POS4074– 0W60 Latino Politics

School of Politics, Security, and International Affairs

College of Sciences, University of Central Florida

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Instructor Information

- Instructor: Annabelle Conroy
- Office Location: HPH 302
- Office Hours (all times are EDT - Orlando time). Regular office hours will be held through Zoom and the link is provided below. For these office hours, you do not need an appointment. Just "join" the Zoom session at any point during that period by clicking on the link. If you wish to meet at a different time, send me a message through Webcourses to arrange a meeting.
    - **Dr. Conroy's Office Hours:**
        - **Tuesdays: 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM / Office: HPH 302 or Zoom Meeting ID: 931 4117 7980**
        - **Wednesdays: 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM / Office: HPH 302 or Zoom Meeting ID: 961 1883 6313**
        - **By appointment (contact me by Webcourses email to arrange a meeting time)**

- Phone: 407-823-2608
- Digital Contact: Please use Webcourses@UCF messaging

Course Information

- Term: Fall 2021
- Course Number & Section: POS4074.0W60
- Course Name: Latino Politics
- Credit Hours: 3
- Class Meeting Days: N/A
- Class Meeting Time: N/A
- Class Location: N/A
- Course Modality: W

Enrollment Requirements

Course Prerequisites (if applicable): POS2041
Course Co-requisites (if applicable): None
Other Enrollment Requirements (if applicable): N/A

Course Description

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 phenomena such as voting patterns, public policy issues, and the success and failure of political demands advocated by the Latino community.

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
4. are able to work independently, which means, among other things that you are able to read, understand and follow written instructions
5. 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.

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 the first day of class (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.

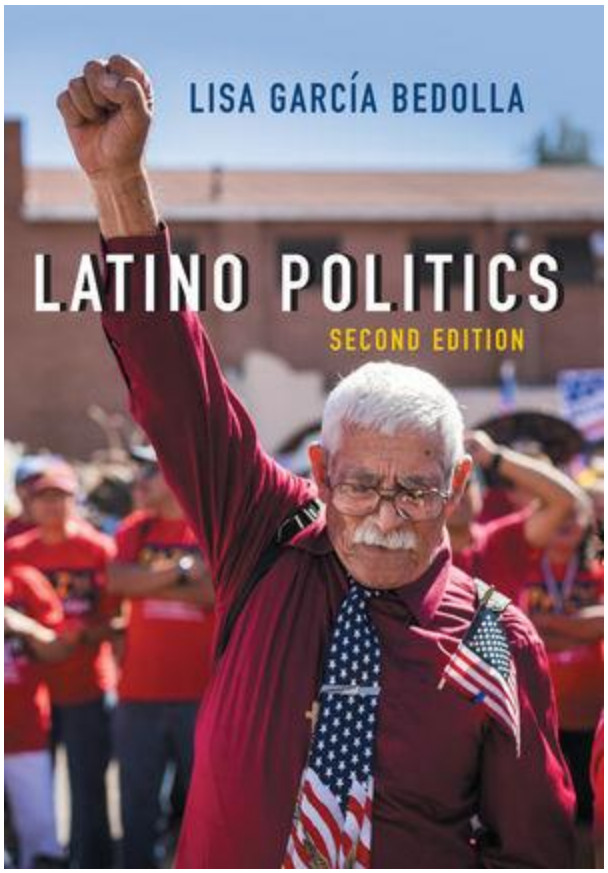
Online learning is not for everyone; some people may not be able to manage a course that does not meet face to face. For this reason, it is extremely important that you read and understand the syllabus and make sure that you will be able to comply with the terms set forth in this document.

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 as 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.

Course Materials and Resources

Required Materials/Resources

García Bedolla, Lisa (2015): *Latino Politics.* Second Edition. Malden, MA: Polity. ISBN: 978-0-745-68642-4 ***This book is available for free electronically via the Library.*** Click on the link or the image below to access the book. Students will have unlimited simultaneous access. If you wish to download the full book instead of reading it online, you will be asked to login with your NID. Downloading and printing is limited to 126 pages per day. However, if you would rather have the actual hard copy textbook, it is also available for purchase at the UCF Bookstore .



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.

Student Learning Outcomes

The main objectives of this course are:

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

By the end of the course students will:

- Identify the various subgroups within the Latino community.
- Analyze and explain the similarities and differences between and within the Latino subgroups
- Examine and analyze the impact of specific policy issues on the Latino population
- Identify the factors that affect Latinx political participation

Course Activities

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, January 10 (11:59 pm). 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.

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 writing assignment, and a short multiple-choice quiz. The quiz will serve as preparation for the final exam.

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 25% 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, students can choose from various forms of projects: (a) a policy paper focused on a particular issue; (b) a video documentary ; (c) a campaign strategy for a candidate of your choosing; (d) a podcast. The rubrics for each project will be available on week 9, 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.

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 that 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.

Activity Submissions

Since this is a W class, all assignments should be turned in electronically through the Webcourses site. Instructions for each assignment will be provided in the respective modules.

Make-up Exams and Assignments

Since this is an online class and you have one week to complete the modules, deadlines will generally not be extended or make-up assignments offered. However, per university policy, you are allowed to submit make-up work (or an equivalent, alternate assignment) for authorized university-sponsored activities, religious observances, or legal obligations (such as jury duty). If this participation conflicts with your course assignments, I will offer a reasonable opportunity for you to complete missed assignments and/or exams. The make-up assignment and grading scale will be equivalent to the missed assignment and its grading scale. In the case of an authorized university activity, it is your responsibility to show me a signed copy of the Program Verification Form for which you will be absent, prior to the class in which the absence occurs. In any of these cases, please contact me ahead of time to notify me of upcoming needs.

Assessment and Grading Procedures

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

Component	Points
Modules	60
Final Project	30
Final Examination	10
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.

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.

Consult the latest Undergraduate or Graduate catalog for regulations and procedures regarding grading such as Incomplete grades, grade changes, and grade forgiveness.

Course Schedule

Week/Dates	Topic	Assignments	Due Dates
Week 1 / Aug. 23	Introduction to the course	Week 1 Module	Aug. 27 at 11:59pm EST
Week 2 / Aug. 30	Latina/o Participation: Individual Activity and Institutional Context	Week 2 Module	Sep. 6 at 11:59 PM
Week 3 / Sep. 6	The Mexican American Experience	Week 3 Module	Sep. 13 at 11:59 PM
Week 4 / Sep. 13	The Puerto Rican Experience	Week 4 Module	Sep. 20 at 11:59 PM
Week 5 / Sep. 20	The Cuban American Experience	Week 5 Module	Sep. 27 at 11:59 PM
Week 6 / Sep. 27	Central Americans	Week 6 Module	Oct. 4 at 11:59 PM
Week 7 / Oct. 4	The "Other" Category	Week 7 Module	Oct. 11 at 11:59 PM
Week 8 / Oct. 11	Electoral Opportunities and Constraints	Week 8 Module	Oct. 18 at 11:59 PM
Week 9 / Oct. 18	Latinos at the Polls	Week 9 Module	Oct. 25 at 11:59 PM
Week 10 / Oct. 25	Immigration	Week 11 Module	Nov. 1 at 11:59 PM
Week 11 / Nov. 1	The Dreamers Issue	Week 12 Module	Nov. 8 at 11:59 PM

Week 12 / Nov. 8	Barriers to Incorporation: Discrimination, Inequality and Labor Insecurity	Week 13 Module	Nov. 15at 11:59 PM
Week 13 / Nov. 15	Immigration and the Issue of Gangs	Week 14 Module	Nov. 22 at 11:59 PM
Week 14 / Nov. 22	Final Project / Thanksgiving Week	Week 14 Module	Nov. 29 at 11:59 PM
Week 15 / Nov. 29	Final Project	Week 15 Module	Dec. 6 at 11:59 PM
Week 16 / Dec. 6	Final Exam Week	Final Examination	Dec. 10, 11:59 PM

University Services and Resources

Academic Services and Resources

A list of available academic support and learning services is available at UCF Student Services. Click on "Academic Support and Learning Services" on the right-hand side to filter.

Non-Academic Services and Resources

A list of non-academic support and services is also available at UCF Student Services. Click on "Support" on the right-hand side to filter.

If you are a UCF Online student, please consult the UCF Online Student Guidelines for more information about your access to non-academic services.

Policy Statements

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.

For more information about Academic Integrity, students may consult The Center for Academic Integrity.

For more information about plagiarism and misuse of sources, see "Defining and Avoiding Plagiarism: The WPA Statement on Best Practices".

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.

Course Accessibility Statement

The University of Central Florida is committed to providing access and inclusion for all persons with disabilities. This syllabus is available in alternate formats upon request. Students with disabilities who need specific access in this course, such as accommodations, should contact the professor as soon as possible to discuss various access options. Students should also connect with Student Accessibility Services (Ferrell Commons, 7F, Room 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.

Campus Safety Statement

Fully online course sections (W, V)

Though most emergency situations are primarily relevant to courses that meet in person, such incidents can also impact online students, either when they are on or near campus to participate in other courses or activities or when their course work is affected by off-campus emergencies. The following policies apply to courses in online modalities.

- To stay informed about emergency situations, students can sign up to receive UCF text alerts by going to <https://my.ucf.eduLinks to an external site.> and logging in. Click on "Student Self Service" located on the left side of the screen in the toolbar, scroll down to the blue "Personal Information" heading on the Student Center screen, click on "UCF Alert", fill out the information, including 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.

Deployed Active Duty Military Students

Students who are deployed active duty military and/or National Guard personnel and require accommodation should contact their instructors as soon as possible after the semester begins and/or after they receive notification of deployment to make related arrangements.

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.

Please make sure that you read the syllabus in its entirety (all the sections above) 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.