s have impacted contemporary politics in the region. As we will learn in this course, scholarly work on Latin American political parties, legislatures, and presidential systems has uncovered substantial variation in political systems
across countries in the region. From a comparative perspective, we will focus on policymaking in the post-crisis period and look at how the region’s political parties and the newly reconstituted national legislatures have dealt with towering economic and political challenges in a select number of countries.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>A successful student of Latin American Politics (POSC 327) will be able to:</th>
<th>Students will accomplish these objectives by:</th>
<th>Evident to Grade and Assess Student Learning</th>
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<tr>
<td>➢ Explain the relevance of key political and economic developments in contemporary Latin America to each one of us and our immediate communities</td>
<td>➢ Critically engaging in assigned course materials and lectures within their broader intellectual and political contexts</td>
<td>➢ Classroom discussions, paper assignments, and an op-ed.</td>
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<td>➢ Identify and illustrate basic principles and concepts in the study of political and economic reforms as relevant to contemporary Latin American politics</td>
<td>➢ Illustrating critical concepts and expand on course specific material in their written work, group discussions, and other assignments</td>
<td>➢ Classroom discussions, paper assignments, and an op-ed.</td>
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<td>➢ Distinguish how the study of historical events can inform our ability to understand contemporary Latin American politics</td>
<td>➢ Critically engaging the readings and lectures within their broader historical contexts</td>
<td>➢ Classroom discussions, paper assignments, and an op-ed.</td>
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<td>➢ Demonstrate ability to engage in critical analysis and construct clearly articulated arguments</td>
<td>➢ Explaining and debating the causes and consequences of key political and economic events</td>
<td>➢ Classroom discussions, paper assignments, and an op-ed.</td>
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<td>➢ Demonstrate techniques to improve research and communication skills</td>
<td>➢ Illustrating the material gained through assigned course material, lectures, classroom discussions and research for assignments</td>
<td>➢ Classroom discussions, paper assignments, and an op-ed.</td>
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**Course Content:**

The main topics covered in this course are:

- Democratization
- Economic crisis and economic reform
- Challenges of democratic governance
- Political representation
- Social and economic exclusion and incorporation
  - Poverty and inequality
- Social policy regimes
Latin America’s “new” Left and its policies
Case studies: Chile, Mexico, Peru, Venezuela
Latin American trade strategies and external influences on policy

Instructional Strategies:
This course is designed around a series of lectures which introduce students to politics in contemporary Latin America. Each lecture is built around selected readings and supplemented with short segments of radio interviews and documentaries provide a visual and more comprehensive understanding of the region’s economic and political challenges. These include segments produced by major news sources, interviews with policymakers provided by major international organizations such as the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, and various documentaries of key events in Latin American politics. Each class assignment – 2 short essays and an opinion piece – is designed to teach students to become effective communicators. To this end, students will learn to formulate arguments, corroborate their arguments using scholarly research and/or relevant data. A primary goal of these exercises is to introduce students to scholarly material. More specifically, students will learn to make a distinction between peer-reviewed articles, edited volumes, and monographs. Hence, by the end of this course, students will learn to identify various research sources and be familiar with common practices in the profession.

Equity and Diversity:
Chapman University is committed to ensuring equality and valuing diversity. Students and professors are reminded to show respect at all times as outlined in Chapman’s Harassment and Discrimination Policy: http://tinyurl.com/CUHarassment-Discrimination. Any violations of this policy should be discussed with the professor, the Dean of Students and/or otherwise reported in accordance with this policy.

Chapman University’s Academic Integrity Policy:
Chapman University is a community of scholars that emphasizes the mutual responsibility of all members to seek knowledge honestly and in good faith. Students are responsible for doing their own work, and academic dishonesty of any kind will be subject to sanction by the instructor and referral to the University’s Academic Integrity Committee, which may impose additional sanctions including expulsion. Please see the full description of Chapman University’s Policy on Academic Integrity online: http://www.chapman.edu/academics/academic-integrity/_files/academic-integrity-policy.pdf

Chapman University’s Students with Disability Policy:
In compliance with ADA guidelines, students who have any condition, either permanent or temporary, that might affect their ability to perform in class are encouraged to contact the Office of Disability Services. If you need to utilize your approved accommodations in this class, please follow the proper notification procedure for informing your professor(s). This notification process must occur more than a week before any accommodation can be utilized. Please contact Disability Services at (714) 516-4520 if you have questions
regarding this procedure, or for information and to make an appointment to discuss and/or request potential accommodations based on documentation of your disability. Once formal approval of your need for an accommodation has been granted, you are encouraged to talk with your professor(s) about your accommodation options. The granting of any accommodation will not be retroactive and cannot jeopardize the academic standards or integrity of the course.

Class Preparation and Attendance:
Please note that each lecture will cover one week of material. Given that the class only meets once a week, you will be required to read twice as much for each class meeting. I recommend dividing the material into at least two study sessions so that you are able to read and comprehend the material assigned for each class meeting. Attendance is mandatory and essential for your success in this course. Each lecture is designed to complement the assigned readings and both the midterm and the final will include material only covered in lecture.

Assignments and Grade Distribution:
- **Midterm exam:** The midterm will consist of key concepts, short answers, and an essay question.
- **Homework assignment:** Your homework assignment will focus on the material from the first week of class. Instructions will be posted on Blackboard.
- **Paper assignments:** There will be two 7-8 page paper assignments. Each of these papers should be built around the course content (that is, cite relevant class readings). Each paper should incorporate at least 5 new sources from which at least 2 are from a peer reviewed journal. Feel free to use interviews with policymakers, specialists, and academics in your assignments. Proper citations are required. Each paper should include a clearly articulated argument and be professionally designed.
- **Op-ed:** You are to write an op-ed on a pressing or important topic in contemporary Latin America. Please refer to newspapers such as the Wall Street Journal and the New York Times for examples of how to construct a clearly articulated opinion piece. Your argument should be backed up by relevant data and scholarly work. A list of sources is required.
- **Final exam:** A closed-book final exam will be proctored according to university policy.
Exam Schedule and Grading:

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<th>Exam and other due dates</th>
<th>Course requirements</th>
<th>% of grade</th>
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<tr>
<td>February 26, 2014</td>
<td>Homework assignment</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 5, 2014</td>
<td>Paper assignment 1</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 19, 2014</td>
<td>Midterm</td>
<td>20</td>
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<td>April 9, 2014</td>
<td>Paper assignment 2</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 7, 2014</td>
<td>Paper assignment 3 (Op-ed)</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 21, 2014</td>
<td>Final exam (4:15-6:45)</td>
<td>25</td>
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Weekly Schedule:

**Week 1: Wednesday February 5 – Introduction to Latin American Politics**
- Franko, Patrice
  - Chapter 1: Development in Latin America: Conceptualizing Economic Change in the Region, pgs. 1-30. [Posted on Bb].

**Week 2: Wednesday February 12 – Democratization and Democratic Governance in Latin America**
- In Hagopian and Mainwaring (eds.). The Third Wave of Democratization in Latin America
  - Introduction, pgs. 1-13
- In Mainwaring and Scully (eds.), Democratic Governance in Latin America
  - Chapter 1, pgs. 1-51

**Week 3: Wednesday February 19 – The Debt Crisis of the 1980s and its Economic and Political Consequences**
  - Chapter 2: Historical Legacies: Patterns of Unequal and Unstable Growth, pgs. 31-54. [Posted on Bb].
  - Chapter 3: Import Substitution Industrialization: Looking Inward for the Source of Economic Growth, pgs. 55-76. [Posted on Bb].
Chapter 4: Latin America’s Debt Crisis: The Limits of External Financing, pgs. 77-106. [Posted on Bb].

Week 4: Wednesday February 26– Political Representation and Socio-Economic Incorporation

Note: Your homework assignment is due at 4:00pm

- In Mainwaring and Scully (eds.), Democratic Governance in Latin America.
  - Chapter 4, pgs. 130-154
- Castañeda, Jorge G. Democracy and Inequality in Latin America: A Tension of the Times. Published in J. I Dominguez and A.F. Lowenthal (eds.), Constructing Democratic Governance: Latin America and the Caribbean in the 1990s. [Posted on Bb].

For data:
- World Bank. A Break with History: Fifteen Years of Inequality Reduction in Latin America. April 2011. [Posted on Bb].

Week 5: Wednesday March 5 - Social Policy Regimes in Latin America

Note: Your first paper assignment is due in class

- In Mainwaring and Scully (eds.), Democratic Governance in Latin America.
  - Chapter 5, pgs. 155-209.
- In Hagopian and Mainwaring (eds.), The Third Wave of Democratization in Latin America: Advances and Setbacks.
  - Chapter 3, pgs. 90-120.
Week 6: Wednesday March 12 – Policymaking in Contemporary Latin America: Actors and their Roles in Democratic Governance


Week 7: Wednesday March 19 – Midterm Examination

- Please bring bluebooks for your midterm.

Week 9: Wednesday March 26 – Happy Spring Break!

Week 10: Wednesday April 2 - Chile
In Mainwaring and Scully (eds.), Democratic Governance in Latin America.
  - Chapter 8, pgs. 269-306.
  - Chapter 9, pgs. 307-337.
- Economist. Chile: Progress and Its Discontents. Published April 14, 2012. [Posted on Bb].

Week 11: Wednesday April 9 - Mexico
Note: Your second paper assignment is due in class at 4:00pm

- Atlantic. After Six Years of Bloodshed, Mexico’s Drug War Shows Little Sign of Waning. May 2012. [Bb reading].
Week 11: Wednesday April 16 – Peru
➢ In Hagotopian and Mainwaring (eds.). The Third Wave of Democratization in Latin America: Advances and Setbacks
   ○ Chapter 9, pgs. 261-288.

Week 12: Wednesday April 23 – Venezuela
➢ Margarita Lopez Maya. Venezuela: Hugo Chávez and the Populist Left. Published in S. Levitsky and K.M. Roberts (eds.). The Resurgence of the Latin American Left, 2011. [Posted on Bb].

Week 13: Wednesday April 30 – The Resource Curse and the Management of Natural Resources
Week 14: Wednesday May 7 – Latin America’s Trade and Development Strategies

Note: Your Op-ed/Assignment 3 is due in class at 4:00pm


Week 15: Wednesday May 14 – Conclusion

➢ In Mainwaring and Scully (eds.), Democratic Governance in Latin America.
  o Chapter 11, pgs. 365-397
  o Chapter 12, pgs. 399-404
➢ In Hagopian and Mainwaring (eds.), The Third Wave of Democratization in Latin America: Advances and Setbacks
  o Chapter 11, pgs. 319-362

Wednesday May 21 – Final examination 4:00-6:45pm

➢ Please bring blue books for your final.