



**UNIVERSITY OF BUENOS AIRES  
SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES  
ASIAN CULTURES IN LATIN AMERICA PROGRAM**

**POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC RELATIONS BETWEEN SOUTH AMERICA AND EAST ASIA**

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**COURSE INFORMATION**

Class Times: MON. and WED. 10 AM to 1 PM  
Class Location: School of Social Sciences  
Language of Instruction: English  
Course Duration (weeks): 6 weeks

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

In the past decades, the economic integration between East Asia and Latin America countries has been hailed as a model of partnership for development, but also criticized as the reconfiguration of the center-periphery model for the 21<sup>st</sup> century. After the year 2010, bilateral relations —especially with the People’s Republic of China— have acquired new dimensions, giving place to debates in academic circles and the media about the role and the strategy of China in the region. Commercial and financial relations have set the pace for the growing political and cultural exchanges. China has become the second trade partner and the third source of investment in the region. Beside China, other East Asian countries have established long-lasting political and commercial links with the region through investments in infrastructure projects, joint-ventures and financial cooperation. In this course, we will examine the impact of recent developments in the political and economic relations of Latin American countries, especially Argentina, Peru and Brazil, with East Asian countries.

**COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES**

- Students will be asked to reflect upon the process and dynamics of the economic and political integration of East Asian and Latin American countries in the last decades.
- Students will evaluate the impact of the different actions promoted through the State and/ or other organizations to attract investments in strategic areas.
- Students will gain an understanding of the different explanatory models used to interpret bilateral and multilateral relations between Asia and Latin America.
- Students will review the approaches taken by local academic sources and mainstream media to express concerns about the growing presence and influence of China in the region.
- Students will develop a critical awareness of the academic and media representations of the controversies regarding Asian investments in the region.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING CRITERIA

The course will be graded on a 10-point scale, and the final grade will be determined as follows:

- **Class Participation and Attendance (20%):** Attendance and active participation are required. Students are expected to do the readings assigned for each class meeting beforehand, and to actively participate in class discussions.
- **Reading Reports (40%):** A total of four reading reports (each at the end of weeks 1-4) will be required for the completion of the course. The reading reports should offer a concise summary of the main ideas and arguments of a specific text assigned for that week. Reading reports can serve as a basis for the individual research paper due at the end of the course.
- **Individual Research Paper (40%):** A basic structure for a research paper is outlined below. Please review and adapt as necessary. Essays will be 10-12 pages long and will include an introduction, main body, and conclusion. Essays must be typed, double-spaced in Times New Roman (12pt), and 2.5cm/1-inch margins on all four sides. All essays must be submitted in class on Week 6. Late submissions will not be graded for credit.

## COURSE SCHEDULE

### **WEEK 1: China's presence in Latin America as part of its Global Strategy**

#### Session 1:

Readings:

- \* Zhao Xiaochun (2018). "In Pursuit of a Community of Shared Future: China's Global Activism in Perspective", *China Quarterly of International Strategic Studies*, 4.1: 23-37.
- \* Shichor, Yitzhak (2018). "China's Belt and Road Initiative Revisited: Challenges and Ways Forward", *China Quarterly of International Strategic Studies*, 4.1: 39-53.
- \* Lye Liang Fook (2017). "Introduction: China in World Politics: Is China a Status Quo Power?", *China, An International Journal* 15.1: 1-3.

Additional Readings:

- \* Zheng Yongnian and Lim Wen Xin (2017). "The Changing Geopolitical Landscape, China and the World Order in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century", *China, An International Journal* 15.1: 4-23.
- \* Wang Jianwei (2017). "The discourse on China's Rise", *China, An International Journal* 15.1: 24-40.

#### Session 2:

Readings:

Urdinez, F. et al. (2016). "Chinese Economic Statecraft and U.S. Hegemony in Latin America: An Empirical Analysis, 2003–2014", *Latin American Politics and Society* 58(4): 3-30.

Niu Haibin (2015) "A New Era of China-Latin America Relations", *Anuario de la Integración*.

<http://www.cries.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/03-Niu.pdf>

\* Dussel Peters, Enrique, Ariel C. Armony and Cui Shoujun. 2018. *Building Development for a New Era*

<http://dusselpeters.com/130.pdf>

Report #1 Due
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### **WEEK 2: China-LAC Partnerships: adaptations and transformations.**

#### Session 3:

Readings:

\* Nobuaki, H. et al. (2018). "China–Latin America Economic Relations in the New Millennium", *Cutting the Distance. Benefits and Tensions from the Recent Active Engagement of China, Japan, and Korea in Latin America*, Springer. pp 11-29

\* Pérez Ludeña, M. (2017). *Chinese Investments in Latin America Opportunities for growth and diversification*.

Available at: [https://repositorio.cepal.org/bitstream/handle/11362/41134/1/S1700083\\_en.pdf](https://repositorio.cepal.org/bitstream/handle/11362/41134/1/S1700083_en.pdf)

\* Dussel Peters, Enrique and Ariel C. Armony. 2017. *Effects of China on the quantity and quality of jobs in Latin America and the Caribbean*.

Available at: <http://dusselpeters.com/118.pdf>

#### Session 4:

##### Readings:

\* Zweig, D. and Bi Jianhai. (2005). "China's Global Hunt for Energy", *Foreign Affairs* Vol. 84, No. 5: pp. 25-38

\* Dussel Peters, Enrique and Ariel C. Armony. 2015. *Beyond Raw Materials Who are the Actors in the Latin America and Caribbean-China Relationship?*

Available at: <http://dusselpeters.com/95.pdf>

\* Delgado-López, L. M. (2012). "Sino-Latin American space cooperation: A smart move" *Space Policy* 28(1): 7-14

Report #2 Due

### **WEEK 3: Japan**

#### Session 5

##### Readings:

\* Yopo, M. (1991). "Japan-Latin America: Taking Advantage of Mutual Space and Opportunities", *Journal of Interamerican Studies and World Affairs* Vol. 33, No. 1: 59-86.

\* Yamada, Akira. 2013. Japanese Diplomacy in Latin America and the Caribbean. *Americas Quarterly* (online). <http://www.americasquarterly.org/content/japanese-diplomacy-latin-america-and-caribbean>.

#### Session 6

##### Readings:

\* Myers, M. and Kuwayama, M. (2016). "A New Phase in Japan Latin America and the Caribbean Relations", *The Dialogue: Japan-Latin America Report*.

<https://www.thediologue.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/Dialogue-Japan-LAC-Relations-WEB.pdf>

\* Nobuaki, H. et al. (2018). "Japan's Internationalization Strategy and Latin America", *Cutting the Distance. Benefits and Tensions from the Recent Active Engagement of China, Japan, and Korea in Latin America*, Springer. pp 31-49

Report #3 Due

### **WEEK 4: South Korea**

#### Session 7

##### Readings:

\* Ripley, Charles G. and Patrick Roe (2012) "Bolivia, South Korea, and the Development of Lithium Reserves: Understanding the Benefits and Costs of a Newly Demanded Commodity", *Asian Journal of Latin American Studies* Vol. 25 No. 4: 1-23

## Session 8

### Readings:

\* Kim Won-Ho (2018). "Latin America within Korea's Trade and Integration Strategy", in Sebastián Herreros Keiji Inoue Nanno Mulder (eds.), *Innovation and SME Internationalization in Korea and Latin America and the Caribbean. Policy Experiences and areas for Cooperation*. CEPAL.

Available at: <https://repositorio.cepal.org/handle/11362/44149>

\* Nobuaki, H. et al. (2018). "Economic Relations Between Korea and Latin America", *Cutting the Distance. Benefits and Tensions from the Recent Active Engagement of China, Japan, and Korea in Latin America*, pp. 51-73.

Report #4 Due

## **WEEK 5: Comparative Studies**

### Session 9

#### Readings:

\* Ferchen, M. (2014). "Comparing China's and Japan's Latin American policy", Carnegie-Tsinghua Center for Global Policy.

Available at: <http://carnegietsinghua.org/2014/08/05/comparing-china-s-and-japan-s-latin-american-policy-pub-56416>.

\* Gouvea, Raul and Manuel Montoya (2013) "Brazil & China: Partners or Competitors? Designing Strategic Alliances in the Age of Uncertainty", *Asian Journal of Latin American Studies* Vol. 26 No. 1: 1-23.

### Session 10

\* Paladini, S. (2015). "Asian presence in the territory: FDIs, ODA and aid", *Asian Worlds in Latin America*, pp.

\* Lee, Taeheok (2016), "Within and/or Beyond Perception and Ideology: The U.S., China and Their Relationship towards Latin America", *Asian Journal of Latin American Studies* Vol. 29 No. 1: 217-245

\* Gregg B. Johnson and Zhimin Lin (2015). "Sino-Latin American Relations: A Comparison of Expert and Educated Youth Views of Latin America", *Journal of China and International Relations* Vol 3 No 1:

Workshop on draft papers and final revisions

## **WEEK 6: Wrap-up and Final reports**

### Session 11 Wrap up and discussion

#### Readings:

\* Nobuaki, H. et al. (2018). "Introduction", *Cutting the Distance. Benefits and Tensions from the Recent Active Engagement of China, Japan, and Korea in Latin America*, pp. 1-10.

### Session 12

Final Presentations

## **Suggested field trips**

- **Argentina-China Chamber of Commerce**
- **Argentina Mining Chamber**
- **ICBC Foundation**