

Department of Anthropology and Archaeology

ANTH 421: Winter 2021 Contemporary Latin American Society Tue/Thur 12:30pm-1:45PM MS 527

Instructor: Dr. Ben McKay

Email: ben.mckay@ucalgary.ca

Office Hours: 1:45PM-2:45PM Tues/Thur or by appointment¹

Prerequisites

ANTH 321

Course description

Social movements are central to understanding contemporary Latin American society. They play a crucial role in shaping, and even transforming, the political and social landscape in the region. In the contemporary context, social movements have been a force for change and are fundamental to understanding the rise of progressive, left-wing governments that came to power at the dawn of the twenty-first century, known as the 'pink tide'. Yet, social movements are not always progressive or revolutionary; they can also be conservative and reactionary. Identifying the nature, social base, ideology, strategy and tactics of these movements is crucial for our understanding of social transformations and trajectories of change. This course examines contemporary social movement theories and explores the key issues and concerns emanating from different societal factions: workers, peasants, community, women, indigenous, and environmental organizations. We combine social movement theory with empirical case studies from countries throughout Latin America in order to understand the role of social activism in shaping Latin American society and politics.

Learning outcomes

After taking this course, students should be able to

- Understand the key theoretical and conceptual approaches, debates, and methods in social movement theory and their principal assumptions
- Explain the rise of progressive left movements as a response to neoliberal policies
- Write an analytical essay, engaging with course concepts and theories
- Discuss and present an in-depth analysis of a social movement case study in Latin America
- Think critically and engage with complex concepts
- Work in a team-oriented manner

Learning methods

This course combines (a) lectures, (b) student-led discussions, (c) analytical reading exercises; (d) video and films; (e) group work and presentations; and (f) analytical writing

Learning Resources

Required textbook (available at the University of Calgary bookstore):

Munck, Ronaldo. (2020). *Social Movements in Latin America: Mapping the Mosaic*, Montreal and Kingston: McGill-Queen's University Press.

¹ Office hours may vary, so students are encouraged to make an appointment.

All other required course readings are available online via the University of Calgary library <https://library.ucalgary.ca> and/or available via D2L.

Learning Technologies and Requirements

In order to successfully engage in their learning experiences at the University of Calgary, students taking online, remote and blended courses are required to have reliable access to the following technology.

- A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security and malware updates
- A current and updates web browser
- Webcam (built in or external)
- Microphone and speaker (built in or external) or headset with microphone
- Broadband internet connection

Methods of assessment

1- In-class assignments: 10%

A total of five in-class assignments will be held throughout the semester, each worth 2% of your final grade. These will be based on the required readings assigned for that week, so make sure you come to class prepared and having done the required readings.

2- Film Review: 15%

Students will write a 500-750 word (excluding bibliography) film review. Due March 15th (upload to D2L before midnight).

3- Mid-term Exam #1, February 17th: 25%

Short answers and multiple choice. All materials in-class and in the readings up to and including February 15th will be covered. This midterm is open book and online via D2L. You will have the entire class time + 50% extra time to complete the online midterm exam. The midterm will be available to start on February 17th at 12:30pm and will close February 18th at 12:30pm. Students have the option to start a test or timed assessment at a time that best suits their situation within a 24-hour time period. Just remember that regardless of when you start the exam, you must finish within the allotted time period (75 min + 38 min + 7 minutes for breaks = 120 min) and complete the exam before February 18th at 12:30pm.

4- Mid-term Exam #2, March 31st: 25%

Short answers and multiple choice. All materials in-class and in the readings between March 8th and March 29th (inclusive) will be covered.

5- Group Presentations, April 5th-12th: 15%

Students will be organized into groups and present on a topic of choice approved by the instructor. All group members will receive the same grade based on a grading rubric which will be posted on D2L. More details will be discussed in class.

6- Short Essay based on group presentation topic: 10%

Each individual will write a short essay (800-1000 words, excluding bibliography) based on the topic of their group presentation. Due April 12th (upload to D2L by midnight).

- There is no final examination for this course.
- Midterm Exam #1 is online and open book

- Midterm Exam #2 is in class and closed book, unless otherwise indicated
- ~~All exams are in class and 'closed book'.~~
- It is **not** essential to pass all components to pass the course as whole.
- Late assignments will be penalized by 10% per day.

MISSED EXAMS OR ASSESSMENTS

Students may be asked to provide supporting documentation for an exemption/special request. This may include, but is not limited to, a prolonged absence from a course where participation is required, a missed course assessment, a deferred examination, or an appeal. Students are encouraged to submit documentation that will support their situation. Supporting documentation may be dependent on the reason noted in their personal statement/explanation provided to explain their situation. This could be medical certificate/documentation, references, police reports, invitation letter, or a statutory declaration, etc. The decision to provide supporting documentation that best suits the situation is at the discretion of the student. Students cannot be required to provide specific supporting documentation, such as a medical note.

Students can make a Statutory Declaration as their supporting documentation (available at ucalgary.ca/registrar). This requires students to make a declaration in the presence of a Commissioner for Oaths. It demonstrates the importance of honest and accurate information provided and is a legally binding declaration. Several registered Commissioners for Oaths are available to students at no charge, on campus, please see ucalgary.ca/registrar.

Falsification of any supporting documentation will be taken very seriously and may result in disciplinary action through the Academic Discipline regulations or the Student Non-Academic Misconduct policy.

Reappraisal of Graded Term Work: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-2.html>

Reappraisal of Final Grade: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-3.html>

For referencing style, use Chicago author-date. For instructions see:

https://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/authors/style/reference/tf_ChicagoAD.pdf

The final mark out of 100, will then be converted to a letter grade as follows:

A+	95 – 100%	B	75 – 79.9%	C-	59 – 62.9%
A	90 – 94.9%	B-	71 – 74.9%	D+	55 – 58.9%
A-	85 – 89.9%	C+	67 – 70.9%	D	50 – 54.9%
B+	80– 84.9%	C	63 – 66.9%	F	< 50%

Supplementary Fees

Not applicable

For additional detailed course information posted by the instructor, visit the course Desire2Learn page online at <https://d2l.ucalgary.ca/d2l/home>.

Class Schedule*

*Schedule subject to change at the discretion of the instructor

	Tues	Required Readings	Thurs	Required Readings
1	11-Jan	Introduction to the Course: Course Overview Read the course outline	13-Jan	Latin America and Social Movements: An Introduction Holden and Villars (2012) Ch. 1 Munck (2020) Ch. 1: Introduction
2	18-Jan	Social Movement Theories Munck (2020) Ch. 2 Wickham-Crowley and Eckstein (2015) “There and Back Again”: Latin American Social Movements and Reasserting the Powers of Structural Theories, Handbook of Social Movements across Latin America.	20-Jan	Workers’ Movements Munck (2020) Ch. 3
3	25-Jan	Peasant Movements Munck (2020) Ch. 4 Vergara-Camus and Kay (2017) Agribusiness, peasants, left- wing governments, and the state in Latin America: An overview and theoretical reflections, <i>Journal of Agrarian Change</i> , 17, 239- 257	27-Jan	Participatory Democracy and Autonomy of Social Movements: The Zapatistas and the MST Starr, A., Martínez-Torres, M. E., & Rosset, P. (2011). Participatory Democracy in Action: Practices of the Zapatistas and the Movimiento Sem Terra. <i>Latin American Perspectives</i> , 38(1), 102–119. http://www.jstor.org/stable/297793 10 *In-class assignment*
4	1-Feb	Cases Studies from Brazil Guest lecture by Karla Oliveira See D2L content	3-Feb	Indigenous Movements Munck (2020) Ch. 7 Silva, E. (2015). Indigenous Peoples’ Movements, Developments, and Politics in Ecuador and Bolivia’, Handbook of Social Movements across Latin America.
5	8-Feb	Case Studies from Peru	10-Feb	Women’s Movements

		<p>Guest lecture by Ana Watson</p> <p>See D2L content</p>		<p>Horton, L. (2015) Women's movements in Latin America, Handbook of Social Movements across Latin America.</p> <p>Munck (2020) Ch. 6</p> <p>*In-class assignment*</p>
6	15-Feb	Midterm Review	17-Feb	Midterm #1
7	22-Feb	Reading week	24-Feb	
8	1-Mar	<p>Film Screening</p> <p>South of the Border</p>	3-Mar	<p>Group work preparations and meetings</p> <p>Come to class prepared to discuss your group presentation topic with your peers and the instructor. Preliminary background research required.</p>
9	8-Mar	<p>Environmental Movements</p> <p>Foyer ad Dumoulin Kervran (2015) The Environmentalism of NGOs Versus Environmentalism of the Poor? Mexico's Social-Environmental Coalitions', Handbook of Social Movements across Latin America.</p> <p>Munck (2020) Ch. 8</p> <p>*In-class assignment*</p>	10-Mar	<p>Case Studies from Ecuador</p> <p>Guest lecture by Danilo Borja</p> <p>See D2L content</p>
10	15-Mar	<p>Community</p> <p>Munck (2020) Ch. 5</p> <p>Fernandes, S. (2015) Urban Social Movements in Venezuela', Handbook of Social Movements across Latin America.</p> <p>*In-class assignment*</p>	17-Mar	<p>Case Studies from Bolivia</p> <p>Guest lecture by Gonzalo Colque</p> <p>See D2L content</p>

		Film review due. Upload to D2L by midnight		
11	22-Mar	Ways Forward	24-Mar	Converging Movements
		Munck (2020) Ch. 9 & Ch. 10 *In-class assignment*		Guest lecture by Alberto Alonso-Fradejas See D2L content
12	29-Mar	Midterm Review	31-Mar	MIDTERM #2
13	5-Apr	Group presentations	7-Apr	Group Presentations
14	12-Apr	Group Presentations Short essay based on group presentation due. Upload to D2L by midnight.		

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit <https://live-ucalgary.ucalgary.ca/student-services/access>. Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor or the Department Head. The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/accommodation-students-disabilities-procedure>.

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

“Academic Misconduct” includes such things as cheating, falsification, plagiarism, unauthorized assistance, and failure to comply with exam regulations or an Instructor’s expectations regarding conduct required of Students completing academic assessments. Students who participate in, or encourage the commission of, Academic Misconduct will be subject to disciplinary action which could include Probation, Suspension, or Expulsion from the University. For information on academic misconduct and its consequences, please see the University of Calgary Calendar at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-3.html>

Further support on academic integrity is available at: <https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity>

INSTRUCTOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Course materials created by professor(s) (including course outlines, presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the professor(s). These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the

explicit consent of the professor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY ACT

Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary.

COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/acceptable-use-material-protected-copyright-policy>) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorized sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks, etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

SUPPORT AND RESOURCES:

Please visit the Registrar's website at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines> for additional important information on the following:

- Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points
- Wellness and Mental Health Resources
- Student Success Centre
- Student Ombuds Office
- Student Union (SU) Information
- Safewalk

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the traditional territories of the people of the Treaty 7 region in Southern Alberta, which includes the Blackfoot Confederacy (comprising the Siksika, Piikani, and Kainai First Nations), as well as the Tsuut'ina First Nation, and the Stoney Nakoda (including the Chiniki, Bearspaw, and Wesley First Nations). The City of Calgary is also home to Métis Nation of Alberta, Region 3. I would also like to note that the University of Calgary is situated on land adjacent to where the Bow River meets the Elbow River, and that the traditional Blackfoot name of this place is "Moh'kins'tsis", which we now call the City of Calgary.