

Course Syllabus

GEA3405

GEOGRAPHY OF LATIN AMERICA

Instructor: Dr. Simmons

Office Phone: 352-294-7511

Office Address: 3127 Turlington Hall

Office Hours: Tuesday 10AM – 12PM (Online)

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

This course is designed to be an introduction to Latin American Geography, and will consequently cover many topics with a broad-brush stroke, with the aim to fill in some detail regarding contemporary issues facing the region. To facilitate learning, the course will follow thematically with the required text, which divides the material into three components: **Physical, Cultural, and Economic Geography.**

The objectives of the course are to provide the student with an understanding of: (1) the variety of physical environments covering Latin America, (2) the cultural, social, and historic factors that influenced the creation of Latin American cultural diversity, and (3) the manner in which economic, social, and environmental processes coalesce to shape different geographies of development throughout the diverse regions of Latin America.

REQUIRED TEXT:

Clawson, David (2012) *Latin America and the Caribbean: Lands and Peoples*, 5th Edition; Available at the College Bookstores or Online at Amazon.com.

Other Readings available to you on Canvas.

GRADING POLICY:

All assignments and due dates are listed on the Course Calendar and on the Syllabus page on the Canvas course. Grades for each assignment can be found on the Grades Page.

Please note that if you do not complete an assignment it will be register as a zero and calculated into your class grade. The cumulative grade in the Canvas Grade Book may not reflect this until the end of the semester when all assignments are complete.

Grades will be based the following items:

- 1. Quiz for each Module - 10 points each.**
- 2. Activities and Discussion Boards for each module – 10-15 points each.**

For those wanting Gordon Rule Writing Credit, a 2000 word essay is required.

The writing will be evaluated on content, organization and coherence, argument and support, style and mechanics. Evaluations will be on individual work and the evaluated work will be returned to you before the last day of class. To receive writing credit you must receive a minimum grade of C (2.0) and satisfactory completion of the writing component, according to the rubric that follows.

GORDON RULE - RUBRIC FOR EVALUATION: "Satisfactory" and "unsatisfactory" indicate ranges for grades on Gordon Rule assignments.

	SATISFACTORY (Y)	UNSATISFACTORY (N)
CONTENT	Papers exhibit at least some evidence of ideas that respond to the topic with complexity, critically evaluating and synthesizing sources, and provide at least an adequate discussion with basic understanding of sources.	Papers either include a central idea(s) that is unclear or off- topic or provide only minimal or inadequate discussion of ideas. Papers may also lack sufficient or appropriate sources.
ORGANIZATION AND COHERENCE	Documents and paragraphs exhibit at least some identifiable structure for topics, including a clear thesis statement but may require readers to work to follow progression of ideas.	Documents and paragraphs lack clearly identifiable organization, may lack any coherent sense of logic in associating and organizing ideas, and may also lack transitions and coherence to guide the reader.
ARGUMENT AND SUPPORT	Documents use persuasive and confident presentation of ideas, strongly supported with evidence. At the weak end of the Satisfactory range, documents may provide only generalized discussion of ideas or may provide adequate discussion but rely on weak support for arguments.	Documents make only weak generalizations, providing little or no support, as in summaries or narratives that fail to provide critical analysis.
STYLE	Documents use a writing style with word choice appropriate to the context, genre, and discipline. Sentences should display complexity and logical sentence structure. At a minimum, documents will display a less precise use of vocabulary and an uneven use of sentence structure or a writing style that occasionally veers away from word choice or tone appropriate to the context, genre,	Documents rely on word usage that is inappropriate for the context, genre, or discipline. Sentences may be overly long or short with awkward construction. Documents may also use

and discipline.

words incorrectly.

MECHANICS Papers will feature correct or error-free presentation of ideas. At the weak end of the Satisfactory range, papers may contain some spelling, punctuation, or grammatical errors that remain unobtrusive so they do not muddy the paper's argument or points.

Papers contain so many mechanical or grammatical errors that they impede the reader's understanding or severely undermine the writer's credibility.

GRADE SCALE: Grading and Grade points are in accordance with UF policies that be found at the following link: catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/.

94-100 %	A	74-76 %	C
90-93 %	A-	70-73 %	C-
87-89 %	B+	67-79 %	D+
84-86 %	B	64-66 %	D
80-83 %	B-	61-63 %	D-
77-79 %	C+	0-60 %	E

COURSE EVALUATIONS:

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at gatorevals.ua.ufl.edu/students/. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via ufl.bluera.com/ufl/. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at gatorevals.ua.ufl.edu/public-results/.

GETTING HELP:

Academic Resources:

- **E-learning technical support: Contact the UF Computing Help Desk at 352-392-4357 or via e-mail at helpdesk@ufl.edu.**
- Career Connections Center: Reitz Union Suite 1300, 352-392-1601. Career assistance

and counseling services career.ufl.edu/.

- Library Support: cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.
- Teaching Center: Broward Hall, 352-392-2010 or to make an appointment 352-392-6420. General study skills and tutoring. teachingcenter.ufl.edu/
- Writing Studio: 2215 Turlington Hall, 352-846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers. writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/
- Student Complaints On-Campus: sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/
- On-Line Students Complaints: [distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process/ /](http://distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process/)

Health and Wellness

- U Matter, We Care: If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu, 352-392-1575, or visit umatter.ufl.edu/ to refer or report a concern and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.
- Counseling and Wellness Center: Visit counseling.ufl.edu/ or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.
- Student Health Care Center: Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need, or visit shcc.ufl.edu/.
- University Police Department: Visit police.ufl.edu/ or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).
- UF Health Shands Emergency Room / Trauma Center: For immediate medical care call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, ufhealth.org/emergency-room-trauma-center.

Other resources are available at <http://www.distance.ufl.edu/getting-help> :

www.distance.ufl.edu/getting-help .

www.distance.ufl.edu/getting-help .

www.distance.ufl.edu/getting-help .

www.distance.ufl.edu/getting-help /

www.distance.ufl.edu/getting-help .

www.distance.ufl.edu/getting-help for:

- Counseling and Wellness resources
- Disability resources
- Resources for handling student concerns and complaints
- Library Help Desk support

UF POLICIES:

University Policy on **Accommodating Students with Disabilities**: Students requesting accommodation for disabilities must first register with the Dean of Students Office (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc>) :

www.dso.ufl.edu/drc . www.dso.ufl.edu/drc ds

www.dso.ufl.edu/drc . www.dso.ufl.edu/drc ufl

(<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/>) . [\(http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/\)](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) [edu](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) [/](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) [\(http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/\)](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) [drc](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) [/](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) [\(http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/\)](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/)). The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the instructor when requesting accommodation. You must submit this documentation prior to submitting assignments or taking the quizzes or exams. Accommodations are not retroactive, therefore, students should contact the office as soon as possible in the term for which they are seeking accommodations.





University Policy on **Attendance and Make-up work**: This is an online class, so attendance is not monitored. However, assignments and participation in activities must be done on the due dates.


Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at: catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/

University Policy on **Academic Misconduct**: Academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the University community. Students should be sure that they understand the UF Student Honor Code at <https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/> (<https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>).

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” The Honor Code (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.


Course Summary:

Date	Details	
Fri Jan 10, 2020	 Module 1 Discussion Board: Mapping Latin America with peer reviews https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389662/assignments/4120568	due by 11:59pm
	 Module 1 Discussion Board: Video Introductions with Peer Reviews https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389662/assignments/4120578	due by 11:59pm
Sun Jan 12, 2020	 Module 1 Quiz https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389662/assignments/4120558	due by 11:55pm
	 Module 1: Peer Reviews Due by 11:55PM https://ufl.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=1313622&include_contexts=course_389662	11:55pm

Fri Jan 17, 2020	 Module 2 Discussion Board: Landforms of Latin America with Peer Reviews 	due by 11:59pm
	 Module 2: Peer Reviews Due Today by 11:55PM 	11:55pm
Sun Jan 19, 2020	 Extra Credit - Guess Where: Mountains? 	due by 11:59pm
	 Module 2 Quiz 	due by 11:59pm
Fri Jan 24, 2020	 Module 3 Discussion Board: Climate Change Debate (with Peer Review) 	due by 11:59pm
	 Module 3: Peer Reviews Due Today by 11:55PM 	11:55pm
Sun Jan 26, 2020	 Extra Credit - Guess Where: Dunes? 	due by 11:59pm
	 Module 3 Quiz 	due by 11:59pm
Tue Jan 28, 2020	 Online Office Hours - GEA3405: Geography of Latin America, combined sections 21G8 & 25F5 	10am to 12pm
Fri Jan 31, 2020	 Module 4 Google Earth Assignment: Human-Environment Connections 	due by 11:59pm
Sun Feb 2, 2020	 Extra Credit: Boat tour - Guess Where? 	due by 11:55pm
	 Module 4 Quiz 	due by 11:59pm
	 Peer Reviews Due Today 	due by 11:59pm
Tue Feb 4, 2020	 GEA3405: Geography of Latin America, combined sections 21G8 & 25F5 	10am to 12pm
	 Module 5 Activity: Guns, Germs and Steel 	due by 11:59pm

Fri Feb 7, 2020

[\(https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389662/assignments/4120576\)](https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389662/assignments/4120576)


 **Module 5 Discussion Board Replies due today by 11:55PM!**
[\(https://ufl.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=1313630&include_contexts=course_389662\)](https://ufl.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=1313630&include_contexts=course_389662) 11:55pm

Sun Feb 9, 2020


 **Extra Credit - Guess Where: Ruins?**
[\(https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389662/assignments/4120590\)](https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389662/assignments/4120590) due by 11:59pm

 **Module 5 Quiz**
[\(https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389662/assignments/4120554\)](https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389662/assignments/4120554) due by 11:59pm


Tue Feb 11, 2020

 **GEA3405: Geography of Latin America, combined sections 21G8 & 25F5** [\(https://ufl.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=1313618&include_contexts=course_389662\)](https://ufl.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=1313618&include_contexts=course_389662) 10am to 12pm

Fri Feb 14, 2020

 **Module 6 Discussion Board: Revolution or Reform? (with Peer Review)**
[\(https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389662/assignments/4120577\)](https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389662/assignments/4120577) due by 11:59pm


Sun Feb 16, 2020

 **GEA3405 Peer Reviews Due Today by 11:55PM**
[\(https://ufl.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=1313629&include_contexts=course_389662\)](https://ufl.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=1313629&include_contexts=course_389662) 11:55pm


 **Extra Credit - Guess Where - Forts**
[\(https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389662/assignments/4120587\)](https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389662/assignments/4120587) due by 11:59pm

 **Module 6 Quiz**
[\(https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389662/assignments/4120565\)](https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389662/assignments/4120565) due by 11:59pm

Tue Feb 18, 2020

 **GEA3405: Geography of Latin America, combined sections 21G8 & 25F5** [\(https://ufl.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=1313617&include_contexts=course_389662\)](https://ufl.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=1313617&include_contexts=course_389662) 10am to 12pm


Fri Feb 21, 2020

 **Module 7 Discussion Board: Revolution or Reform? (with Peer Review)**
[\(https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389662/assignments/4120567\)](https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389662/assignments/4120567) due by 11:59pm


Sun Feb 23, 2020

 **Module 7 Quiz**
[\(https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389662/assignments/4120566\)](https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389662/assignments/4120566) due by 11:59pm
















Tue Feb 25, 2020
















 **GEA3405: Geography of Latin America, combined sections 21G8 & 25F5** [\(https://ufl.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=1313616&include_contexts=course_389662\)](https://ufl.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=1313616&include_contexts=course_389662) 10am to 12pm

Fri Feb 28, 2020

 **Module 8 Activity: Black in Latin America (with Peer Reviews)**
[\(https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389662/assignments/4120571\)](https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389662/assignments/4120571) due by 11:59pm

Extra Credit: Street festival

	 (https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389662/assignments/4120593)	due by 11:55pm
Sun Mar 1, 2020	 <u>Module 8 Discussion Board Replies due today!</u> (https://ufl.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=1313628&include_contexts=course_389662)	11:55pm
	 <u>Module 8 Quiz</u> (https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389662/assignments/4120563)	due by 11:59pm
Tue Mar 3, 2020	 <u>GEA3405: Geography of Latin America, combined sections 21G8 & 25F5</u> (https://ufl.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=1313615&include_contexts=course_389662)	10am to 12pm
Fri Mar 6, 2020	 <u>Module 9 Google Earth Assignment: Latin American Cultural Landscape (with Peer Review)</u> (https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389662/assignments/4120572)	due by 11:55pm
Sun Mar 8, 2020	 <u>Module 9 Quiz</u> (https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389662/assignments/4120559)	due by 11:59pm
	 <u>Peer Reviews Due Today</u> (https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389662/assignments/4121024)	due by 11:59pm
Tue Mar 10, 2020	 <u>GEA3405: Geography of Latin America, combined sections 21G8 & 25F5</u> (https://ufl.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=1313614&include_contexts=course_389662)	10am to 12pm
Fri Mar 13, 2020	 <u>Module 10 Discussion Board: An Altar for Los Muertos</u> (https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389662/assignments/4120575)	due by 11:59pm
Sun Mar 15, 2020	 <u>Module 10 Discussion Board Replies due today!</u> (https://ufl.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=1313627&include_contexts=course_389662)	11:55pm
	 <u>Extra Credit - Guess Where - Colonial City</u> (https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389662/assignments/4120584)	due by 11:59pm
	 <u>Module 10 Quiz</u> (https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389662/assignments/4120555)	due by 11:59pm
Tue Mar 17, 2020	 <u>GEA3405: Geography of Latin America, combined sections 21G8 & 25F5</u> (https://ufl.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=1313613&include_contexts=course_389662)	10am to 12pm
Fri Mar 20, 2020	 <u>Module 11 Discussion Board: Direct Action Land Reform (with peer review)</u> (https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389662/assignments/4120573)	due by 11:59pm
	 <u>Extra Credit: Village carving</u> (https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389662/assignments/4120594)	due by 11:55pm

Sun Mar 22, 2020	 Module 11 Discussion Board Replies due today! (https://ufl.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=1313626&include_contexts=course_389662)	11:55pm
	 Module 11 Quiz (https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389662/assignments/4120556)	due by 11:59pm
Tue Mar 24, 2020	 GEA3405: Geography of Latin America, combined sections 21G8 & 25F5 (https://ufl.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=1313612&include_contexts=course_389662)	10am to 12pm
Fri Mar 27, 2020	 Module 12 Discussion Board: Belo Monte Dam (with Peer Review) (https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389662/assignments/4120574)	due by 11:59pm
Sun Mar 29, 2020	 Module 12 Discussion Board Replies due today! (https://ufl.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=1313625&include_contexts=course_389662)	11:55pm
	 Module 12 Quiz (https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389662/assignments/4120561)	due by 11:59pm
Mon Mar 30, 2020	 "Border" Walls: Pre-Group Activity AnswerGarden	to do: 11:59pm
Tue Mar 31, 2020	 GEA3405: Geography of Latin America, combined sections 21G8 & 25F5 (https://ufl.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=1313611&include_contexts=course_389662)	10am to 12pm
Sun Apr 5, 2020	 Module 13 Quiz (https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389662/assignments/4120562)	due by 11:59pm
Mon Apr 6, 2020	 Gordon Rule Paper: Draft Submission - Peer Review (https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389662/assignments/4120595)	due by 11:59pm
Tue Apr 7, 2020	 GEA3405: Geography of Latin America, combined sections 21G8 & 25F5 (https://ufl.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=1313610&include_contexts=course_389662)	10am to 12pm
Wed Apr 8, 2020	 "Border" Walls: Post-Group Activity AnswerGarden	to do: 11:59pm
Mon Apr 13, 2020	 Module 13 (Border) Group Wall Activity PART 1: DIRECTIONS (https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389662/assignments/4120602)	due by 11:59pm
	 Module 13 (Border) Group Wall Activity: PART 2 - POST WORD CLOUD & PEER REVIEWS (https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389662/assignments/4120579)	due by 11:59pm
Tue Apr 14, 2020	 GEA3405: Geography of Latin America, combined sections 21G8 & 25F5 (https://ufl.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=1313610&include_contexts=course_389662)	10am to 12pm

[event_id=1313609&include_contexts=course_389662](#))

Module 13 Discussion Board Replies due today!



[https://ufl.instructure.com/calendar?
event_id=1313624&include_contexts=course_389662](https://ufl.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=1313624&include_contexts=course_389662))

12am

Sun Apr 19, 2020



Group Participation Evaluation: Activity Module 13
<https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389662/assignments/4120600>)

due by 11:59pm



GEA3405: Geography of Latin America, combined sections
21G8 & 25F5 ([https://ufl.instructure.com/calendar?
event_id=1313608&include_contexts=course_389662](https://ufl.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=1313608&include_contexts=course_389662))

10am to 12pm

Tue Apr 21, 2020



Gordon Rule Paper: Final Submission
<https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389662/assignments/4120596>)

due by 11:59pm

Sun Apr 26, 2020



Gordon Rule: Position Paper on Amazon Infrastructure Plans for the Tapajos
Option# 2 (<https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389662/assignments/4120597>)



Gordon Rule: Reflection Paper Option #1
<https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389662/assignments/4120598>)



Gordon Rule: U.S. Policy on Immigration Position Paper Option #3
<https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389662/assignments/4120599>)



Miscellaneous Extra Credit
<https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389662/assignments/4120601>)



Top likes extra credit
<https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389662/assignments/4120605>)