

## Politics of Latin America

**Credit Weighting:** .5**Pre-/Co-Requisites:** 1 of IDEV\*2000,  
POLS\*2080,  
POLS\*2100**Restrictions:****INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION****Name:** Diez, Jordi**Email:** jdiez@uoguelph.ca**Office Location:** MCKN 539**GENERAL DETAILS**

After a decade of high-growth levels guided by leftist governments (the so-called Left Turn), which saw a historic expansion of its middle class, Latin America seems to have entered a new historical phase marked by political change, including democratic reversals and economic uncertainty. What accounts for this change of fortunes? This course answers this question by exploring the region's political development, a process guided by a historic attempt at establishing liberal democracy by its liberal elites.

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

Obtain a solid understanding of the factors that affect variance in the political development of Latin American countries

Mobilize knowledge resources in these areas in order to solve complex problems and conduct research independently

Effectively communicate an argument using strong and supportive evidence

Critically analyze arguments and evidentiary claims made by others

**METHOD OF ASSESSMENT**

- Mid-term examination (25%)
- Book Review (10%)
- Research Essay (35%)
- Take-Home Final Exam (30%)

**REQUIRED READING**

See syllabus