



ANEXO I

Course Title: BRAZILIAN POLITICS AND SOCIETY

Language of Instruction: English

Prerequisites/Requirements: Background in economics, politics, sociology and history.

Professor: Mariana Jansen – mrferreira@pucsp.br

Description

This course surveys the Brazilian Politics and Society and examines current issues. The aim of the course is to provide a better understanding of the Brazilian social tissue as well as the representation mechanisms, in the political sense. The survey includes the historical background of Brazilian political organization since the 1930s, which includes the discussion about the democratic and authoritarian periods throughout our history and the organization of political parties, always considering politics as a space of representation and structuring of power. The similarities and differences between the political systems of Brazil and the United States such as federalism and the party system will be focused. Students' knowledge of the American reality will be important as an exchange element and for deepening reflection.

By course completion, it is expected that students can make substantive, well documented comparisons between the political processes in both countries and its consequences.

Objectives

Provide students with knowledge, allowing them to understand politics and political arrangement in Brazil.

Comprehend goals, arrangements, groups and political behavior in Brazil.

By the end of the course, students are able to understand the roots and the contours of Brazilian society.

Course Requirements

Course methodology consists of class lectures and open discussions on the content assigned at the discretion of professor. Some of these discussions will be based on the assignments you submit individually or as a group.

Weekly readings, ranging from 15 to 40 pages, are assigned. It is imperative that each student completes the assigned reading in a timely fashion, as this enables him/her to actively participate in class.

Class/activity attendance and active participation constitute one of the evaluation criteria for this course.

Some interesting news will be send with questions related to the course. You are expected to respond to at least four questions in detail. You may respond to more and at the end of the semester, you will submit your best four posts for grading. Review the rubrics to determine a good post.

Course Dynamics

This is a 45-hour course with afternoon presentations, readings, and guided visits. Attendance of 80% is required.

The final grade is based on overall student performance in three areas:

1. Three posts, in which the student reflects on news in light of the issues discussed in class.
2. One final paper, product of an in-depth, semester-long investigation.
3. Participation and attendance, based on the student's active presence and participation in class and other curricular activities. Special emphasis is made on the contribution of each student during the semester discussion sessions.

Assignments not turned in on the date they are due, are subject to a penalty proportionate to the delay. Plagiarism is not tolerated under any circumstance.

If due to unanticipated circumstances a student must turn in his/her assignment via email, he/she should not assume it was received until the professor acknowledges receipt.



Methods of Evaluation

The final grade is based on the overall performance of each student in three areas:

Participation & attendance 20%

Post answers (3) 30%

Final paper 50% (research proposal 10%, actual research 40%)

This essay will be the product of a documental review, 10-page, in-depth investigation, drawing attention to the relationship between a current development issue in the Brazilian landscape and its relevance to any of the main topics discussed in class.

Primary Texts

There is no assigned text for this course. Instead, students read a selection of articles and chapters coming from academic journals, classic works on Brazilian Economy, Development, Theory and Conjuncture, magazines and online sources.

Supplementary Texts

Documentaries and various websites

Outline of Course Content

In addition to the topics listed below, two full weeks are dedicated to class presentations and open discussions at the middle and at the end of the semester. Professors are only suggestions and could be changed.

Topics

- Political overview about Brazil: from Oligarchy to “Lava Jato”
- Oligarchy and the social and political changes at the beginning of 20th
- Revolution – Historical Significance of 1930
- Populism and Corporatism: democracy with limited participation
- 1964: debate on historical significance of the 1964 Coup
- Institutional Acts / preservation of Congress: controversy over attempts to maintain legitimacy in military period
- The 1970s: social and political changes – the 1979 “amnesty”
- Redemocratization and the 1988 Constitution
- The last 30 years: “coalition presidentialism”
- Presidentialism – comparing Brazil and USA
- Elections and political system – comparing Brazil and USA
- Federalism: scope and limits – comparing Brazil and USA
- Perspectives: Political Awareness, manifestations and “Lava Jato”: a changing country?

Faculty

Professor from PUC-SP, invited lecturers and coordinated by Mariana R. Jansen Ferreira – Professor of Economics at PUC-SP