



Exchange programme Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam - Exchange programme Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam - 2024-2025

Exchange

Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam offers many English-taught courses in a variety of subjects, ranging from arts & culture and social sciences, neurosciences and computer science, to economics and business administration.

The International Office is responsible for course approval and course registration for exchange students. For details about course registration, requirements, credits, semesters and so on, please [visit the exchange programmes webpages](#).

Latin America in Modern History

Course Code	L_GWBAGES214
Credits	6
Period	P5+6
Course Level	200
Language Of Tuition	English
Faculty	Faculty of Humanities
Course Coordinator	dr. L.M. Poy López
Examiner	dr. L.M. Poy López
Teaching Staff	dr. L.M. Poy López
Teaching method(s)	Seminar

Course Objective

During this course and after completing it, students will:

- develop a familiarity with the history of Latin America since the late eighteenth century.
- acquire knowledge from (and critically assess) academic literature.
- be able to recognize historiographical debates in the field.
- apply historical knowledge acquired in previous courses to further examine the peculiarities of Latin American history in a global context.
- understand and discuss primary sources (translated into English, in case of written sources) in their historical context.
- use their historical knowledge to understand and take a critical stance in contemporary discussions in and about Latin America.
- be able to effectively communicate their ideas in oral form.

Course Content

This course offers students an introduction to the history of modern Latin America. Starting with the period of revolutions that swept through the region in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, it discusses the main political, social, and economic developments that shaped its history in the last two centuries. Avoiding a juxtaposition of national cases and events, the course develops a global and transnational perspective that focuses on several crucial aspects, including the processes of state-building and economic transformation, the consequences of internal and international migrations and displacements, the development of nationalist and populist ideologies, the recurrence of military dictatorships, and the victories and defeats of revolutionary movements. Moreover, it pays particular attention to the relationship between Latin America and other regions of the world, in particular Western Europe and the United States.

Additional Information Teaching Methods

Two sessions per week. Students should come to the meetings prepared to actively discuss the readings.

Method of Assessment

Participation in class + Weekly assignments with questions about primary and secondary sources + Final written exam

Literature

Chasteen, John C. *Born in Blood & Fire: A Concise History of Latin America* Fourth edition. New York: W.W. Norton & Company, 2016.

Students will also read a selection of book chapters, articles, and primary sources that will be available via the VU Library and/or in Canvas. Additionally, students will be encouraged to discuss a selection of Latin American films, music, art, and literature.

Additional Information Target Audience

BA2 students History and International Studies and Geschiedenis.

The course is also open as an elective course for VU-students and Exchange Students.