

Syllabus of Record



Program: CET Brazil: Social Justice and Inequality in São Paulo
Course Code / Title: (SP/POLI 310) Brazilian Politics and Society

Total Hours: 45

Recommended Credits: 3

Primary Discipline / Suggested Cross Listings: Political Science / Economics, History

Language of Instruction: English

Prerequisites/Requirements: Prior coursework in economics, politics, sociology and history recommended but not required.

Description

This is a 45-hour course with afternoon presentations, readings, and guided visits. This course aims to provide a better understanding of the Brazilian social tissue as well as the country's representation mechanisms in the socio-political sense. Course content includes the historical background of Brazilian political organization since the 1930s by exploring and discussing the democratic and authoritarian periods throughout our history and the organization of political parties. Politics is explored as a space of representation and structuring of power. Similarities and differences between Brazil and US political systems - such as federalism and the party system – are also covered. Students' knowledge and awareness of the ongoing US political issues are important as an exchange element and for deepening in-class discussion and reflection.

Objectives

At the end of this course students will be able to:

- Make substantive, well documented comparisons between the political processes and consequences in both countries.
- Build a nuanced understanding of politics and political arrangements in Brazil.
- Identify goals, arrangements, groups, and political behavior in Brazil.
- Understand the roots and contours of Brazilian society.

Course Requirements

Course methodology consists of class lectures and open discussions on the content assigned at the discretion of professor. Some of these discussions are based on the assignments you submit individually or as a group.

Weekly 15-40 page readings are assigned as required course tasks. It is imperative that each student complete the assigned reading in a timely fashion, as this enables them to actively participate in class.

The professor sends relevant news articles with course-related questions on a regular basis. You are expected to respond to at least four questions in detail. If you respond to more than four questions, at the end of the semester you should submit only your best four posts for grading. Review the rubrics to understand what is regarded as a good post.

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Grading

The final grade is based on the overall performance of each student in three areas:

Participation 20%

Post answers (3) 30%

Final essay 50% (research proposal 10%, actual research 40%)

This essay is the product of a documental review. Requirements: minimum 10 pages, in-depth investigation, focus on the relationship between a current development issue in the Brazilian scenario and its relevance to any of the main topics discussed in class.

Assignments not turned in on due date are subject to a penalty proportionate to the delay.

Plagiarism is not tolerated under any circumstance. If, due to unanticipated circumstances, a student must turn in their assignment via email, they should not assume it was received until the professor acknowledges receipt thereof.

Although students are evaluated according to PUC-SP practices, grade appeals are handled through CET as prescribed by CET Academic Policies.

Attendance

Attendance requirements are outlined in the CET Attendance Policy.

Readings

Codato, Adriano. A political history of the Brazilian transition from military dictatorship to democracy. *Rev. Sociol. Polit.* vol.2 no.se Curitiba 2006.

http://socialsciences.scielo.org/pdf/s_rsocp/v2nse/scs_a04.pdf

_____. A political history of the Brazilian transition from military dictatorship to democracy. *Rev. Sociol. Polit.* vol.2 no.se Curitiba 2006.

http://socialsciences.scielo.org/pdf/s_rsocp/v2nse/scs_a04.pdf

Conniff, Michael L. "Populism in Brazil, 1925-1945." Pages 67-91 in Michael L. Conniff, ed., *Latin American Populism in Comparative Perspective*. Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 1982.

_____. "The Tenentes in Power: A New Perspective on the Brazilian Revolution of 1930," *Journal of Latin American Studies*, 10, No. 1, May 1978, 61-82.

Graham, Richard. *Patronage and Politics in Nineteenth-Century Brazil*. Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1990. Chapter 3.

Limongi, Fernando. Democracy in Brazil Presidentialism, party coalitions and the decision making process. *Novos estud. - CEBRAP* vol.3 no.se São Paulo 2007.

http://socialsciences.scielo.org/pdf/s_nec/v3nse/scs_a01.pdf

Santos, Fabiano; CANELLO, Julio. Brazilian Congress, 2014 elections and governability challenges. *Brazilian Political Science Review*, vol. 9, n.1, 2015.

<http://www.scielo.br/pdf/bpsr/v9n1/1981-3821-bpsr-9-1-0115.pdf>

Skidmore, Thomas E. *Politics in Brazil: 1930-1964, an Experiment in Democracy*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1967. Chapter III and V.

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Skidmore, Thomas E. *The Politics of Military Rule in Brazil, 1964-85*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1988. Chapter I.

Skidmore, Thomas E. *The Politics of Military Rule in Brazil, 1964-85*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1988. Chapter IV and V.

Skidmore, Thomas E. *The Politics of Military Rule in Brazil, 1964-85*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1988. Chapter VI and VII.

Souza, Amaury; Lamounier, Bolívar. The future of democracy: political-institutional scenarios until 2022. ESTUDOS AVANÇADOS 21 (56), 2007.

http://www.scielo.br/pdf/ea/v20n56/en_28626.pdf

Additional Resources

Documentary: *O dia que durou 21 anos*.

Other documentaries and various websites.

Newspaper articles.

Outline of Course Content

1. Political overview about Brazil: from Oligarchy to “Lava Jato” and Bolsonaro
2. Oligarchy and the social and political changes at the beginning of 20th: the 1930 Revolution
3. Populism and Corporatism: democracy with limited participation (1945-1964)
4. 1964 : debate on historical significance of the 1964 Coup & Documentary: *O dia que durou 21 anos*.
5. Institutional Acts // Preservation of Congress: controversy over attempts to maintain legitimacy in military period
6. Visit to Memorial da Resistência – São Paulo & Talk with a former political prisoner
7. The 1970s: social and political changes – the 1979 “amnesty”
8. Redemocratization and the 1988 Constitution
9. Collor and the “coalition presidentialism”
10. The FHC and Lula years: the political arrangements I
11. The FHC and Lula years: the political arrangements II
12. Dilma Rousseff and the impeachment process: how to understand what happened?
13. Temer, the endless political cycle (or circus?) and Bolsonaro election
14. Perspectives: Political Awareness, “Lava Jato” and Bolsonaro election: a changing country?
15. Discussion on how CET Traveling Seminar in Bahia relates to this course.