Latin American Economics - ECON 270.1
http://titan.iwu.edu/~dmendez/latin_american
May Term 2007
Syllabus

Instructor: Dr. Diego Méndez-Carbajo
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Text: Latin America’s Political Economy of the Possible
Author: Javier Santiso
Publisher: MIT Press, 2006

Grading Policy:
Evaluation of Country Presentations 50 points
- Fact content (10 points)
- Coverage of issues (10 points)
- Format (10 points)
- Delivery (20 points)
Evaluation of Case Study Presentations 70 points
- Thesis statement (10 points)
- Historical overview (10 points)
- Argumentation (20 points)
- Format (10 points)
- Delivery (20 points)
Final Examination: Debate 50 points
Final Examination: Written Test 80 points
Total Points 250 points
[consult the website for a detailed discussion of the grading policies]

Class attendance is mandatory; for each missing class twenty points will be subtracted from the final grade.
Class participation in discussion sessions is mandatory; otherwise five points will be subtracted from the final grade.
All reading questions must be completed.

The Final Examination: It is comprehensive. It will encompass material covered in the course readings, reading questions, country presentations and case studies

Manners: Getting in or out the room during class is a nuisance for the instructor and the students. Don't do it. If you are more than five minutes late be extremely discrete when joining the class. Beepers and cell phones must be disconnected or in vibrating mode.

Course Objectives:
This May Term course is an introductory course to the economies of major Latin American countries, focusing on their current challenges and growth opportunities.

Upon completion of the course, students should:
- be familiar with key economic and political developments which characterize contemporary Latin American dynamics
- be familiar with the strengths and challenges of economic globalization in the region
- understand theoretical and applied issues of open economy macroeconomics
- understand the role of, and special problems associated with, international capital flows
- understand the basic economics of growth, exchange rate regimes, debt management, and macroeconomic stabilization.

We will follow ongoing economic events and analyze them under the light of the concepts learned. Reading newspapers and/or watching news briefs on TV will improve your grasping of the key ideas and facilitate getting a good grade.