



FLACSO
ARGENTINA

Facultad
Latinoamericana de
Ciencias Sociales.
Sede Argentina.

Área Estudios
Latinoamericanos.

Program offering course	Sociocultural Studies of Latin America
Course name	SOCIAL MOVEMENTS AND HUMAN RIGHTS IN LATIN AMERICA
Course code	HURI305/SEM
Areas of interest	Sociology, Political Science, Communication, Philosophy, Anthropology, Literature, History, Gender Studies, Intercultural Studies, Social Communication, Health, International Relations, Sustainability and Development.

Programs offering course	Sociocultural Studies of Latin America
Language of instruction	English/Spanish
U.S. Semester Credits	3
Contact Hours	45
Term	Spring 2020
Course meeting times	TBD
Course meeting place	FLACSO Argentina
Professor	Daniel Giorgetti
Contact Information	adelastudyabroad@flacso.org.ar
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Office hours	TBD



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Course Description

This course provides an approach to Human rights in Latin America, to the consolidation of social movements and to the main challenges that they face at present

Social Movements in Latin America are currently a space for the promotion and defense of Human Rights. At the same time, several social rights leaders have been killed in the region, which makes the situation more complex. Social Movements put into practice the International Human Rights conception and propose a regional thinking that reviews and enriches it.

This course will allow students to understand Latin American conceptions of rights and development, within the International System. It will also delve into the origin and role of Social Movements in the region and their struggle for the defense of Human Rights. Also, it will address a Human Rights agenda for Latin America, dealing with issues of land rights, poverty, labor, environment, ethnicity, gender and quality of life.

Selected bibliography, class discussion and case studies from Latin America and Argentina will be included. The course will incorporate site visits and interviews with leaders.

Students Learning Outcomes

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- Analyze the process followed by Social Movements in Latin America and their role in the defense of Human Rights and Democracy.
- Identify the application of main concepts and principles from the International Human Rights System in the Latin American context, taking into consideration its historical circumstances
- Assess the role of Social Movements in Argentina and Latin America in relation with public policies in recent decades
- Identify present challenges for Human Rights in Latin America regarding the environment, land rights, labor, citizenship, gender, sexuality and quality of life
- Consider the experience of interacting with other cultures related to activism and academic studies related to Social Movements and Human Rights.
- Analyze Development theories oriented to the full respect of Human Rights and the pursuit of "good living" (buen vivir/sumak kawsay) and justice





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Course Prerequisites:

None

Course Structure

Class Dynamics

Classes will comprise students individual and group work, as well as class discussions and presentations by the Instructor. Concepts will be developed through videos, research in the media, PowerPoint presentations and printed documents. Popular songs and newspaper clippings will be used as learning materials as well.

Students will carry out fieldwork, aimed at the production of class discussion materials and the elaboration of a Final paper. Discussion groups will be formed in order to deal with textual materials, both from academic literature and written media, following the professor's instructions.

Individual academic papers will be the result of the analysis of a course topic chosen by each student, prepared both at home and in a class workshop.

Each class will be closed by asking students for questions and suggestions and a 5-minute exposition with conclusions from the instructor.

Assessment and Final Grade

Participation	20%
Field work and presentation	15%
Review on bibliography	10%
Written conceptual test	25%
Final Paper	30%

Course Requirements

- Class participation through group discussion, debate on readings and class activities. Graded according to percentage of interventions to total opportunities offered and fulfilling assignments





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- Field work presentation graded according to the relevance of the issues considered, method and quality of analysis
- Review on selected readings according to adequate comprehension and correct presentation
- Written test
- Final paper on a subject selected by each student developed through individual research and case analysis.

Weekly Schedule

WEEK 1 INTRODUCTION: LATIN AMERICA, SOCIAL MOVEMENTS IN DEFENSE OF HUMAN RIGHTS

General view of the three conceptual axes. Course presentation, including goals, activities and evaluation. Class conversation about expectations and personal involvement in the subject of the course.

Video projection. Power point presentation and individual work.

WEEK 2. OVERVIEW OF SOCIAL MOVEMENTS

Civil Society, NGOs and Movements. Main aspects of Social Movements today. Theories and concepts. European and American approaches. Specific aspects of Latin American Social Movements.

Case study in groups. Journal Review.

Reading: Escobar & Alvarez (1992)

WEEK 3 INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS SYSTEM



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Concepts related with a Human Rights view. Universal Declaration of Human Rights. International Covenants. Courts and Tribunals. Interamerican System. Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. Human Rights in UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Video projection and questions over readings. Class dialogue. Case studies.

Reading: Nault and England (2011)

WEEK 4 HUMAN RIGHTS AND DEVELOPMENT PERSPECTIVE FROM LATIN AMERICA

Global South thinking and Latin American perspective. Solidarity, Development and Human Rights. Role of Social Movements and relation with poverty and social issues.

Work with documents. Groups and class debate. Video projection.

Reading: ECLAC - UN, (2007) De Souza Santos (1999)

WEEK 5 HUMAN RIGHTS IN LATIN AMERICA: A HISTORICAL VIEW I

Latin American "solidarity" and human rights. Conquest, domination and dependence. Colonialism. Indigenous people and Afrodescendants . The question of "the other".

Video projection. History through popular music. Class debate.

Reading: Todorov (1987).

WEEK 6. HUMAN RIGHTS IN LATIN AMERICA: A HISTORICAL VIEW II

XXth Century. Populism and economic independence. The influence of the Cold War and the Doctrine of National Security. Armed forces and dictatorships. Human Rights in the 60s and 70s. The cases of Chile, Uruguay, Brazil and Argentina and the "Plan Condor".

Powerpoint presentation, video projection. Case studies.

Reading: Tapia Valdes (1980), Bethell (1984)

WEEK 7. ARGENTINA: RESISTANCE TO DICTATORSHIP AND THE HUMAN RIGHTS MOVEMENT

Overview of Argentina and its history. Main aspects of the 1976-1983 Dictatorship. The "Madres de Plaza de Mayo" and human rights organizations in Argentina. Human





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Rights as a state policy. Trial of civilian and economic corporations in cases of human rights violations.

Students presentations based on selected bibliography. Class debate.

Reading: Koepsel, R. (2011) Bayer, Boron y Gambina (2010)

WEEK 8 POVERTY AND EXCLUSION IN LATIN AMERICA DURING THE 1990S

Neoliberalism in the region: economic and political aspects. Social impact. The defense of the rights of identity, autonomy and social justice in state projects. Rise and consolidation of "new social movements".

Interview with a Human Rights leader.

WEEK 9. WRITTEN TEST

WEEK 10. OUTDOORS ACTIVITY

Visit to "Espacio de la Memoria" (former ESMA).

WEEK 11 TOWARDS A HUMAN RIGHTS AGENDA: LAND, HABITAT AND WORK

Land and Labor in Latin America. The MST (Landless Workers Movement) of Brazil. Right to work. Situation of the labor movement in Latin America. Movements of unemployed people and organizations in Argentina: "Piqueteros" and Recovered Factories.

Students will share case analysis through selected readings and movies.

Reading: De la Garza Toledo (2005).

WEEK 12. CULTURE, BIODIVERSITY AND THE RIGHT TO "GOOD LIVING"

Indigenous movement and current discussions. The situation of Afrodescendants and their culture. Discrimination, interculturality and integration. Defense of the right of peoples identity, autonomy and social justice. Development from a Latin American perspective. The right to "good living" ("buen vivir/sumak kawsay"), experiences in Ecuador and Bolivia.

Students presentations on the subject. Video projection and group discussion.

Reading: Acosta y Martínez (2009).





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WEEK 13. RIGHTS RELATED TO BODY, GENDER AND SEXUALITY

Body, gender and sexuality main concepts. Organization and movements in Latin America. Feminism. Women's movements in Latin America and Argentina. The experience of "Ni una menos". LGTBIQ. Laws and current situation in Argentina.

Students selected presentations on the subject. Video projection and group discussion.

Readings: Segato (2016) Allouch, Butler et. Al. (2000)

WEEK 14. WORKSHOP ON FINAL PAPER DRAFTS

Students share their drafts and receive comments from other students and the Instructor.

WEEK 15. FINAL PAPER PRESENTATION

Individual presentation based on Final Paper using Powerpoint and media resources. General discussion and conclusions. Final comments about the course.

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Course Materials



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General readings on the subject

Abuelas de Plaza de Mayo. El papel del sistema de justicia frente a violaciones masivas a los derechos humanos problemáticas actuales. Buenos Aires, 2008.

Acosta A and Martínez E (eds), (2009) El Buen Vivir. Una vía para el desarrollo, Quito: Abya Yala,

Allouch, Butler, Levi Strauss et. Al. (2000) Grafías de Eros. Historia, género e identidades sexuales. Buenos Aires, EDELP (Ediciones de la École Lacanienne de Psychanalyse).

Bayer, Osvaldo; Borón, Atilio y Gambina, Julio. (2010) El Terrorismo de Estado en la Argentina. Apuntes sobre su Historia y sus Consecuencias. Instituto Espacio Memoria, Buenos Aires.

Bethell, L. (1984). The Cambridge History of Latin America. Cambridge Univ Press. Vol 12.

Bustamante, Javier. Hacia la cuarta generación de Derechos Humanos: repensando la condición humana en la sociedad tecnológica. En OEI Revista de ciencia tecnología sociedad e innovación. Número 1, Dic. 2001.

Castel, R. (1997) La metamorfosis de la cuestión social, Buenos Aires Paidós,
Comisión Nacional sobre la desaparición de personas CONADEP. Nunca Más. EUDEBA, 1984.

De la Garza Toledo, Enrique (compilador) 2005. Sindicatos y nuevos movimientos sociales en América Latina, Buenos Aires, CLACSO.

Eckstein, Susan. Editora (1989) Power and popular protest: Latin American social movements. Berkeley, University of California Press.

ECLAC - UN, (2007) Social cohesion: inclusion and a sense of belonging in Latin America and the Caribbean. Santiago de Chile, UN.

Escobar, Arturo y Alvarez, Sonia, eds (1992) New social movements in Latin America: Identity, Strategy, and Democracy. Boulder, CO. Westview Press.

Koepsel, R. (2011) "Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo: First Responders for Human Rights". Case-Specific Briefing Paper Humanitarian Assistance in Complex Emergencies University of Denver
<https://www.du.edu/korbel/criic/humanitarianbriefs/rachelkoepsel.pdf>

López Maya Margarita, Editora (1999). Lucha popular, democracia, neoliberalismo: Protesta Popular en América Latina en los Años del Ajuste. Caracas, Nueva Visión.

Mignolo, Walter (2008) "La opción de-colonial: desprendimiento y apertura. Un manifiesto y un caso". En Revista Tábula Rasa. No.8. Bogotá, enero-junio 2008





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- Naishtat F y Schuster F, compiladores (2005) Tomar la palabra: Estudios sobre protesta social y acción colectiva en Argentina contemporánea, Buenos Aires, Prometeo.
- Nault, D. and England, S. (2011) Globalization and Human Rights in the Developing World. Palgrave Macmillan
- Pecheny, M.; Figari, C y Jones, D. (2008) Todo sexo es político. Estudio sobre sexualidades en Argentina. Libros del zorzal.
- Santos, Boaventura De Sousa. (2000). Hacia una concepción multicultural de los derechos humanos. En Doxa, año X nro 20. Buenos Aires, verano 1999-2000.
- Segato, Rita. (2004) Antropología y Derechos Humanos: alteridad y ética en el movimiento de los Derechos Humanos. Brasilia.
- Segato, Rita. (2016) La guerra contra las mujeres. Buenos Aires, Traficantes de sueños.
- Tapia Valdés, J. (1980). El terrorismo de Estado. La doctrina de la seguridad nacional en el Cono Sur. México, Nueva Sociedad.
- UN-Habitat 2010 Urban Indigenous Peoples and Migration; A Review of Policies, Programmes and Practices
- Verbitsky, H. & Bohoslavsky, J. P. (2013). Cuentas pendientes. Los cómplices económicos de la dictadura. Buenos Aires, Siglo XXI.
- Walsh C (2010) Development as Buen Vivir: Institutional arrangements and (de) colonial entanglements. Development, 53(1), 15–21.
- Zibechi, Raúl. (2003). Genealogía de la revuelta. Argentina, la sociedad en movimiento. La Plata, Letra Libre.

Online Resources

<http://www.derechos.org/nizkor/la/eng.html> - NIZKOR

<https://www.nodal.am/> NODAL , Agencia de noticias latinoamericana

<http://www.un.org/en/documents/udhr/> UN Human Rights

<http://www.un.org/> UN

<http://lcweb2.loc.gov/hlas/hlashome.html> - Handbook of latin american studies

<https://www.ihrfg.org/human-rights-funding/faqs-about-human-rights> FAQ on Human Rights

<http://www.un.org/documents/ga/res/44/a44r130.htm> UN Resolution on Indivisibility and interdependence of economic, social, cultural, civil and political rights





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<http://humanrightshistory.umich.edu/> history of Human Rights, University of Michigan web page

<http://www.cepal.org/en> ECLAC-CEPAL

<http://www.oas.org/en/iachr/mandate/what.asp> Inter American Commission on Human Rights

<http://www.oxfordbibliographies.com/obo/page/latin-american-studies> Oxford Bibliography

<http://www.abuelas.org.ar/english/history.htm> Abuelas de Plaza de Mayo web page

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