



SCHOOL OF GLOBAL STUDIES

LA1111 Latin American History and Present Time, 15 credits

Det moderna Latinamerikas framväxt, 15 högskolepoäng

First Cycle

Confirmation

This course syllabus was confirmed by Faculty of Social Sciences on 2010-09-29 and was last revised on 2017-12-20 by Department of Global Studies to be valid from 2018-01-15, spring semester of 2018.

Field of education: Social Sciences 100%

Department: School of Global Studies

Position in the educational system

The course is a core course in the first cycle and can be studied as a single subject course.

The course can be part of the following programme: 1) BA-program in Global Studies (S1GLS)

Main field of studies

Latin American Studies

Specialization

G1N, First Cycle, has only upper-secondary level entry requirements

Entry requirements

General entrance requirements

Learning outcomes

The aim of the course is that the student should be able to describe and produce the main features of Latin America's history, culture, economics and international relations. On successful completion of the course the student will be able to:

Knowledge and understanding

- identify, compare and explain different perspectives on Latin America as region;
- summarize the history of Latin America from pre-colonial societies to modern times, regarding social and economic development tendencies as well as the external impact of international actors;
- identify and account for Latin American's cultural history;
- summarize and problematize the main characteristics in current debates about the development dynamics in Latin America;
- describe and discuss different processes and interests of great powers that have influenced Latin America from colonial times until today;

Competence and skills

- within a given time frame study and seek out relevant information that can explain historical cultural and economic transformation processes in Latin America;
- verbally and in writing, individually and in collaboration with others, summarize the main characteristics in a scientific text;

Judgement and approach

- evaluate different sources of information and theories that describe Latin America as region;
- critically account for different theoretical perspectives within Latin American studies.

Course content

The course provides general knowledge of Latin America's history, culture, economy and international relations with special attention given to gender, ethnicity and social relations.

Sub-courses

1. Latin American history and culture (*Latinamerikas historia och kultur*)

Module 1 starts with problematizing Latin America as region. The module accounts for Latin America's history from the first settlements until present times concerning social, political and economic development. It provides an overview over the region's cultural history, aesthetic and communicative aspects of the modern society, with focus on social affiliation and questions of identity. The aim is to identify and analyze the roles of different social actors in Latin American culture, and relate historical processes to contemporary relations and events.

2. Latin American economy and international relations (*Latinamerikas ekonomi och internationella relationer*)

Module 2 focuses on the economic relations that have shaped Latin America from independence until present time. Based in development theory, the module

problematizes economic and social relations, and experiences of regional integration in the region. Furthermore, the module provides a general description of Latin America's economic and political relationships with different parts of the world: The USA, Europe, Russia, Asia. Special attention is given to the social consequences of economic development and the external impact of different international actors.

Form of teaching

Throughout the course, the teaching is carried out through lectures and seminars. In the web-based version of the course, the teaching is conducted mainly through written assignments, discussion forum and detailed reading instructions.

Language of instruction: English and Swedish
The course can be offered in both Swedish and English.

Assessment

The assessment of whether the student has reached the expected learning outcomes for the course is based on six different written take-home examinations:

Examination 1: *Latin America & Europe in 1492* (2 credits)

Examination 2: *Latin American Independence* (2 credits)

Examination 3: *Latin American Modern History* (3.5 credits)

Examination 4: *Economy & Regional Integration in Latin America* (2 credits)

Examination 5: *International Relations in Latin America* (2 credits)

Examination 6: *Economic and international challenges for Latin America* (3.5 credits)

For resource reasons, the number of examination occasions is limited to 5 occasions for each examination item.

If a student, who has failed the same examined component twice, wishes to change examiner before the next examination, a written application shall be sent to the department responsible for the course and shall be granted unless there are special reasons to the contrary (Chapter 6, Section 22 of Higher Education Ordinance).

In cases where a course has been discontinued or has undergone major changes, the student shall normally be guaranteed at least three examination occasions (including the ordinary examination) during a period of at least one year from the last time the course was given.

Grades

The grading scale comprises: Pass with Distinction (VG), Pass (G) and Fail (U). In order to be rewarded a Pass grade (G) for the course a Pass grade is required on all examinations. In order to be rewarded a Pass with Distinction (VG) for the course a Pass with Distinction on at least two of the examinations worth 2 credits as well as both examinations worth 3.5 credits is required, in addition to the criteria for a grade Pass.

Course evaluation

A written course evaluation will be carried out at the end of the course. The results of and possible changes to the course will be shared with students who participated in the evaluation and the next class to take the course.

Additional information

The course can also be offered as a web-based course. The web-based version requires that the students have access to computer with internet access and email. A specific electronic platform or computer program will be used. The course can be offered as either full-time studies or half-speed.