POS 4074 - Latino Politics

Section: 0001

College of Sciences

School of Politics, Security, and Intl Affairs

Course Information

Term: Spring 2026
Class Meeting Days: MW
Class Meeting Time: 01:30PM - 02:45PM
Class Meeting Location: MSB 0360
Modality: P
Credit Hours: 3.00

Instructor Information

Name: Dr. Annabelle Conroy
Title: SPSIA Undergraduate Coordinator
Office Location: HPH 302 H
Office Hours
Mondays: 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Wednesdays: 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM

Or by appointment (Contact me via Webcourses to arrange a meeting time)

Email: Use the Webcourses Inbox to contact me

Office Hours

Mondays: 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Wednesdays: 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM

Or by appointment (Contact me via Webcourses to arrange a meeting time)

Course Description

POS 4074 COS-POLS 3(3,0)Latino Politics: PR: POS 2041 or C.I. Political characteristics of the Latino community in the United States and its impact on U.S. national and international politics and policies. Occasional.

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.

POS4074 Latino Politics 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. 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.

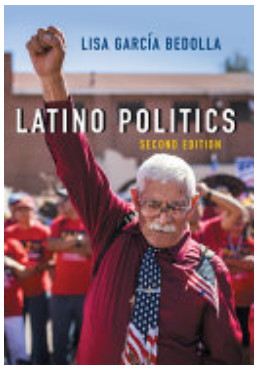
Due to the large scope of the class, reading/viewing materials will come from a variety of sources in addition to the main textbooks. However, all the materials for this course, including the main textbooks, are available completely free of charge. The links for these materials will be included in each module. As a result, this course has received the Affordability Counts Medallion.

Student Learning Outcomes

After successful completion of this course, students will learn to:

- 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.
- Evaluate the different strategies used by Latino subgroups to advance their interests.
- Identify and evaluate the structural barriers to greater political representation.

Required Course Materials and Resources



Latino Politics
ISBN: 9780745686424
Authors: Lisa García Bedolla
Publisher: John Wiley & Sons
Publication Date: 2015-05-19
Edition: Second

Course Assessment and Grading Procedure

Course Grading Summary

Item	% of Grade
Classwork	20
Presentations (3)	15
Exams (3)	45
Final Project	20
Total	**100**

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 academic activity indicated in the Week 1 Module by the end of the first week of classes or as soon as possible after adding the course, but no later than Friday of the first week of class (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.

Classwork (20%)

Modules list and describe the topic(s) and the assignments for each week. Modules will open on Monday of each week at 9:00 AM. The classwork assignments will generally be based on questions derived from the week's topic. This classwork will also serve as preparation for the exams. In order to do well in these class assignments, it is important that you complete all the work assigned in each week's module. This requires you to be very disciplined and organized.

Since each module will have a set of activities you need to complete, a good strategy is to log into the course as soon as it opens to see what is required for that week. This will

enable you to plan and prepare for the class activities and assignments. If you have to miss a module due to illness you need to inform the instructor as soon as possible to arrange for an alternative assessment. There are 22 graded assignments, and the two lowest scores will be dropped. So, you are allowed to miss two assignments without any penalty.

Please keep in mind that if you miss 5 or more classes *for any reason* without a valid excuse and/or discussing this with your professor, you will fail the class. Thus, please make sure that you keep up with the readings and assignments.

Presentations (15%)

In Week 2, you will receive a list of topics to choose from for your presentations. You are required to complete at least 3 presentations during the semester. Each presentation is worth 5% of your final grade.

Presentations will be related to the topic covered that week. Detailed instructions will be provided in each module. Each presentation should be 10–15 minutes long.

Examinations (45%)

There will be four examinations in this course - three midterms and a final exam, each worth 15%. The final examination will be cumulative but is optional. Although there will be 4 exams, the lowest score will be dropped. Thus, only the highest 3 exam scores will count. So, if you are satisfied with your grade in the first 3 exams, you do not need to take the Final Exam. Please refer to the respective modules for instructions regarding the exams.

Collaborative Final Project (20%)

The final project will allow you to explore a particular topic within the class subject matter. 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. The final project will have individually grade components as well as a grade for the final deliverable.

Grading Scale

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

Policies for Course Grade

Makeup Work Policy

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 any of the exams, I will offer a reasonable opportunity for you to complete missed exams. The make-up

exams and grading scale will be equivalent to the missed assignment and its grading scale, but its format may be different.

Other than the situations listed above, makeup assignments will not be available since the lowest grades will be dropped, thus allowing to miss some assignments without penalty.

Attendance

Attendance is expected since this is a F2F class. If you miss 5 or more classes for any reason without a valid excuse and/or discussing this with your professor, you will fail the class. Thus, please make sure that you keep up with the readings and assignments.

Academic Integrity

As indicated below, academic integrity is very important in this class. As a result, a violation of the will be penalized in the first instance by a warning and a zero for the assignment. Should a second incident arise, the case will be reported to the Student Conduct and Integrity Office and may result in a Z designation on your student record.

Errors/Grade Omissions

Generally, grades will be posted approximately one week after the due date (although this will depend on the final number of students enrolled). Students should make sure to review the grades posted to make sure they are accurate. If there has been an error, it is the student's responsibility to contact the professor with the exact details of the mistake/omission. ***Three days after the grades have been posted, the grade becomes final***, even if there was a mistake or omission. **Grades will not be changed after that time.**

If you wish to challenge a grade you must follow these steps:

1. Inform the professor by Webcourses mail of the mistake/omission in the published grade **no later than 3 days** after the grade has been posted. Explain in detail what the mistake was.
2. Make an appointment to go over the disputed assignment.
3. Keep in mind that if there is a review of the assignment, the grade may go up, but it may also go down if the instructor discovers any oversights in the grading.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Use Policy

Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI) is governed on an assignment-by-assignment basis. For each assignment, you must carefully review the instructions to determine whether AI-generated content is permitted. In some cases, you may be permitted (though not required) to use GenAI. When using GenAI, you must disclose specifically where and how it was used in the process of completing the assignment. Unless explicitly allowed, all components of your work must be fully prepared by you. It should also be cited. For example, text generated from Copilot should include a citation such as: “Copilot. Accessed 2023-12-03. Prompt: ‘Summarize the Geneva Convention in 50 words.’ Generated using Copilot.” Any attempt to represent GenAI output inappropriately as your own work will be treated as plagiarism. Ultimately, students are responsible for the accuracy and veracity of submitted work whether AI-generated or not.

Disability Access & Accommodations

The University of Central Florida is committed to providing equal access to all students with disabilities (ADHD, learning disabilities, Autism, chronic medical conditions, physical disabilities, etc.). To receive consideration for reasonable disability-related course accommodations, disabled students must contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) and complete the steps required for SAS to review accommodation requests. More information can be found on the UCF Student Accessibility Services website under the Start Here tab or by contacting SAS directly (Ferrell Commons 185; sas@ucf.edu; Phone - 407-823-2371).

Approved accommodations are shared with course instructors via the SAS Course Accessibility Letter. Implementing certain accommodations may require discussion about specific considerations of the course design, course learning objectives, and the individual academic and course challenges experienced by the student. While students with disabilities or chronic health needs are also encouraged to discuss any course concerns with professors in addition to contacting SAS, professors are not required to facilitate disability-related adjustments to the course unless the professor has received a Course Accessibility Letter from SAS that outlines approved accommodations.

Academic Integrity

Students should familiarize themselves with UCF's Code of Conduct at Student Conduct and Integrity Office. According to Section 1, "Academic Misconduct," students are prohibited from engaging in:

1. Academic misconduct is defined as any submitted work or behavior that obstructs the instructor of record's ability to accurately assess the student's understanding or completion of course materials or degree requirements (e.g., assignment, quiz, and/or exam). Examples of academic misconduct include but are not limited to: plagiarism, unauthorized assistance to complete an academic exercise; unauthorized communication with others during an examination, course assessment, or project; falsifying or misrepresenting academic work; providing misleading information to create a personal advantage to complete course/degree requirements; or multiple submission(s) of academic work without permission of the instructor of record.
2. Any student who knowingly helps another violate academic behavior standards is also in violation of the standards.
3. Commercial Use of Academic Material. Selling of course material to another person and/or uploading course material to a third-party vendor without authorization or without the express permission of the University and the instructor of record. Course materials include but are not limited to class notes, the instructor of record's slide deck, tests, quizzes, labs, instruction sheets, homework, study guides, and handouts.
4. Soliciting assistance with academic coursework and/or degree requirements. The solicitation of assistance with an assignment, lab, quiz, test, paper, etc., without authorization of the instructor of record or designee is prohibited. This includes but is not limited to asking for answers to a quiz, trading answers, or offering to pay another to complete an assignment. It is considered Academic Misconduct to solicit assistance with academic coursework and/or degree requirements, even if the solicitation did not yield actual assistance (for example, if there was no response to the solicitation).

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 respond to academic misconduct when necessary. Penalties for violating rules, policies, and instructions within this course can range from a zero on the exercise to an "F" letter grade in the course. In addition, an Academic Misconduct report could be filed with the Office of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity, which could lead to disciplinary warning, disciplinary probation, or deferred suspension or separation from the University through suspension, dismissal, or expulsion with the addition of a "Z" designated on one's transcript.

Being found in violation of academic conduct standards could result in a student having to disclose such behavior on a graduate school application, being removed from a leadership position within a student organization, the recipient of scholarships, participation in University activities such as study abroad, internships, etc.

Let's avoid all of this by demonstrating values of honesty, trust, and integrity. No grade is worth compromising your integrity and moving your moral compass. Stay true to doing the right thing: take the zero, not a shortcut.

Title IX

Title IX prohibits sex discrimination, including sexual misconduct, sexual violence, sexual harassment, and retaliation. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you can find resources available to support the victim, including confidential resources and information concerning reporting options at Let's Be Clear and UCF Cares.

For more information on access and community engagement, Title IX, accessibility, or UCF's complaint processes contact:

- Title IX – ONAC – Office of Nondiscrimination & Accommodations Compliance & askanadvocate@ucf.edu
- Disability Accommodation – Student Accessibility Services – Student Accessibility Services & sas@ucf.edu
- Access and Community Engagement (including the Ginsberg Center for Inclusion and Community Engagement, Military and Veteran Student Success, and HSI Initiatives)

- UCF Compliance and Ethics Office – Compliance, Ethics, and Risk Office & complianceandethics@ucf.edu
- The Ombuds Office is a safe place to discuss concerns.

Reporting an Incident or Issue

If you believe you have experienced discrimination by any faculty or staff member, contact the Office of Nondiscrimination & Accommodations Compliance via the ONAC website or at 407-823-1336. You can also choose to report using the UCF Integrity Line either anonymously or as yourself at 1-855-877-6049 or by using the online form. UCF cares about you and takes every report seriously. For more information see the Reporting an Incident or Issue Webpage.

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 arrangements.

Campus Safety

At UCF's Public Safety and Police, safety is the top priority. Emergencies on campus are rare, but if one should arise, it's important to be familiar with some basic safety and security concepts.

- In an emergency, always dial 911.
- Every UCF Classroom has an Emergency Procedure Guide posted on a wall near the door, which will show you how to respond to a variety of situations. This guide can also be found online here.
- In the event of an active threat, remember **AVOID, DENY, DEFEND**. Choose the best course of action and act immediately. Watch the video here to learn more.
    - **AVOID**. Pay attention to your surroundings and have an exit plan. Get as much distance and as many barriers between you and the threat as quickly

as possible.

  - **DENY**. When avoiding is difficult or impossible, deny the threat access to you and your space. Lockdown by creating barriers, turning the lights off and remaining quiet and out of sight. Make sure your phone is silenced, but do not turn it off.
  - **DEFEND**. When you are unable to put distance between yourself and the threat, be prepared to protect yourself. Commit to your actions, be aggressive and do not fight fairly. Do whatever it takes to survive.
- For emergencies on campus, UCF will utilize the UCF Alert system. All UCF students, faculty, and staff are automatically enrolled to receive these email and text alerts, however, it's a good idea to frequently ensure your contact information is up to date.

Financial Aid Accountability

All instructors are required to document students' academic activity at the beginning of each course. In order to document that you began this course, please complete this activity by the end of the first week of classes or as soon as possible after adding the course. Failure to do so may result in a delay in the disbursement of your financial aid.

Class Schedule

Week	Topic
1	Introduction: Latinos and US Politics
2	Mexican Americans: Conquest: Migration, and Adaptation
3	Puerto Ricans: From Colonized People to Political Activists
4	Cuban Americans: Occupation, Revolution, and Exile Politics
5	Review and First Exam
6	Central Americans: Inequality, War, and Solidarity
7	Recent Migration Trends
8	Latino Migration and Mobilization
9	Review and Second Exam
10	SPRING BREAK

11	Electoral Opportunities and Constraints
12	Latinos at the Polls
13	Review and Third Exam
14	Final Project
15	Final Project
16	Project Presentations and Final Exam Week