

Columbia University: Arts & Sciences

A&S Fall 2023 Standard Evaluation

Course: HISTUN2671_001_2023_3 - The Cold War in Latin America: HISTW2671_001_2023_3_169834

Instructor: Alfonso Salgado Munoz *

TA: Gabriel Solis

Response Rate: 16/25 (64.00 %)

1 - What did you learn - in terms of knowledge, skills, or perspectives - in this course?The answer to this question will generally be available in Vergil.

Response Rate	8/25 (32%)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This course, unlike many columbia courses, is quite interesting and helps students understand more about the role that latin america played in the cold war AMAZING. AGENCY + MULTIFARIOUS STATES. It was the best ever! I learned about some of the most important revolutionary events in Latin America during the Cold War (the Guatemalan, Cuban, and Nicaraguan Revolutions, as well as the Allende regime), as well as reactions to them and a general historical overview of Latin America during the twentieth century. The class focused on the agency of Latin American actors, in contradistinction to thinking of them as puppets of either the US or USSR. I learned about the Cold War and how it pertained to Latin America. Latin American countries' agency and individuality during the Cold War. Mostly, putting them into the conversation as REMOVED from strictly US/Soviet influence. Everything you need to know about the basics of the Cold War in Latin America. Particular areas of focus were Chile, Cuba, Nicaragua, and Guatemala. Themes include Latin American agency, bottom-up vs. top-down movements, and Revolution. I learned a lot about Latin America in the 20th century and the realities behind communist and anti-communist agendas Everything. Much more than what I have learnt in other classes as a total. Not only about the brief international history of the Cold War but also Latin America's domestic politics, which are elaborated in a very comprehensible and succinct way. 	

2 - What percentage of the work (including reading) assigned for this course did you complete on schedule?

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means			
All or almost all	(1)	10	62.50%	<div><div></div></div>				
Most	(2)	5	31.25%	<div><div></div></div>				
Some	(3)	1	6.25%	<div><div></div></div>				
This question is not applicable	(4)	0	0.00%	<div><div></div></div>				
				02550100				
Response Rate								
16/25 (64.00%)								

3 - What is your overall assessment of the course? What are its strengths? In what ways might it be improved? In answering this question, you might address the value of readings and assignments, the structure of the course (including the relationship of sections to lectures), the contribution of the course to your knowledge of the subject matter and to the development of your analytical and reasoning skills, etc. We encourage you to use specific examples where possible.

Response Rate	6/25 (24%)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is the best course I've ever had. Sometimes it's the only thing I look forward to in a week. The professor goes into details on everything and provides very careful analyses beyond a simple Cold War mindset. He's a true historian and I aspire to be like him someday. Amazing. Its such a shame that Salgado is only a visiting professor. He is the best professor I have ever had at Columbia. Hire him! This course was well-structured, and the reading assignments related to the content discussed. All of the readings connect to the lecture topic / subject matter in various ways, but sometimes their connection is not explicit. However, they are all very eye-opening, even if the amount of reading was sometimes a lot for me, as there are also primary sources assigned (4-10 pages), in addition to 3 separate 20-30 pages of reading per week. However, all together they paint a summary of Latin America during the Cold War. The only thing I wish the readings explored a bit more was the involvement of non-state actors (specifically religious groups and civil institutions) a bit more, but that's also a personal preference because it's relevant to my research interests in Cold War in Latin America. This course is incredible. The lectures are thorough and engaging. I appreciate the use of quotes to make me feel like I am in the period on the lecture slides. The reading list is truly remarkable. Every reading seemed intentional and tied to the broader themes of the course. I did the readings not because I had to but because I actually felt like I was getting something out of them. This class is truly a gem. Amazing course, incredibly interesting, the professor was so good and I actually can say I learned a lot. one of my favorite courses I have taken so far 	

4 - What is your overall assessment of the course?The answer to this question will generally be available in Vergil.

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means			
Excellent	(5)	10	62.50%	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>			
Very Good	(4)	3	18.75%	<div><div></div></div>				
Good	(3)	3	18.75%	<div><div></div></div>				
Fair	(2)	0	0.00%	<div><div></div></div>				
Poor	(1)	0	0.00%	<div><div></div></div>				
				0 25 50 100	Question			
Response Rate				Mean	STD	Median		
16/25 (64.00%)				4.44	0.81	5.00		

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5 - Would you recommend this course to another student?The answer to this question will generally be available in Vergil.

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
Definitely recommend	(1)	11	68.75%	<div><div></div></div>	
Probably recommend	(2)	5	31.25%	<div><div></div></div>	
I'm not sure I'd recommend	(3)	0	0.00%		
Probably not recommend	(4)	0	0.00%		
Definitely not recommend	(5)	0	0.00%		
				0 25 50 100	
Response Rate					
16/25 (64.00%)					

6 - Please qualify your recommendations if you wish:The answer to this question will generally be available in Vergil.

Response Rate	2/25 (8%)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I was excited to do all of it This is a gem of a history class! The lectures are thorough and engaging. The reading list is superb. It really is a you get out of it what you put into it class and if you put a lot into it the experience is incredibly rewarding. I feel like this class not only enhanced my historical knowledge but also my worldview. I feel so lucky to have taken this course. 	

7 - How does the workload in this course compare to Columbia courses with a similar structure (e.g. a lecture, seminar, laboratory, or language course)?The answer to this question will generally be available in Vergil.

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
Much heavier workload	(1)	0	0.00%		
Heavier workload	(2)	8	50.00%	<div><div></div></div>	
Similar workload	(3)	8	50.00%	<div><div></div></div>	
Lighter workload	(4)	0	0.00%		
Much lighter workload	(5)	0	0.00%		
No basis for comparison	(6)	0	0.00%		
				0 25 50 100	
Response Rate					
16/25 (64.00%)					

8 - How many hours a week did you devote to this course? (Note: Please include all time spent on this class including class time, discussion sections, readings, assignments, studying, etc.)The answer to this question will generally be available in Vergil.

Response Rate	8/25 (32%)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8-9. I did all the readings a little too in depth because I was interested. 8 7 hours / week 4-5 7-8 hours per week.outside of class, more during midterm and finals week. 2 75 min lectures, 1 50 min discussion section / week. 2 4-5 page essays, these are pretty manageable, even if the source material for those essays are a bit lengthy. The reason why I say it's a heavier workload is because the final IS cumulative, whereas all of my other history lectures had concentrated segments of the class structured around each exam, and an optional cumulative essay. 11, sometimes more but it goes fast because the readings are great around 10-12 hours 12-15 hours 	

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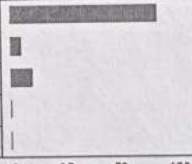
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9 - Please evaluate Alfonso Salgado Munoz. What are Alfonso Salgado Munoz's strengths? In what ways might their teaching be improved? In answering this question, you might address the clarity of the lectures or presentations and their relationship to the other elements of the course, the ability of Alfonso Salgado Munoz to generate enthusiasm and facilitate discussion, the quality of feedback, availability, the timeliness of the return assignment, etc. -

Response Rate 7/25 (28%)

- On top of being knowledgeable, careful, and providing comprehensive analyses, he also responds to emails and inquiries timely. It's a shame that he has to find jobs elsewhere, because Columbia is unwilling to hire more tenure track professors.
- Professor Salgado had very understandable lectures with a clear argument, and was very knowledgeable and capable in his ability to answer questions.
- Professor Salgado is a very knowledgeable professor. I enjoy listening to his lectures because there is so much information, and the primary sources he assigns are very applicable to the material. Some of the secondary sources are more helpful than others, and also require a large time commitment to finish them in time for discussion/lecture. Professor Salgado is always available to discuss with students during office hours or after class, which I appreciate. Also, he knew everyone's names in the class—even though it was a small lecture, I liked that he took the time to get to know us. Overall, I really enjoyed taking Professor Salgado's class, and I have learned so much.
- Very engaged in his lectures, facilitates class participation well. He does go through the lectures fast, and they are very in-depth, which can be overwhelming at times, but otherwise, he is extremely engaged and knowledgeable about the subject. He is also super available in office hours, and is EXTREMELY helpful when it comes to explaining concepts and helping with essay topic ideas. I HIGHLY recommend a taking a class with him, especially if you're interested in Latin American history.
- SALGADO IS THE BEST. He is a true gem mined from the bedrock of academia that should be treasured by all. I am heartbroken to hear he will not be returning next year. I loved his lectures so much, I walked away feeling so immersed in the time period everyday. The reading list was superb. He is clearly extremely well versed in the historiography and literature regarding this topic. I wish I could take this class again for the first time just to experience the joy of learning it all again.
- He was incredible, a very good lecturer, he was actually interested in what he was teaching
- Professor Salgado is incredibly well-read and knows perfectly well what he's been talking about. He is really good at delivering the course content, which is not directly taken from any existing arguments but as a composition of historical research from all perspectives. We were also exposed to a huge amount of primary sources that welcomed interpretations as well, a facet of this class that I really appreciate. His slides, lecture, and readings he assigned are three different perspectives that all came perfectly together in discussion sections. He is also very approachable and I enjoy so much taking his class and talking with him. He also knows how to teach about this complicated history in the fullest sense ever, as he is really good at leading students in coming out with a historically situated conclusion that contributes to our own understanding of the subject matter.

10 - What is the overall teaching effectiveness of Alfonso Salgado Munoz? -

Response Option					Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means					
Excellent	(5)	13	81.25%						4.69	Question				
Very Good	(4)	1	6.25%											
Good	(3)	2	12.50%											
Fair	(2)	0	0.00%											
Poor	(1)	0	0.00%											
								0 25 50 100						
Response Rate								Mean		STD		Median		
16/25 (64.00%)								4.69		0.70		5.00		

11 - What are the strengths and weaknesses of Gabriel Solis (discussion section leader, lab section leader, grader) as an instructor, and how might Gabriel Solis's teaching be improved?

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12 - What is the overall teaching effectiveness of Gabriel Solis?

