

LECTURE / DISCUSSION / DEBATE
OTHER WORLD REGIONS: LATIN AMERICA

Terms and concepts to know:

Mestizos	Bolsa Família
Indigenismo	Petrobras
Founding myths	Platt Amendment
Caudillos	Special period
Free Trade Area of the Americas FTAA	Inter-American Democratic Charter
Disappear	“Low-quality” democracies
Maras	Supply-side
Pink tide	Balloon effect
Ejido	Responsible tourism
Un nuevo PRincipio	Greenwashing

Study and discussion questions:

1. What are some of the causes of underdevelopment that are particular to Latin America?
2. Ociel Ali Lopez sees the Trump administration under incoming Secretary of State Marco Rubio, as having a much more difficult time in 2024 with Latin America, than earlier in 2016. What are some of the roadblocks the new administration is likely to see and how do you think Trump will navigate them?
3. Identify the stakeholders involved as the United States and Cuba normalize relations. Who will be the winners, and who will be the losers?
4. Account for the historically strong role of the military in Latin America. Is the military likely to play an equally strong role in the future? Why, or why not?
5. Emir Sader argues the “pink tide” is coming back to Latin America. What is the pink tide, and do you agree with the author’s perspective?
6. What has a return of leftist leaders to LA meant to the environment? In your opinion, is it possible to protect the environment under socialism?
7. Explain the current changes in Chile and the relationship between the past Constitution and multinational corporations and banks’ concerns about copper.
8. Supposedly the US has always been at the forefront of protecting its citizens from illicit drugs from Latin America. Terrall argues this is not true. Examine his argument and create your own position on this.

Readings:

Weatherby et.al. – Chapter 5

Video:

Harvest of Empire.