Preliminary Course Outline

Human and Indigenous Rights in Latin America
Spring 2016
GIS-7028(6) / HR-4210(6)

Course Description

This course studies the dynamic situation of Indigenous and human rights and related social conflicts in Latin America. Indigenous nationalities and other marginalized minority groups have developed innovative strategies, alliances and forms of political participation to achieve recognition of their rights and contribute to a new political configuration in the region. Although Indigenous peoples face similar cultural, political and economic challenges as a result of colonization and neoliberalism, their strategies of political participation produce different outcomes. A country or sub-region may be selected for an in-depth case study, and may vary in different times that the course is offered.

Spring 2016 Course with Field Component in Colombia

In 2016 the course will focus on Colombian Human Rights, Indigenous Rights, and Peace Processes. While dealing with a variety of issues in Colombia, the course will explore the legacy of slave trade in Caribbean coast, and the situation of the Wayuu people. Some students from the University of Cartagena may also participate in the field portion of the course.

Dates:

On-campus
April 24, 28 - 5:00-8:00 pm
May 2, 5, 9, 12 - 5:00-8:00 pm

In Colombia
May 21-June 3, 2016 (Arrive Saturday May 21; depart Thurs June 2)

Instructor:
The course will be taught by Gabriel Nemogá, Professor & Graduate Chair Master of Arts in Aboriginal Governance, with assistance from Maria Lucia Zapata, lawyer and doctoral student in Peace and Conflict Studies. Rosa Jimenez, director of the MA in Social Conflict and Peacebuilding from the University of Cartagena, will also contribute to field component of the course in Colombia. Some students from the University of Cartagena may also participate.
Structure
The course is offered for undergraduate HR-4210(6) credit in Human Rights, or graduate GIS-7028(6) Master of Indigenous Governance credit. There will be separate work requirements for the two levels of study.

Enrollment in the course is by application and permission of the instructors. Students from other programs and universities can participate with authorization of the instructors. The course involves a combination of lectures by the primary instructors, guest lectures, and visits to NGOs, community organizations, and community leaders.

The course is structured in two parts. The first several weeks of the course will be conducted on the UWinnipeg campus, providing for introduction and study based on secondary sources on the Colombian Indigenous and human rights situation, civil conflict and background to the current peace negotiations.

The second part will take place in Colombia. The field section of the course will be carried out in association with the University of Cartagena, Master of Social Conflict and Peacebuilding. This field section will cover encounters with NGOs, academic and researchers, social leaders, indigenous and popular organizations and minor complementary readings. In situ interaction with community and social organizations will provide the exceptional opportunities to grasp the sense of the complex Colombian processes.

Tentative Itinerary – Subject to Change

The field portion of the course focuses on Indigenous and human rights on the Caribbean coast of Colombia. The different localities included in the itinerary are linked to the conflictive Colombian history, and are lived demonstrations of resilience and solidarity.

We will begin in Cartagena, where the beautiful Spanish colonial architecture of the old city harkens back to the days when this Caribbean port was a major slave-trading centre. The legacy of the slave trade continues to shape the demographics of the region.

In partnership with the University of Cartagena, we will visit the community development project in a low-income community of the city, and do a day trip to Palenque, a town established by escaped slaves. It is the only place in the Americas to preserve an African language from the slave era, and is recognized by UNESCO as a site of Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humankind.

After five days based in Cartagena, we will travel to Riohacha, a coastal city in La Guajira province, to learn more about the Wayuu people, an Indigenous group that is experiencing significant hardships in Colombia. We will meet with students and professors from University of Guajira, and then spend a few days living in Cachaco, a Wayuu rancheria (traditional rural community) by the Atlantic ocean.
The final couple of days of the field portion will be devoted to debriefing and consolidating our learning from these varied communities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Lodging</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>21 May</td>
<td>Arrive Cultural and safety orientation</td>
<td>Cartagena</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>22 May</td>
<td>Walking tour – morning Get acquainted with UdeC students - afternoon</td>
<td>Cartagena</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>23 May</td>
<td>Lectures</td>
<td>Cartagena</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>24 May</td>
<td>Palenque</td>
<td>Cartagena</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>25 May</td>
<td>Visit urban community – morning</td>
<td>Cartagena</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Free time - afternoon</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>Travel to Riohacha</td>
<td>Riohacha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>U de Guajira</td>
<td>Riohacha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>Morning – free time Cachaca– afternoon</td>
<td>Cachaca</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun</td>
<td>29</td>
<td></td>
<td>Cachaca</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
<td>Cachaca</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>Travel to debriefing site</td>
<td>Debriefing site</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>1 June</td>
<td></td>
<td>Debriefing site</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>To airport for departure</td>
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**Language of Instruction**

Instruction will be in English but a working level of Spanish is helpful.

**Preliminary list of topics**

- Historical context of the social and political conflict
  - Colonization
  - Emergence of the nation state
- 1991 Constitution and Neoliberalism
  - Drug trade and Plan Colombia
  - Military and Paramilitary forces
  - Guerrilla movements
  - Extractive industries
  - Land disputes
- Impacts on Indigenous and afro-descendent communities
  - Human rights and Indigenous Rights in Colombia
  - Peacebuilding processes
  - Current peace negotiation in Havana between FARC and the Colombian government

**Required Readings**


Zapata, M. L. 2015. Introduction to PhD research proposal (posted on Nexus)

**Recommended Readings**


Paley, Dawn. 2008. “Permanent Peoples’ Tribunal in Colombia: Corporations with a License to Kill.” Upside Down World, August 7, online: http://upsidedownworld.org/main/content/view/1411/1/


Useful web sites
Human Rights Watch Report
http://www.hrw.org/sites/default/files/reports/colombia0913webwcover.pdf

Peoples Tribunal Colombian case
http://www.indianlaw.org/en/enews/issue3/Peoples_Tribunal_Columbia

Cultural Survival

http://www.culturalsurvival.org/ourpublications/csq/article/there-can-be-no-peace-without-indians-table-a-narrative-armando-valbuena#sthash.3isoluAC.dpuf
http://www.culturalsurvival.org/publications/cultural-survival-quarterly/colombia/advocates-or-obstacles-ngos-and-plan-colombia#sthash.VBs7D46Y.dpuf


http://www.culturalsurvival.org/publications/cultural-survival-quarterly/colombia/extraction-colombia-mine-takes-much-more-land-coal#sthash.oXNRMBQe.dpuf

Evaluation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Timing</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Annotated bibliography of extensive readings completed during on-campus portion of the course (Undergrad 10 References; Graduate students 15)</td>
<td>May 19</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presentation in Colombia</td>
<td></td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>An oral presentation to shared with Colombian hosts on a topic related to Indigenous and human rights in Canada</td>
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<tr>
<td>Analytic journal where you analyze and integrate what you see and hear during the field course with readings and other</td>
<td>June 20</td>
<td>20%</td>
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</table>
life experiences. Plan to make journal entries *daily or every other day*. Total length: approximately 5000 words.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Research Essay of approx (3000 vs 4500 words for undergraduate vs graduate students respectively)</th>
<th>July 8</th>
<th>40%</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class participation</td>
<td></td>
<td>5%</td>
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**Other requirements for travelling abroad**
Compliance with field course risk management protocols and procedures.