POS4074– Latino Politics

Department of Political Science

College of Sciences, University of Central Florida

Instructor Information

Instructor	Dr. Annabelle Conroy
Office Location	HPH 302
Office Hours	Mondays and Wednesdays 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Phone	(407) 823-2608
Email	Please use the Webcourses email tool. This is the best and fastest way to reach me.

Class Information

Term	Fall 2018
Course # and Section	POS4074-0W59
Course Name	Latino Politics
Credit Hours	3
Class Meeting Days	N/A
Class Meeting Time	N/A
Class Location	N/A
Course Modality	W - Online course

Introduction to the Course

Course Overview

The Latino or Hispanic population in the United States is growing at an unprecedented pace. As the largest minority group in the United States, its importance in political terms has increased dramatically in the last decade. This importance is compounded by the fact that Latinos tend to form a significant proportion of the population in electorally significant states such as Florida, California, New York and Texas. Despite the electoral significance of this group, however, Latinos remain considerably under-represented in the American political system, particularly at the national level.

This course is an introduction to the historical, economic and socio-political characteristics of the Latino community in the United States. In addition, the course will examine the policy issues confronting Latinos, the political opportunities and constraints for Latino political participation and the nature of Latino leadership and political coalitions.

This course will be divided into two sections. The first section will deal with the historical development of the Latino community and to an examination of the various components of this community (particularly, Puerto Ricans, Mexican-Americans and Cuban-Americans). The second part of the course will focus on specific political phenomenon such as voting patterns, public policy issues and the success and failure of political demands advocated by the Latino community.

Course Objectives

The main objectives of this course are:

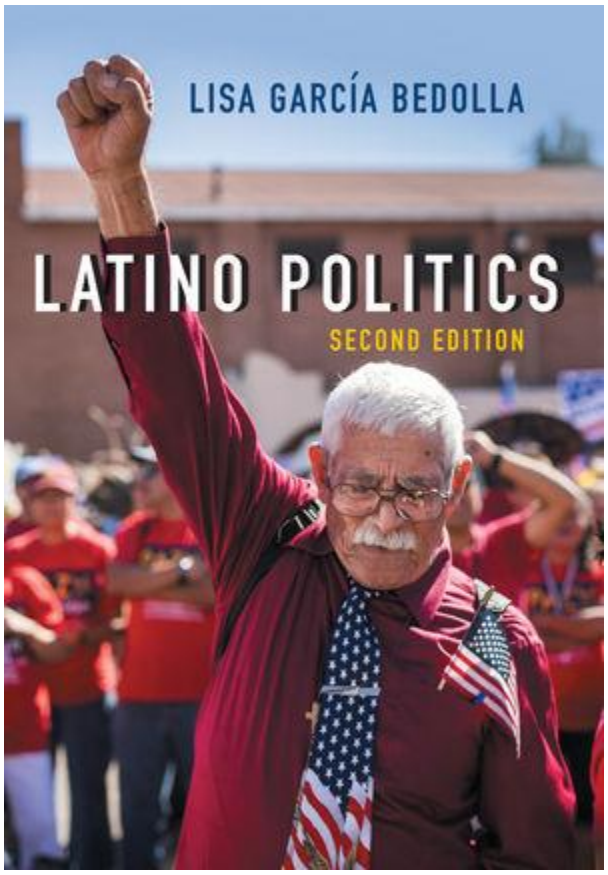
1. To provide students with a comprehensive introduction to the field of Latino politics.
2. To illustrate the differences and similarities regarding the different groups composing the “Latino” category
3. To identify the key policy issues affecting Latinos.
4. To develop key skills required for the successful study of political science and for the graduate job market.

Course Prerequisites:

POS 2041 or C.I.

Required Texts and Materials

García Bedolla, Lisa (2015): *Latino Politics*. Second Edition. Malden, MA: Polity. ISBN: 978-0-745-68642-4



Additional materials

Due to the large scope of the class, additional materials may be assigned in each of the modules. However, these will all be available electronically. The links for these materials will be included in each module.

Format of the Course

This course is offered electronically via Webcourses. All course activities are to take place online. This includes the quizzes and exams. There are no scheduled face-to-face meetings for this course. Because there will be no face-to-face sessions, it is extremely important that you keep in mind and meet certain requirements. In order to successfully complete this course you need to make sure that you:

1. have a secure and reliable internet connection. Please be aware that “I didn’t have internet connection for two days” will not be accepted as an excuse for late submissions.
2. feel comfortable with the online tools that we will use in the course
3. have a high degree of self-discipline and are able to work independently, which means, among other things that you are able to read, understand and follow written instructions
4. are able to log into Webcourses every week to complete each module and read any announcements that might be posted for that week. Please keep in mind that the course requires work to be submitted every week and, thus, you cannot let the course slide for two weeks and then expect to catch up later. Therefore, you should make sure that you can make this commitment before you decide to proceed with the course.
5. Are able to dedicate a minimum of 5 hours a week to the assignments in this class (readings, quizzes and so on).

You can learn about online courses by visiting the Learn UCF web site (http://online.ucf.edu/learn-online/).

The format of the course will be as follows: Modules will open on Tuesdays at 9:00 am and close on the following Monday at 11:59 pm. The only exception to this is the first week of class when Module 1 will open on Monday.

Module Schedule	
Modules Open on:	**Tuesdays, 9:00 am**
Modules Close on:	**Mondays, 11:59 pm**

Each module may also have its own internal deadlines. So, for example, if there is a discussion assignment, you might be required to make a discussion posting by Saturday and then several discussion postings by Monday.

Although I do my best to avoid changing the schedule, please make sure you check the class schedule often, as the schedule may change depending on several factors. In any case, I will make sure to post an announcement when a change is made to the syllabus or the class schedule. However, it is your responsibility to ensure that you read the class announcements and communications sent out by the instructor.

Online learning is not for everyone; some people may not be able to manage a course that does not meet face to face. For this reason, it is extremely important that you read and understand the syllabus and make sure that you will be able to comply with the terms set forth in this document.

Please keep in mind that online learning requires a great deal of planning and self-discipline in order to be successfully completed. Since we will be covering a great deal of material in 16 weeks, I highly recommend treating this course like a regular lecture course, and keeping up with lectures and assignments on a weekly basis. Please do not be tempted to skip two weeks of the course and expect to catch up easily. Keep in mind that deadlines will be strictly observed in this course. If you miss a module (or more), you will not be able to make them up later. Once a module closes, work for that module cannot be submitted. This course is based on the idea that students learn best by being actively involved in the learning process. Thus, you are expected to read the material and be prepared to discuss it with your peers.

Grading

The final grade will be determined by the number of points you earn. It will have the following components:

Component	**Points**
Protocol Points	5
Modules	60
Final Project	20
Final Examination	15
Total	100

In general, grades for each module will appear one week after the module closes. Mistakes can be made while entering the grades, so you are responsible for monitoring your grades and making sure that they are accurate. You have two weeks after the

grades are posted to challenge or request a correction to your grades. After this time, grades become final.

If you wish to challenge your grade you must make an appointment with the professor (either an in-person or phone appointment) and present the evidence to show that your grade is incorrect. Keep in mind that if a review has to be made of your grade, the grade can go up or down depending on the review.

Academic Engagement for Financial Aid Activity

All faculty are required to document students' academic activity at the beginning of each course. In order to document that you began this course, please complete the following academic activity by the end of the first week of classes or as soon as possible after adding the course, but no later than Friday, August 24 (11:59pm). Failure to do so may result in a delay in the disbursement of your financial aid. Please open Module 1 to see what you need to do to complete this requirement.

Protocol Points:

Protocol points are points that are given to you at the beginning of the course and will remain with you as long as you observe and abide by the class protocols and the UCF student code of conduct. In other words, you start off with 5 points and you will only lose some or all of them if you somehow violate any of the protocols set forth in the syllabus.

You can lose protocol points if you do any of the following:

1. Use rude, disrespectful, intimidating or unprofessional language in any communication or discussion assignment in this course.
2. Send me an email without a proper salutation or closing. If you are unsure of how to write an email with the proper salutation and closing, you might want to consult the following site: Email EtiquetteLinks to an external site..
3. Violate the ethics standards set forth by UCF (see the UCF Golden Rule Handbook).
4. Fail to observe the protocols set forth in this syllabus.

Modules

As mentioned above, modules open each Tuesday at 9:00 am and close the following Monday at 11:59 pm. Each module includes several assignments. Typically a module will include a reading assignment, a discussion assignment and short multiple-choice quiz. The quiz will serve as preparation for the exams.

Although you will see 15 modules on the schedule, please note that not all of them are graded.

There are 13 graded modules. Each one is worth 5 points. You are allowed to miss one module without penalty (this is why it says “60” on the Module points total above in the “Grading” table). If, however, you complete all 13 graded modules, then the extra points you earn in this module will count as extra credit. These are the only extra credit points available in this course, since extra credit assignments will not be given.

Final Project

The final class project is worth 20% of the final grade, so it is important that you start thinking about what you would like to do as soon as possible. Recognizing that students have different talents and interests as well as different forms of learning, the final project has been designed to accommodate these differences. Thus, student can choose from various forms of projects: (a) a policy paper focused on a particular issue; (b) a video documentary to be presented to the class in the last week of class; (c) a campaign strategy for a candidate of your choosing. The rubrics for each project will be available on week 7, after I determine the project preferences of the class.

The final project will be a collaborative project which means that it will be graded individually but will require you to collaborate with others. I suggest that groups have no more than 3 people, since the bigger the group is, the harder it is for the group to work together. Instructions on

Please note that you will not pass this course if you do not receive a passing grade in the final project. In other words, you must turn the project in and the topic must be cleared with the professor by the deadline.

Final Examination

There will be one examination in this course: the final exam which will be multiple-choice and cumulative. You must take this exam. Failure to do so will result in a grade of "F" for the entire course. In case of a serious extenuating circumstance that prevents the student from taking the exam the student is responsible for contacting the instructor **before** the examination. In addition, the student is responsible for providing valid and convincing medical documentation. Please note that the form of the makeup examination may be different from that administered to the rest of the class (i.e. It will be in essay form, not multiple-choice).

Please make sure that you have a secure and reliable internet connection when you take the exam. In addition, make sure that you take the exam well before the deadline to avoid being logged out of the exam if you ran over the time limit set for that exam.

As with any other course, I urge you not to fall behind on the readings. Each week we will be covering a lot of new information and if you do not keep up, it can become

overwhelming the day before the exam. In addition, keep in mind that the final examination will be cumulative.

Please take note of the following course stipulations:

- There will be no extra credit assignments.
- Late assignments will not be accepted unless valid medical documentation is presented and only when arrangements have been made before the due date. Make-up assignments will have a different format than those assigned to the rest of the class.
- Make sure to check the “Grades” section in Webcourses often. Please be aware that no grade will be changed 2 weeks after the grade for a particular assignment has been posted.
- If you have a particular concern about a grade received, you need to make an appointment with me and bring specific points which you wish to address. Keep in mind that if you ask me to read the disputed assignment/test again, your grade may go up or down.

- Please do come and see me if you are having trouble understanding a topic or concept. Also, I encourage you to ask questions during class if something is not clear.

Grade Distribution

The grade distribution for the course will be as follows:

Grade Distribution	
Letter Grade	**Points Needed**
A	94 -100
A-	90.0- 93.9
B+	87.0 – 89.9
B	84.0 – 86.9

B-	80.0 - 83.9
C+	77.0 – 79.9
C	74.0 – 76.9
C-	70.0 – 73.9
D+	67.0 – 69.9
D	64.0 – 66.9
D-	61.0 – 63.9
F	0.0 – 60.9

If you wish to challenge your grade you must make an appointment with the professor (either in person or phone) and present the evidence to show that your grade is incorrect. Keep in mind that if a review has to be made of your grade, the grade can go up or down depending on the review.

Grade Dissemination

In general, grades for each assignment will appear one week after the submission deadline. Mistakes can be made while entering the grades, so you are responsible for monitoring your grades and making sure that they are accurate. You have two weeks after the grades are posted to challenge or request a correction to your grades. After this time, grades become final. You can access your scores at any time by logging into your course through Webcourses. Please note that in instances where papers are due, it might take longer than 1 week to receive your scores.

Grades of "Incomplete":

The current university policy concerning incomplete grades will be followed in this course. Incomplete grades are given only in situations where unexpected emergencies prevent a student from completing the course and the remaining work can be completed the next semester. Your instructor is the final authority on whether you qualify for an

incomplete. Incomplete work must be finished by the end of the subsequent semester or the “I” will automatically be recorded as an “F” on your transcript.

Course Policies

Technology and Media

Webcourses: Webcourses is an online course management system (accessed through my.ucf.edu and then the "Online Course Tools" tab) which will be used as a medium for turning in assignments and a forum for communicating with your professor. The Webcourses site will have up-to-date information on topics, class assignments, schedule and so on. In addition, each class module will include useful tools for exam preparation and to add to the material presented in class. My recommendation is to check Webcourses regularly for updates.

Email: In this class our official mode of communication is through email located inside Webcourses. All communication between student and instructor and between student and student should be respectful and professional. This means that emails must begin with an appropriate and professional salutation and closing. Here is a short list of dos and don’tsLinks to an external site.

It is the student's responsibility to check Webcourses frequently. You may also wish to create a Knight's Email account at www.knightsemail.ucf.edu for separate official communication from the university. If for any reason you cannot log into Webcourses, you may use my office email address which is: Annabelle.conroy@ucf.edu. You may also call or come to my office (information provided above).

Academic Integrity

Students should familiarize themselves with UCF’s Rules of Conduct. According to Section 1, "Academic Misconduct," students are prohibited from engaging in:

- *Unauthorized assistance*: Using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information or study aids in any academic exercise unless specifically authorized by the instructor of record. The unauthorized possession of examination or course-related material also constitutes cheating.
- *Communication to another through written, visual, electronic, or oral means*: The presentation of material which has not been studied or learned, but rather was

obtained through someone else's efforts and used as part of an examination, course assignment, or project.

- *Commercial Use of Academic Material*: Selling of course material to another person, student, and/or uploading course material to a third-party vendor without authorization or without the express written permission of the university and the instructor. Course materials include but are not limited to class notes, Instructor's PowerPoints, course syllabi, tests, quizzes, labs, instruction sheets, homework, study guides, handouts, etc.
- *Falsifying or misrepresenting* the student's own academic work.
- *Plagiarism*: Using or appropriating another's work without any indication of the source, thereby attempting to convey the impression that such work is the student's own.
- *Multiple Submissions*: Submitting the same academic work for credit more than once without the express written permission of the instructor.
- *Helping another violate* academic behavior standards.
- Paraphrasing another student's discussion postings without referencing them and trying to pass it off as your own work.

For more information about Academic Integrity, students may consult The Center for Academic Integrity Links to an external site.
For more information about plagiarism and misuse of sources, see "Defining and Avoiding Plagiarism: The WPA Statement on Best Practices (Links to an external site.)Links to an external site.

Responses to Academic Dishonesty, Plagiarism, or Cheating

Students should also familiarize themselves with the procedures for academic misconduct in UCF's student handbook, The Golden Rule. UCF faculty members have a responsibility for students' education and the value of a UCF degree, and so seek to prevent unethical behavior and when necessary respond to academic misconduct. Penalties can include a failing grade in an assignment or in the course, suspension or expulsion from the university, and/or a "Z Designation" on a student's official transcript indicating academic dishonesty, where the final grade for this course will be preceded by the letter Z. For more information about the Z Designation, see http://goldenrule.sdes.ucf.edu/zgrade.

In this class, the first incident of cheating will result in a "0" for that particular assignment and an "F" in the course for a second incident.

Course Accessibility Statement

The University of Central Florida is committed to providing access and inclusion for all persons with disabilities. Students with disabilities who need disability-related access in this course should contact the professor as soon as possible. Students should also connect with Student Accessibility Services (Ferrell Commons 185, sas@ucf.edu, phone (407) 823-2371). Through Student Accessibility Services, a Course Accessibility

Letter may be created and sent to professors, which informs faculty of potential access and accommodations that might be reasonable.Determining reasonable access and accommodations requires consideration of the course design, course learning objectives and the individual academic and course barriers experienced by the student.

Campus Safety Statement

Emergencies on campus are rare, but if one should arise in our class, everyone needs to work together. Students should be aware of the surroundings and familiar with some basic safety and security concepts.

- In case of an emergency, dial 911 for assistance.
- Every UCF classroom contains an emergency procedure guide posted on a wall near the door. Please make a note of the guide's physical location and consider reviewing the online version at http://emergency.ucf.edu/emergency_guide.html.
- Students should know the evacuation routes from each of their classrooms and have a plan for finding safety in case of an emergency.
- If there is a medical emergency during class, we may need to access a first aid kit or AED (Automated External Defibrillator). To learn where those items are located in this building, see http://www.ehs.ucf.edu/workplacesafety.html (click on link from menu on left).
- To stay informed about emergency situations, sign up to receive UCF text alerts by going to my.ucf.edu and logging in. Click on "Student Self Service" located on the left side of the screen in the tool bar, scroll down to the blue "Personal Information" heading on your Student Center screen, click on "UCF Alert," fill out the information, including your e-mail address, cell phone number, and cell phone provider, click "Apply" to save the changes, and then click "OK."
- Students with special needs related to emergency situations should speak with their instructors outside of class.
- To learn about how to manage an active-shooter situation on campus or elsewhere, consider viewing this video.

You CAN Survive an Active Shooter (Links to an external site.)Links to an external site.

Deployed Active Duty Military Students

If you are a deployed active duty military student and feel that you may need a special accommodation due to that unique status, please contact your instructor to discuss your circumstances.

Copyright

This course may contain copyright protected materials such as audio or video clips, images, text materials, etc. These items are being used with regard to the Fair Use doctrine in order to enhance the learning environment. Please do not copy, duplicate, download or distribute these items. The use of these materials is strictly reserved for this online classroom environment and your use only. All copyright materials are credited to the copyright holder.

Third-Party Software and FERPA

During this course you might have the opportunity to use public online services and/or software applications sometimes called third-party software such as a blog or wiki. While some of these could be required assignments, you need not make any personally identifying information on a public site. Do not post or provide any private information about yourself or your classmates. Where appropriate you may use a pseudonym or nickname. Some written assignments posted publicly may require personal reflection/comments, but the assignments will not require you to disclose any personally identity-sensitive information. If you have any concerns about this, please contact your instructor.

Make sure you read the syllabus in its entirety before proceeding with the course. By proceeding with the course, you are implicitly agreeing to be bound by all the conditions set forth in the syllabus.

Course Schedule

Date	Topic	Assignments/Notes
Part I: Introduction		
Week 1: Aug. 20	Introduction: Latinos and US Politics	Module 1
Week 2: Aug. 27	Latina/o Participation: Individual Activity and Institutional Context	Module 2
Part II: Latino Subgroups		
Week 3: Sept. 3	Mexican Americans: Conquest: Migration, and Adaptation	Module 3 Monday: Labor Day
Week 4: Sept. 10	Puerto Ricans: From Colonized People to Political Activists	Module 4
Week 5: Sept.17	Cuban Americans: Occupation, Revolution, and Exile Politics	Module 5
Week 6: Sept. 24	Central Americans: Inequality, War, and Solidarity	Module 6

Week 7: Oct. 1	Latino Migration and Mobilization	Module 7
Part III: Political Context		
Week 8: Oct. 8	Electoral Opportunities and Constraints	Module 8
Week 9: Oct. 15	Latinos at the Polls	Module 9
Part IV: Policy Issues		
Week 10: Oct. 22	Immigration	Module 10 Note: Friday, Oct 26: Withdrawal deadline
Week 11: Oct. 29	The Dreamers Issue	Module 11
Week 12: Nov. 5	Barriers to Incorporation: Discrimination, Inequality and Labor Insecurity	Module 12
Week 13: Nov. 12	Project Design	Module 13 Monday: Veterans Day
Week 14: Nov. 19	Project Research	Module 14 Thanksgiving Break: Nov.24-26
Week 15: Nov. 26	Project Write-up	Module 15 **Final Project Due: Monday, Dec. 3, 11:59pm**

Week 16: Dec. 3		**Final Exam:** **Monday, Dec. 3, 9:00 am – Saturday, Dec. 8**