

**LATINO POLITICS:  
Immigration, the 2016 Election, and Latin America  
Spring 2016  
POL /AMS /INS / LAS**

Time: Mondays, 5:00 pm – 7:30 pm  
Location: Storer Auditorium

	Prof. Joe Uscinski	Rudy Fernandez	Fernand Amandi
Office Hours	Monday 2-4	By Appointment	By Appointment
Location	Campo Sano 160D		

**Course Description**

We will examine the role of Latinos in politics in the context of the 2016 primaries. We will explore the impact of this growing demographic group on domestic politics, the impact of transnational migration on hemispheric politics, and the impact of recent waves of immigration on U.S. society, Latin American Society, and the economy, workforce, education, media, culture, healthcare, and law enforcement.

The course will include instructor lectures as well as weekly guest speakers and panelists. Students will interact with the major players in Latino politics and policy. As such, attendance is required. Required readings include both academic and news articles. These are posted on Blackboard or available in the bookstore or Amazon. There will be two examinations (a mid-term and a final) based on readings, course discussions, and guest lectures.

**Learning Outcomes**

- Develop a deeper understanding of Latino Politics as a nexus between Latin American Politics and American Politics
- Develop a deeper understanding of the issues facing Latinos in the US and broader hemisphere
- Develop the ability to engage with relevant Politicians, Political Activists, and Policy Makers
- Develop the reading comprehension skills to engage the relevant social-scientific literature

**Electronic Devices in the Classroom**

You are required to bring your i-clicker to class each week. Other than that, you should not plan to use any other electronic devices in class. Your cell phone needs to be turned off (not on vibrate or silent), and placed in your bag or in your pocket, not on the desk. Students using their phones during class will be asked to leave. Laptops may not be used in class and should remain on the floor and off.

## **Requirements**

### ***Attendance and Participation: 30%***

Attendance, completion of reading assignments before each class, and active participation in class are required. Your attendance and participation will be tracked with your “clicker” (see below). We may give quizzes in class to assess your progress.

### ***Midterm Examination: 25%, TBA***

You are responsible for all material covered in class and in the readings. Make up examinations will not be offered; a grade of 0 will be assigned to “no-shows.” In extreme circumstances documented by the Dean’s Office, or with prior documented consent, students may have the final exam count for the midterm as well. If you are entitled to testing accommodations through the Office of Disability Services (ODS) you must notify us in advance.

### ***Final Examination: 35%, TBA***

The final examination will cover the entire semester’s worth of material. You are responsible for all material covered in class and in the readings. Make up examinations will only be given in extreme documented circumstances, and only with prior consent. No-shows will count as 0. Be sure you double check the final exam time. If you have three examinations scheduled on the day of our exam, we suggest taking a make-up in one of the other courses. Attempting to leave early for the semester is not a valid excuse for missing the final. If you are entitled to testing accommodations through the Office of Disability Services (ODS) you must notify us in advance.

### ***Response Essays: 10%***

After two classes of your choosing, you are required to post a response essay on the Facebook page Timeline (see the Social Media section below). The essay must be at least 300 words to receive credit, and is due by 5pm on the Friday after class. In your response you must integrate the readings, lectures, and speakers.

### ***Extra Credit***

Additional response essay posts of at least 300 words on the Facebook page will add 0.5 points to your final grade, up to a total of 5 additional points.

### ***Clickers***

Clickers are required; they are available at the campus bookstore. You must have your own clicker. You must bring your clicker to every class in order to participate, so that we may track attendance. If you do not have your clicker, we cannot credit you for attendance. No exceptions.

In order for your clicker to log your responses you first need to register it. Please do this through the course Blackboard page. On the left-hand-side of the page there will be a link called “Register iClicker”. Follow it, and you will be prompted on what to do. You only need to do this process once, no matter how many of your courses this semester use clickers. You will be prompted if you already have a registered clicker for this semester.

Please register your clicker by January 15th. If you have a used clicker, please replace the batteries. If you have any issues with your clicker please go to Memorial Room 111 for help. We cannot help you with technical difficulties.

## **Social Media**

This course has a Facebook page where you can follow the latest developments and post your own comments. We recommend liking this page.

Remember that the Facebook page will also be used for the response essay.

## **Office Hours and Emails**

(1) We will not negotiate grades. If you are unhappy with your performance on the mid-term, we will happily discuss how to improve your performance on the final exam. We will not argue test question or points. Under no circumstance we will change your grade. Further, we cannot give you credit for attendance if you forget your clicker.

(2) A Teaching Assistant will accept email questions about the class and also have office hours to answer your questions regarding your grade, attendance, absences, the syllabus, course requirements, etc... All questions of this type should go to the Teaching Assistant, and not the instructors. To not overburden the Teaching Assistant, we recommend checking the syllabus before emailing with a question.

(3) The instructors cannot accept uninvited emails. All emails will be deleted without reply. Professor Uscinski and the Teaching Assistant will hold regular office hours to discuss the substance of the course.

## **Other Activities on Campus**

Some of our guest speakers may not be able to make the standard class time. In these instances, we will book the guest for another time slot. We encourage (but not require) you to participate in these events.

## **Class Cancellation**

In the event a class is canceled (e.g. due to natural disaster, instructor illness, etc.), you are still responsible for having done the work assigned on this syllabus by its due date.

## **Academic Honesty**

We do not tolerate academic dishonesty in any form. If you have any questions, consult the professors or see the Student Rights and Responsibilities Handbook. We reserve the right to fail any student who engages in any form of academic misconduct. Cases of academic misconduct may be brought to the University Honors Council for further sanctioning. Academic misconduct includes (but is not limited to): copying another students' work, turning in work similar to another students', turning in work that is not original nor completely your own, turning in work that represents other people's efforts, **falsifying attendance with another person's clicker**, cutting and pasting from other's work or texts, "splitting" the work with another student, turning in another student's work from a previous semester, not properly citing other's work and ideas, looking at another's exam, using electronic devices during an exam, or using a "cheat sheet".

### **Class Conduct**

Politics and race are “hot” issues, and many people are passionate about these topics. Our guest speakers will come from a variety of backgrounds and have a variety of viewpoints. You are free to agree or disagree with those viewpoints. You are also free to ask respectful questions of our guests as time allows. You are not free to display rude or disrespectful behavior toward any guest, or heckle in any way. Similarly, you are expected to be respectful of the viewpoints expressed by your fellow classmates. You represent the University of Miami. Any unbecoming behavior will earn you an F in the course and a referral to the Dean of Students Office for further sanctioning.

### **Required Texts**

Two books will be required, *Latinos and the 2012 Election*, ed. Gabe Sanchez, and *The Gamble*, John Sides and Lynn Vavreck.

### **Class Schedule**

The syllabus is subject to change, and we will update and repost the syllabus on Blackboard as needed. We will apprise you of any changes. The topics we explore each class will depend on the guest speakers and their schedules, therefore weekly topics and readings will be announced the week prior.

<b>Important Dates</b>	
<b>January 11th</b>	<b>First Day of Class/Introduction</b>
<b>January 18<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>No Class/Holiday</b>
<b>January 25<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Class</b> <b>Readings: Gamble Ch. 1; Latinos Chs. 1 and 7 (Gross and Barreto; Bunyasi)</b>
<b>February 1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>Class</b> <b>Readings: Gamble Ch. 2; Latinos Ch. 2 (Ramirez et al)</b>
<b>February 8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Class</b> <b>Readings: Gamble Ch. 3; Latinos Ch. 3 (Hastings)</b>
<b>February 15<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Class</b> <b>Readings: Gamble Ch. 4; Latinos Ch. 10 (Klofstad)</b>
<b>February 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>Class</b> <b>Readings: Gamble Ch. 5; Latinos Ch. 4 (Preuhs)</b>
<b>February 29<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Class/Midterm Exam</b>
<b>March 7<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>No Class/Spring Break</b>
<b>March 14<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Class</b> <b>Readings: Gamble Ch. 6; Latinos Ch. 5 and 6 (Sanchez et al; Morin et al)</b>
<b>March 21<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>Class</b> <b>Readings: Gamble Ch. 7; Latinos Ch. 9 (Wilkinson)</b>
<b>March 28<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Class</b> <b>Readings: Gamble Ch. 8; Latinos Ch. 8 (Vidal)</b>
<b>April 4<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Class</b> <b>Readings: Latinos Ch. 10 (Damore)</b>
<b>April 11<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Cancel Due to Room</b>
<b>April 18<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Class (Last Class)</b> <b>Readings: Latinos Ch. 12 (Barreto et al.)</b>
<b>TBA</b>	<b>Final Exam</b>