

POLI 351.01 POLITICS OF CONTEMPORARY BRAZIL
Spring 2016
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953-5701

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THE POLITICS OF CONTEMPORARY BRAZIL

This course introduces the student to the politics of Latin America's largest, most populous and most important country. A brief introduction that covers the period of Portuguese colonization as well as early independence and national eras will be followed by an intensive focus on the period from the presidency of Getulio Vargas to the present. Special attention will be given to the era of military government in the 1960s, to the "abertura" which opened the door to democratization in the 1990s, the conversion to neoliberalism under of President Henrique Cardoso, and the recent period under socialist presidents Luis Ignacio "Lula" da Silva and Dilma Rousseff.

Learning Outcomes

1. Students will *formulate* a research thesis or question on one topic in Brazilian political development and produce an in-depth *analysis* of that topic.
2. Students will be able to *summarize* and *analyze* the major social, economic and political developments in Brazil from the colonial period through the First Republic.
3. Students will be able to *explain* and *appraise* the construction of Brazilian national identity during the Estado Novo.
4. Students will be able to *describe*, *analyze* and *evaluate* the unique participatory institutions of contemporary Brazil.

Required Texts: – books are available at the College bookstore/ University Books

Kingstone & Power. 2008. **Democratic Brazil- Revisited.** U. of Pittsburgh
Fausto, Boris. 2014 **A Concise History of Brazil. 2nd edition.** Cambridge U.
Levine, Robert M. 1998. **Father of the Poor: Vargas and His Era** (New Approaches to the Americas). Cambridge:
Baiocchi, Gianpaolo, 2011. **Bootstrapping Democracy** Stanford U Press.

Films - Recommended

Amazon Journal Brazilian Connection Como Era Gostoso O Meu Frances Emerging Powers (Brazil) Four Days in September Flying Dutchman: Brazil in 16th & 17th Century	Gosses de Rio The Mission Quilombo Solo: The Law of the Favela O Velho: Historia de Luis Carlos Prestes Bus 174
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Assignments:

Short Papers - **Four** short papers will be required during the semester. These papers are to be summaries and critical analyses of the course readings - Paper #1 for Topic I; Paper #2 for Topics II and III; Paper #3 for Topics IV and V; and Paper #4 for Topic VI. These papers should be typed, double-spaced, and at least three pages in length. Deadlines for these papers will be announced in class.

Research Paper - a short, focused 10 page research paper on one topic relevant to Brazilian political development – list attached (additional topics by permission of the instructor).

Research Paper Outline. The nature of this outline will be further discussed in class. The outline should articulate your tentative research thesis or problem and outline the major points the paper will discuss.. It is to include a preliminary bibliography--i.e., works you have consulted in preparation of the topic.

Research Paper (draft). The draft of your research paper should be a complete, if rough, version of your final paper. The bibliography should be refined--i.e., a list of works cited in your draft. This draft is to be distributed to two of your classmates as well to the instructor for commentary.

Research Paper (completed paper). The final draft of your paper should be complete and have taken into account the criticism and corrections of the first two. The paper should be done in the form prescribed by the Political Science department in its "Guide to Referencing"
<http://polisci.cofc.edu/documents/polscitation.pdf>

Oral and General Class Participation. Students are expected to attend each class session, take appropriate notes, and be prepared to give meaningful responses to questions based upon the course material and previous discussions. More than four un-excused absences will produce a grade of "F" (since only I can excuse you, check with me first)

Topics

- I. **Introduction to Course and Background on Brazil: The Corporative State**
Readings: Fausto, 1-192
- II. **Getulio Vargas and the Rise of the Modern Brazilian State and Politics**
Readings: Fausto, 193-230
Levine, Chapters 1-6
- III. **The Democratic Experiment: From Vargas to Goulart**
Readings: Fausto, 231-272
- IV. **1964 Coup and the Military Period**
Reading: Fausto, 273-323
Kingstone & Power, Selections
- V. **Transition to Democracy and Reform and Failure**
Readings: Kingstone & Power, Selections
- VI. **Cardoso: Champion of Neoliberalism, Champion of Neo-Democracy //Lula – a New Day for the Brazilian (and Latin American) Worker? Rouseff – Consolidation or New Directions?**
Readings: Kingstone & Power, Selections
Baiocchi- Selected chapters

Grades will be calculated as follows

Short Papers.	10% each	40%
Research Paper - completed		25%
Research Paper Outline		10%
Research Paper Draft		15%
Oral and General Class Participation		10%

GRADES

A	4.00	C	2.00
A-	3.67	C-	1.67
B+	3.33	D+	1.33
B	3.00	D	1.00
B-	2.67	D-	0.67
C+	2.33	F	0.00

Class format - Lectures will be combined with extensive class discussion. Your success in this course depends upon your active participation!!

Attendance - Attendance is mandatory. More than four un-excused absences will produce a grade of "F" (since only I can excuse you, check with me first)

Exams - There will be no exams in this course.

Electronics Policy

All laptops, ipods (or equivalent), and cell phones must be turned off during class time. If you must have your cell phone on for emergency purposes it must be set to vibrate only. Papers may not be submitted by email unless cleared with me first.

Paper submissions

I will not accept papers placed in my office mailbox nor under my door nor by email. Papers must be handed to me at the appropriate time and place when they are due.

Office Hours - Please feel free to see me at any time. Formal office hours will be:
MW 3-4pm

PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism is considered the worst academic offense. I will lead to failure in this course at the minimum. I am interested in what **you** have to say, not in your regurgitating what someone else says. Regurgitation is for birds.

Plagiarism is the verbatim repetition, without acknowledgment, of the writings of another author. All significant phrases, clauses, or passages, taken directly from source material must be enclosed in quotation marks and acknowledged either in the text itself or in footnotes/ endnotes.

Borrowing without acknowledging the source.

Paraphrasing the thoughts of another writer without acknowledgment. Allowing any other person or organization to prepare work which one then submits as his/her own.

RESEARCH PAPER

Each student will write a short **10 page** research paper on a topic chosen in consultation with the instructor (a list of potential topics is below). The research paper must employ **at least 2 book**

sources, 3 professional journal sources, and 2 internet obtained sources (excluding Wikipedia).

RESEARCH PAPER SCHEDULE

Research Paper Outline (first draft). February 22

Research Paper (second draft). March 28

Research Paper Critique April 11

Research Paper (final). April 20

Topics

Race and politics in Brazil (historical and contemporary)

Religion and politics

Military and politics (particularly the Estado Novo and Military government of 1964-1990)

Politics of land policy and land reform

Environmental politics in Brazil

Industrial policy (import substitution)

Nationalism in Brazil (historical and contemporary)

Regionalism in Brazil (federalism)

Federalism (regionalism) vs. centralism

Personalismo in Brazil – Getulio Vargas

Populism

Positivism

Politics of indigenous peoples in Brazil

Brazilian foreign policy

Mercosur – trade

Land Reform –Land Movement

the founding of Brasilia

Sports and politics in Brazil

Racial democracy – race and class

Religion – rise of Protestantism and Afro-Brazilian religion

Brazil as a potential world power

Brazil as a Latin American leader

Neoliberalism in Brazil

Corruption in Brazil

The Worker's Party in Power

Participatory Politics in Brazil

Social Movements in Brazil