

Peoples and Cultures of Latin America
ANTH 311u
Winter 2006

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Office Hours: Tues. 10-12 and by appointment

Course Description:

This course provides an introduction to the anthropology of Latin America as well as to the diverse contemporary cultures of the region. Course topics include problems associated with contact, development and globalization; identity and ethnicity; the role of social movements in the region; the changing status of women; and the relationship between ecology and culture. Throughout the course, we will consider the roles that anthropologists have played in Latin America, including as advocates of human rights and cultural preservation.

Required Readings:

The following books are available at the PSU Bookstore.

Heath, Dwight B. 2002. *Contemporary Cultures and Societies of Latin America: A Reader in the Social Anthropology of Middle and South America*. Waveland Press.

Goldstein, Donna. 2003. *Laughter out of Place: Race, Class, Violence and Sexuality in a Rio Shantytown*. University of California Press.

Blankenship, Judy. 2005. *Cañar: A Year in the Highlands of Ecuador*. University of Texas Press.

Policies:

A student who is taking a class on a pass-no-pass basis must earn a grade of 'C' or better in order to pass the course. All required work must be completed in order to receive a grade. Late assignments will lose one-half grade per day following the due date, except in cases of verifiable emergency or illness.

Disabilities Statement:

Any student with a documented disability condition (e.g., physical, learning, psychological, vision, or hearing, etc.) who needs to arrange reasonable accommodations must contact both the instructor and the Disability Resources Center at the beginning of the term.

WebCT:

Course syllabus, handouts, assignments, and lecture outlines will be available on WebCT. All students can access WebCT with an odin account. To login, or to find out how to get a login ID and password, go to www.webct.pdx.edu. For students who have never accessed WebCT before, your login ID is your odin user ID, and your password is usually the last 4 digits of your student identification number. If you do not have an odin account, you can find out how to get one at <https://www.account.pdx.edu>.

Evaluation:

Attendance and reading assignments are required and essential for successfully completing this course. Students are expected to keep up with the weekly reading assignments and contribute to class discussions. The course grade will be based on a book report on *Laughter Out of Place* (30% of total grade) one in-class midterm exam (30% of total grade each) and a take-home final exam (40%).

Schedule:

Date	Topic	Reading	Assignment
<u>Week 1</u>	<u>Why Latin America?</u>		
1/9	Introduction		
1/11	Why Latin America?	Chapter 1 in Heath	
1/13	The Anthropological Perspective	Chapters 2 and 3 in Heath	
<u>Week 2</u>	<u>Development and Contact in Amazonia</u>		
1/16	MLK – NO CLASS TODAY		
1/18	Contact and the Struggle for Survival	Video: Trinkets and Beads	
1/20	Development Anthropologists in the Amazon	Chaps. 4 and 30 in Heath	
<u>Week 3</u>	<u>Identity and Ethnicity</u>		
1/23	Indigenous Peoples and Identity	Read Chaps. 17 and 25 in Heath	
1/25	Afro-Latin Identities	Read Chap. 24 in Heath	
1/27	National Identities	Read Chap. 29 in Heath	
<u>Week 4</u>	<u>Religion and Worldview</u>		
1/30	Catholic Church	Read: Chap. 41 in Heath	
2/1	Protestants	Read: Chap. 44 in Heath	
2/3	Indigenous Religious Practices	Read: Chap 42 in Heath	

<u>Week 5</u>	<u>Studying Violence, Inequality and Power</u>		
2/6	Exam		In-class mid-term
2/8	Problems of Methods and Ethics	Chap. 35 in Heath	
2/10	Studying the Rich	Chap. 38 in Heath	
	Structural Violence	Chap. 45 in Heath	
<u>Week 6</u>	<u>Migration and Urbanization</u>		
2/13	The Latin American City	Begin <i>Laughter Out of Place</i>	
2/15	Migration	Video: Continent on the Move	
2/17	Discuss <i>Laughter Out of Place</i>	Finish <i>Laughter Out of Place</i>	
<u>Week 7</u>	<u>The Informal Sector and Globalization</u>		
2/20	The Informal Economy	Read: Chap. 18 in Heath	
2/22	Free Trade and Globalization	Read: Chaps. 16 and 21 in Heath	Book review due
2/24	Globalization (cont)		
<u>Week 8</u>	<u>Social Movements in Latin America</u>		
2/27	Indigenous Organizations	Chap. 13 in Heath	
3/1	Women	Chap. 33 in Heath	
3/3	Democratization	Chap. 34 in Heath	
<u>Week 9</u>	<u>Culture and Change in the Andes</u>		
3/6	Andean Cosmology and Identity		
3/8	Discuss <i>Cañar: A Year in the Highlands of Ecuador</i>	<i>Cañar: A Year in the Highlands of Ecuador</i>	
3/10	Video: TBA		
<u>Week 10</u>	<u>'So Far from God, So Close to the United States': Latin America and the U.S.</u>		
3/13	Immigration	Video: Mayan Voices, American Lives	
3/15	America and Americans in Latin America	Read: Chaps. 26 and 36 in Heath	
3/17	Conclusions and Review		

Final Exam Due No Later Than: March 20, 4pm (please deliver to ANTH Department, 141 Cramer Hall.

