POLI 4065: LATIN AMERICAN GOVERNMENT & POLITICS

12:00 – 1:20pm, Tuesdays and Thursdays Location: Atkinson 15

Professor: Dr. Yann Kerevel

Email: ykerev1@lsu.edu Office Hours: Tuesdays 1:30-3:30pm (LI) -0.2 (4065:)]TJET (Office: Stubbs 230

If you have a DOCUMENTED illness, emergency or excused absence on the date of an exam, you may take an alternate exam during the scheduled final exam period.

Public Opinion Project: You are required to write a report based on public opinion data from Latin America that examines attitudes about democracy and about the United States. In preparation for writing the report, we will spend two weeks in a computer lab to teach you how to analyze a large public opinion dataset that includes responses to a detailed questionnaire from roughly 20,000 individuals across 18 Latin American countries. The project will consist of generating several tables of public opinion data using the statistical software package Stata, and briefly describing the results from the tables.

Geography quiz: Since this class is about a particular geographic region, it is very important that everyone knows where each country in the Americas is located. There is a geography quiz at the beginning of the semester that will require you to identify the major countries and their capitals on a blank map.

Trade Simulation: At the end of the semester we will conduct a simulated negotiation of a regional trade agreement between multiple countries. You will be graded on your participation during the simulation and on the generation of a response essay after the simulation. More details of the simulation will be provided in class.

Literature review: You are required to write a 6-page literature review based on a minimum of 6

Student Advocacy and Accountability. For undergraduate students, a first academic violation could result in a zero grade on the assignment or failing the class and disciplinary probation until graduation. For a second academic violation, the result could be suspension from LSU. For graduate students, suspension is the appropriate outcome for the first offense.

Plagiarism and Citation Method: As a student at LSU, it is your responsibility to refrain from plagiarizing the academic property of another and to utilize appropriate citation methods for all coursework. Ignorance of the citation method is not an excuse for academic misconduct. Remember there is a difference between paraphrasing and quoting and how to properly cite each respectively. If you have questions regarding what is appropriate, please consult with the library's tutorials on avoiding plagiarism and proper citation formats (links are also provided on the course Moodle page).

Lectures and Readings:

All assigned readings for each day MUST BE COMPLETED BEFORE ATTENDING CLASS. Note: the abbreviation "SSG" refers to the textbook.

Week 1: Introduction 1/14: no readings

Week 2: Legacies of colonialism 1/19 (T): Read SSG Chapters 1-2

1/21 (Th): Read Engerman and Sokoloff 1997; Geography Quiz

Week 3: Legacies of imperialism; Legacies of revolution and civil war

1/26 (T): US-Latin American Relations, Read SSG Chapter 15

1/28 (Th): Mexico, read SSG Chapter 3

Week 4: Legacies of revolution and civil war, cont'd

2/2 (T): Mexico, Read Morris 2010 2/4 (Th): Cuba, Read SSG Chapter 5

Week 5: Legacies of revolution and civil war, cont'd

2/9: (no class, Mardi Gras)

2/11 (Th): Nicaragua, Read SSG Chapter 4

Week 6: Legacies of revolution and civil war, cont'd 2/16 (T): Nicaragua, Read Colburn and Cruz 2012

2/18 (no class, conference)

Week 7: Legacies of revolution and civil war, cont'd

2/23 (T): Guatemala, Read Isaacs 2010

2/25 Th): Exam #1

Week 8: Legacies of military rule 3/1 (T): Brazil, Read SSG Chapter 11

3/3 (Th): Chile, Read SSG, Chapter 10

Week 9: Legacies of military rule, cont'd 3/8 (T): Chile, Read Heiss and Navia 2007