

Course Description: Last class we started with the COVID-19 pandemic, an ongoing challenge for Latin America. However recently the tide has turned as vaccination rates in most large LatAm countries exceed those of the United States (and vaccination is itself is more popular). Some of the same characteristics that make Latino families happier as measured by Gallup polls also made them more vulnerable to the coronavirus. Recent events in Afghanistan reminds of the limits of U.S. intervention but Colombia's long (U.S. assisted) war on FARC Unfortunately, the same characteristics that tend to make LatAm families happier also make them vulnerable to COVID-19. [informal markets, tourism and multi-generational households](#) also [made it especially vulnerable to a pandemic](#). Climate change is also a major challenge of LatAm countries tropics. Back-to-Back [Cat-4 Hurricanes Eta and Iota](#) hit Honduras in November 2020, adding to existing good reasons gang violence extreme poverty for Honduran families to head North to the U.S Southern Border. Similarly, [Hurricane Maria](#) hit Puerto Rico hard in 2017, many Puerto Ricans moved to the U.S. mainland, how are they doing, how is Puerto Rico doing? In contrast to the U.S. most LatAm Countries experienced a "golden decade" of falling poverty and inequality and rising social mobility. as a new middle class emerged. Unfortunately, homicide rates rose in Mexico and the Norther Triangle but fell in Colombia where the government recently tore down [Pablo Escobar's infamous residence](#). Emerging from a long civil war Colombia has welcomed millions of Venezuelan immigrants. Costa Rica is great example of the [Easterlin paradox](#). Perhaps the way to begin this course is with [Radny's 2018 Chapter](#) on Costa Rica: the 13th happiest country in the world with a per capita income 1/3 that of the United States (ranked 26th). Consistent with the discussion of COVID-19 above, the [2021 World Happiness Report](#) ranks Costa Rica 16th, while the U.S. ranking has risen to 19th...

II. Textbooks and readings: Most required reading for this course is available online in pdf or audio, see urls below. See [also the class calendar](#). Many readings are online, see the course calendar. Please, if you ever have problems accessing any online reading or video, please email me

Indigenous Peoples left behind? [Indigenous Peoples are culturally distinct societies and communities](#). *Although they make up 5% of the global population, they account for about 15% of the extreme poor. Lecture 1 focuses on this infographic.* See also this 2018 WB video and this infographic.

Shifter, Michael & Bruno Binetti eds (2019) [Unfulfilled Promises: Latin America Today](#) Introduction by Laura Chinchilla, *Inter-American Dialogue*, **free online 9781733727600 eBook 9781733727617**

[Indigenous Latin America in the twenty-first century : the first decade \(English\)](#). Washington, DC:World Bank Group.please cited as **Freire et al. (2015)* or World Bank (2015)** Freire, Germán; Schwartz Orellana, Steven Daniel; Zumaeta Aurazo, Melissa; Costa, Damasceno Costa; Lundvall, Jonna Maria; Viveros Mendoza, Martha Celmira; Lucchetti, Leonardo Ramiro; Moreno Herrera, Laura Liliana; Sousa, Liliana Do Couto.

[Infographic: Indigenous peoples of LatAm \(42M people speaking 500 languages\)](#) No ISBN number Attribution *The World Bank. 2015. Indigenous Latin America in the Twenty-First Century. Washington, DC: World Bank. License: Creative Commons Attribution cby 3.0

*[Armendáriz, Beatriz & Felipe Larraín](#) or **A&L (2017)** *The Economics of Contemporary Latin America*. MIT Press, ISBN [0262533154](#) \$16-18 e-book or paper rental (our bookstore) see [MIT Press Digital rental](#) or buy paper: **you will need this book, for your case study and/or for the final exam**. MIT press now has answered Chapter question with color pictures...Chapters 1 & 6 available on blackboard & see [MIT preview](#)).

*Edwards, Sebastian (2010) *Left Behind: Latin America and the False Promise of Populism* U. of Chicago Press [Chapter 1 w/highlights 9780226184784](#) & see Chapter 7 [The Mother of all Crises: Argentina 2001-01](#)

*Klein, Naomi (2018) *The Battle for Paradise. Puerto Rico Takes on the Disaster Capitalists*, Haymarket Books-The Intercept* [ISBN 1608463572](#) this very short "instant" book is available online (there is an audio

version which can be free too) On the debate over Puerto Rico's Klein's [Guardian interview](#) & [NBCnews podcast](#) add wonderful pictures to this same material, including my favorite [Tesla's Hospital in Paradise](#))

*Chico Ferreira. et al. or World Bank (2012) Ferreira, F. H., Messina, J., Rigolini, J., López-Calva, L. F., Lugo, M. A., Vakis, R., & Ló [Economic mobility and the rise of the Latin American middle class](#). [World Bank](#)

Office hours: E-527 Dealy MTH 2-3pm always check my web page [darrylmcleod.com](#) for the most up to day office hours and my zoom home page. Make an appointment using Calendy or email mcleod@fordham.edu with ECON 3235 in the subject line. As of today 718-817-0063 roles to my home phone but I cannot see who called so please [leave your name in a voice mail](#).

Course Requirements: Consistent attendance and speaking or voting in class counts 15% of your final grade, HW and quizzes are 15% the midterm is 25%. Everyone should choose a case study country. The case study and final exam are 45% of your grade. You are **strongly encouraged but** not required to present your case study to the class... Typically presentations focus on a country, but if could be an issue. See past presentations on Costa Rica, Puerto Rico, GTM and/or Klein's Shock Doctrine in LatAm and/or deportations and child incarceration. Choose an LA-7 country if possible, but smaller countries fine too. Identify your countries' "golden decade. Find new idea that applies to your country and apply something to the course (let us know you were here...). Many HW assignments will help you gather data need for your case study country. The in class midterm will have a case study question you can prepare for. A PowerPoint presentation is the gold standard, but does take time and many revisions, so start early please, I will set deadlines once the course begins...

III. Lecture Topics Outline and Readings (See the [Class Calendar](#) for news and lecture readings).

Topic 1: [COVID in Latin America](#): LatAm Indigenous peoples were first (ARG, BOL, BRA, CHL, COL, CRI, Dominica, ECU, GTM, HND, MEX, NIC, PRY, PER and VEN (Bolivarian Republic of)

Topic 2: Race and Human mobility as a lifeline: Migration from Colombia to Venezuela and back again (now from Venezuela to Colombia, see Vox [and the PERLA project](#)

Topic 3: Governance: Populism in Latin America Latin America vs. North America relatively poor but happier? Absolutely poor, and not happy? Why less in LatAm growth than Asia? Stuck in a middle income trap? Why is Argentina different? But see the World Happiness Report and CRI case Study and the latest [eternal land of the future story from the Wall Street Journal](#). Counter the gloom and doom outlook for the region? Compare the quality of life in Buenos Aires or Nueva Leon with that of NYC (let's ask Erica Mancinas)?

Lecture 2: Did Latin America's Golden Decades reach its 14 million Indigenous People: yes or no? Rising per capita income: Falling Poverty and Inequality, for whom? Yalitza Apricio or Libo? How long is a normal "growth surge" in Latin America? (hint: close to a decade)

Lecture 3: Climate change: Hurricane Maria hit Puerto Rico hard on September 24th 2017, but even after Maria: Latin America's still most prosperous economy (by far) but perhaps not the happiest... see Mark Lilley's presentation... **who is better off today, those who moved**

Lecture 4: Trade and Global Value Chains (GVCs): How NAFTA became a model for World Manufacturing. Mexican immigration to the U.S. reversed in 2009, why? Baldwin and Dollar on GVCs and Mexico discuss the new knowledge e driven globalization phase and Global Value Chains how does alter our view of trade and migration? The economics of NAFTA and immigration, common roots and new directions. [Mexico NAFTA renegotiations](#): Amanda Waldron (2017) [NAFTA renegotiations, separating fact from fiction](#), Brookings Now, Aug 17th and Bahar, Dany (2017) [The Case for Open Markets](#), *The Cairo review of Global Affairs*, Summer. Durable left populist regimes in [Cuba](#), Nicaragua, Ecuador, and [Bolivia \(the "new oil" Lithium Salar de Uyuni triangle\)](#)

Lecture 5: *The resurgence of populism in the Americas* ([Armendáriz & Larraín](#) (A&L) Chapter 6 Castañeda, Jorge G. "Latin America's left turn." *Foreign Affairs* (2006):28-43 [\(NH\)](#) Oliver Stone (2009) South of the Border (just the [previews \(two mins\)](#)) The full documentary is one hour, but the previews are fine. Use them to answer the

Lecture and Discussion Questions included below. Readings: Birdsall, Lustig and McLeod (2013) Declining Inequality in [Latin America: Some Economics, Some Politics](#), CGD WP #251 and Chapter .

Lecture 6: *The rise of Latin America's middle class*: Why is LatAm inequality is falling and social mobility increasing: the Great Gatsby curve is alive and well in Latin America (but not the U.S.)? Readings A&L Chapter 5, Nora Lustig's Barcelona Slides, [and this 2013 report from the World Bank](#).

Lecture 7: *Obstacles to growth in Latin America: Institutions, Geography or Colonial legacy*: Read Chapter 1 of A&L (if you have not already) Nogales, Mexico v Nogales, AZ: Acemoglu & Robinson (2012) [Chapter 1](#) right yes but geography matters Jeffery Sachs [Foreign Affairs](#) Bill Gates on Why [Nations Fail and Carlos Slim](#) (richest man in the world) and skim Franko (2007) [Chapter 1](#)

Lecture 8: *Can Latin America compete with Asia and escape the Resource Curse/Dutch Disease? Chile and Mexico escaped, Venezuela has not...* see lecture notes on the TNT Model and A&L Chapter 1 and 12 Why Mexico and the Iron Triangle so violent just as Colombia's [Santos wins the Nobel Peace Prize?](#) See lecture notes on the TNT Model A&L Chapter 1 and Chapter 12.

Lecture 9: *Gender and race in Latin America (see lecture 1)*: female education, marriage markets and inequality in Latin America Part II: "Schooling Can't Buy Me Love: Marriage, Work, and the Gender Gap in Latin America [aka Ganguli, Ina, Ricardo Hausmann, and Martina Viarengo (2010) "Schooling Can't Buy Me Love: Marriage, Work, and the Gender Education Gap in Latin America". CID Working Paper Lykke Andersen (Bolivia) on Female headed HHs in Latin American why women migrate: [vulnerability and a resilience](#) to migration and the the middle class.

<https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2021-07-07/la-me-indigenous-map-los-angeles>**Lecture 10: *Migration and the Development*:** the role of remittances in Mexico, Central America and in the DR (vs. Puerto Rico.. where many have left) Readings: Collier Al Jazeera appearance, JRS Video on the Iron Triangle, Cuecuecha, Fuentes and McLeod (2017)

Lecture 11: *Climate change & development: Latin America in the Tropics; the* Natural Resource Curse, Carbon emissions in the Amazon? What LatAm can teach the U.S. about climate change

Lecture 12: *LatAm Social Innovation, Finance and the informal Sector in Latin America: Microfinance* in Bolivia Peru and Mexico. PBS Documentary on Compartamos and the Microfinance Debate. Labor market reforms,

See the [Course Calendar](#) for special topics and the most up to date readings for each lecture.

IV. Presentations Reference: (*available online or pdf):

*OECD, 2017, [Latin American Economic Outlook 2017](#) Youth, Skills and Entrepreneurship, 2012, Paris

*Klugman et al. (2014) Klugman, Jeni, Lucia Hanmer, Sarah Twigg, Tazeen Hasan, Jennifer McCleary-Sills, and Julieth Santamaria. *Voice and agency: Empowering women and girls for shared prosperity*. World Bank Publications, 2014 (google books "preview" is the [full version](#))

*Acemoglu, Darron and James Robinson (2012) *Why Nations Fail: The Origins of Power, Prosperity, and Poverty*, Profile /[1846686105](#)

*Arnson, Cynthia J., and José Raúl Perales, eds. (2007) The "new left" and democratic governance in Latin America. Washington, DC: Woodrow Wilson International Center or [Costa Rica pdf](#).

*Dayton-Johnson, Jeff, ed (2015) *Latin America's Emerging Middle Classes: Economic Perspectives* Springer-Verlag, New York.

Carlos de la Torre, Cynthia Arnson (2013) eds [Latin American Populism in the Twenty-First Century](#), Johns Hopkins Univ Press, MD (see also her email to Nora)

Cardoso, Eliana and Ann Helwege (1992) *Latin America's Economy: Diversity Trends & Conflicts* MIT Press, Cambridge MA [0262531252](#)

Franko, Patrice (2007) *The Puzzle of Latin American Development* 3rd ed Rowman & Littlefield, NY [0-7425-5353-8](#) see [Chapt 1](#)

López-Calva, L. F., & Lustig, N. eds. (2010). *Declining inequality in Latin America: a decade of progress?* Brookings Institution Press.

Ocampo, José Antonio and Jaime Ros (2011) *The Oxford Handbook of Latin American Economics*, Oxford U Press, [0-19-957104-8](#), [Chapt 1](#) pdf.

World Bank LAC (2011) *Work and Family: Latin American Caribbean Women in search of a new Balance* [World Bank Open Publication](#), Wash DC.

World Bank LAC (2012) *Latin America Copes with Volatility: the Dark Side of Globalization*, World Bank [Open Pub](#), [Presentation](#), [Chief Economist](#)

IDB (2008) *Outsiders? The Changing Patterns of Social Exclusion in Latin America and the Caribbean*, December, Washington DC.

Fajmzylber. Pablo and J. Humberto Lopez (2008) *Remittances and Development: Lessons from Latin America*, World Bank.

Orozco, M (2012) *Future Trends in Remittances to Latin America* and the Caribbean, IAD report.

Chapter to skim for <https://gdsnet.org/ArmendarizLarraine2017Chapter6.pdf>

https://www.project-syndicate.org/say-more/an-interview-with-kenneth-rogooff-2021-09?utm_source=project-syndicate.org&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=authnote&

<https://www.nytimes.com/live/2021/09/07/world/mexico-earthquake#in-pictures-massive-quake-shakes-acapulco-mexico-city>