

Columbia University: Arts & Sciences

A&S Fall 2022 Standard Evaluation

Course: HISTUN3621_001_2022_3 - Mass-Mediated Politics in Modern Latin A:
HISTW3621_001_2022_3_153983

Instructor: Alfonso Salgado Munoz *

Response Rate: 9/10 (90.00 %)

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	6/10 (60%)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This was the first history class I've taken, so it was a great introduction to understanding how to read historical articles and critically analyze their content. I also felt that my skills in formulating and articulating thoughts, both on paper and verbally, improved vastly over the semester. I learned a great deal not only about Latin America specifically, but also general themes of journalism. This class truly pushed me in terms of my critical thinking skills in how I think about journalism, what it is and how it operates. As well, I was introduced to new perspectives on how to interact with a text, specifically how to interact with its whole argument and critique it from there. I learned a lot about Latin America and literature on several media practices there. - the role the media has played in late 19th - 20th century Latin American politics - key theories in media studies (Anderson, Habermas, etc.) and how they apply in non-Western contexts - how to write a book review and historiographical paper I learned about the relationship between the media and political power, and participated throughout the semester in discussions on the public sphere, freedom of the press, and journalism in various epochs in 19th and 20th century Latin America. I became more aware of the specificities of certain media technologies, in their relationship to their producers and their publics. Finally, I grew in my understanding of the methods of historians and the major historiographical debates on mass communication in general, and the topic I chose for my final assignment in particular. Mass-media development in 18th and 19th century Latin America. 	

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)	7	77.78%	<div><div></div></div>	
Most	(2)	2	22.22%	<div><div></div></div>	
Some	(3)	0	0.00%		
This question is not applicable	(4)	0	0.00%		
				0 25 50 100	
Response Rate					
9/10 (90.00%)					

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	6/10 (60%)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The course changed many of my previous held understandings about both media and the region --which is a good thing. Although it requires a lot of work (a lot of reading), it is what I expected from an advanced history seminar. Professor Salgado manages to create a lively and engaging conversation. I would have liked to hear more of his voice and knowledge throughout the course. Although I understand it is a reading-based course, it would have been interesting to obtain more historical insights from his part. Other than that, I am highly pleased with the contents and knowledge obtained from the class. This course was extremely effective in sparking interesting discussions surrounding the Latin American public sphere and the development of the press. The readings covered diverse perspectives on the topics covered, which I truly enjoyed. Although I enjoyed the fluidity of our discussions and the energy in the classroom, perhaps there is a bit too much flexibility during discussions. This might be improved by adding more structure to class time rather than allowing for so many tangents. As for the assignments, I felt that the workload was quite reasonable. Weekly response papers motivated the class to keep up with the readings despite the gap between each session, especially considering the thoughtful feedback provided by Professor Salgado at the beginning of each class. Overall, I was very happy with this class. Each reading was engaging and introduced a new perspective to the conversation. This class enhanced my understanding of Latin American politics, in conceptualizing the ways in which the government worked and its relationship with its people. As well, I feel as if my understanding of the people has been improved due to our focus on the public sphere. I enjoyed all the readings and discussions. The professor did a good job at facilitating discussions. The great strength of the course is its ability to make us participate, through the structure of each section usually set by questions the professor asked us to reflect on. The professor is also flexible enough to develop with us certain lenses and concepts as the discussions go. Ultimately, what this course allowed us to do is provide a great historiographical discussion of the readings we had, that span across the 19th and 20th centuries of media throughout Latin America, in a way that made us connect and contrast the different observations made by each author. I acknowledge the usefulness of each assignment we had, from the weekly response papers to the book review, and finally the historiographical final paper, in the discussion held in class and in how they allow us to improve our abilities in engaging with the historians' works. The course is very much a succession of questions of reflection, that could make us a bit lost in how to assimilate the concepts and observations discussed. The reason why this didn't happen is that many of the questions we asked ourselves throughout the semester were deeply related to each other, and often resurfaced in more than one work: freedom of the press, expansion of the public sphere, the relationship with democracy, and the relationship between the media, their producers, and their publics. One possible improvement could come from the dedication of a few minutes in each section to go back on the key takeaways of what was discussed, in order to maybe reformulate things that may have been confusing, or at least to provide a bigger picture of what we observed in class. This has been one of my favorite courses I have taken in the Latin American history department, the reading list was great and the suggested readings have been some of the best texts I have read. The seminar discussions were always student focused and Professor Salgado provided us with questions before discussion to consider for the readings. These were very useful for preparation and we also had weekly responses, which we received feedback or other questions to consider. Overall, I recommend this class to anyone seeking to take a class about mass media in Latin America. 	

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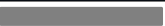

Instructor: Alfonso Salgado Munoz *

Response Rate: 9/10 (90.00 %)

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)	7	77.78%		
Very Good	(4)	1	11.11%		
Good	(3)	1	11.11%		
Fair	(2)	0	0.00%		
Poor	(1)	0	0.00%		
				0 25 50 100	Question
Response Rate			Mean		STD
9/10 (90.00%)			4.67		0.71
					Median
					5.00





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)	8	88.89%		
Probably recommend	(2)	1	11.11%		
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					
9/10 (90.00%)					

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

Response Rate	4/10 (40%)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Challenging yet rewarding course. Professor Salgado is knowledgeable, interesting, and understanding. The readings he provide, although plentiful and lengthy, are fascinating. • For anyone interested in learning more about Latin American history, I would highly recommend this course. The readings are diverse and engaging, the discussions prompt some of the best critical thinking and analysis I've had in class (though it can sometimes spiral into tangents), there is a lot of guidance and engagement on the professor's part, and the workload is quite reasonable for a history seminar. • - One of my favorite classes I've taken at Columbia. Must take if you're interested in Latam history or just media studies in general - Most of the readings were enlightening and not texts I would have read otherwise • The course is a window into the world of mass communication in Latin America. It offers in depth discussions of major debates regarding journalism and the public sphere — things we are still very interested in to this day — but in various settings of the nascent and evolving media scenes in Latin America. The readings for the course and the final assignment, as well as the format of the seminar (which encourages participation) all generate intense engagement with the historians discussed, their objects of study and the gaps that may yet exist in the field. It is a great contribution to the education of students interested in history, politics, media, as well as those focused in Latin America. 	

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)	1	11.11%		
Heavier workload	(2)	5	55.56%		
Similar workload	(3)	1	11.11%		
Lighter workload	(4)	0	0.00%		
Much lighter workload	(5)	0	0.00%		
No basis for comparison	(6)	2	22.22%		
				0 25 50 100	
Response Rate					
9/10 (90.00%)					

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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	7/10 (70%)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6-8. • 5-6 hours • I would spend around 4-6 hours on readings, and the 2 hours in class. • about 8 hours/week • Approximately 10 hours weekly, plus an average of 5 hours weekly for the final assignment. • 6 hours • 4-8 hours depending on the readings and assignments 	

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	8/10 (80%)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professor Salgado is very knowledgeable and approachable. He manages to lead the debate in a way that keeps the class interesting and engaging. He is very helpful during office hours. Salgado provides thorough and timely feedback, allowing you to improve continuously. I would have liked to hear more of his voice and knowledge during class, but other than that I have no complaints. • Professor Salgado is clearly very passionate and informed, and he does a great job of spreading that enthusiasm throughout the classroom. Discussions always flowed quite naturally throughout the two hour seminar owing to his guidance, and the readings he chose. Perhaps his strongest point is providing feedback each week on response papers which always prompted students to analyze more thoroughly and find continuity between the many articles we read. He cares about each student and it certainly shows. • Professor Salgado was wonderful this semester. He is very engaged with the classwork and material, fostering really great conversation. He is very approachable and helpful in both the classroom and in office hours. He was amazingly helpful and enthusiastic in helping me flesh out and feel confident in my term paper as well. • He was good at leading discussions, providing feedback, and assigning interesting readings every week. • Salgado is an incredible facilitator and can make ANY topic interesting. He provides written feedback on weekly reading responses and makes himself available to meet during and outside of office hours. • Alfonso Salgado Munoz's qualities as an instructor start with the zeal with which he shaped our syllabus, the various sections and readings. Nothing was superfluous in his successful endeavour to show us the field of media history in Latin America, its main questions and topics. His commitment to his students was seen in how quickly he returned our assignments, and in the meticulous and constructive feedback he continuously gave us, always aimed at making our work better and our arguments more pertinent. In class, his enthusiasm with the topics studied, and his constant attention towards us made us participate much more and have intense discussions on our topics, from which we never strayed. He was also particularly able to successfully rephrase, reframe and repeat in ingenious ways the questions that set our class whenever we felt it difficult to follow. To improve his teaching, I suggest: to return more frequently and clearly to the bigger picture, the main questions, the main takeaways of our readings and topics of each section as we go along. It can provide a way to better synthesise and connect certain discussions we had and concepts we have seen. • Professor Salgado was very engaging and charismatic, he always offered great leading questions and general discussion questions to allow us to think critically. He was always very friendly and approachable, even outside of office hours with student notice, and was very accommodating. He also put together a great reading list and always gave student participation of utmost priority. Overall, his priority was to keep us curious and engaged, asking students individual questions of clarification and critique where it would spark most discussion. • I think the seminar was really good and Prof. Salgado is a great teacher, he's knowledgeable about a lot of aspects of Latin American history and can enrich any discussion. The seminar was great for both students with extensive background knowledge on media and/or Latin American history and for people who had no knowledge at all in these topics, which is a great feat. The only issue I found with the course was that it felt a bit too bureaucratic at times. Prof. Salgado would grade every weekly reading response we had to do, and I feel that generated unnecessary pressure on himself and also on the students. 	

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

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
Excellent	(5)	8	88.89%		4.89
Very Good	(4)	1	11.11%		
Good	(3)	0	0.00%		
Fair	(2)	0	0.00%		
Poor	(1)	0	0.00%		
				0 25 50 100	Question
Response Rate				Mean	STD
9/10 (90.00%)				4.89	0.33
					Median
					5.00

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

Response Rate	0/10 (0%)
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12 - What is the overall teaching effectiveness of ?

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means			
Excellent	(5)	0	0.00%		0.00			
Very Good	(4)	0	0.00%					
Good	(3)	0	0.00%					
Fair	(2)	0	0.00%					
Poor	(1)	0	0.00%					
				0 25 50 100	Question			
Response Rate				Mean		STD		Median
0/10 (0.00%)				0.00		0.00		0.00

13 - Which of the following books you found more interesting?Please choose only 1 or 2 books.

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	
Cane, James. The Fourth Enemy: Journalism and Power in the Making of Peronist Argentina, 1930-1955.	(1)	4	44.44%	<div></div>	
González, Celeste. Muy Buenas Noches: Mexico, Television, and the Cold War.	(2)	0	0.00%	<div></div>	
McCann, Bryan. Hello, Hello Brazil: Popular Music in the Making of Modern Brazil.	(3)	7	77.78%	<div></div>	
Smith, Benjamin. The Mexican Press and Civil Society, 1940-1976: Stories from the Newsroom, Stories from the Street.	(4)	4	44.44%	<div></div>	
Response Rate	9/10 (90%)				

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14 - Which of the following articles or book chapters you found more interesting? Please choose between 3 and 5 texts.

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	
Albuquerque and da Silva. "Skilled, Loyal, and Disciplined: Communist Journalists and the Adaptation of the American Model of 'Independent Journalism' in Brazil."	(1)	3	33.33%	<div></div>	
Andrews, George Reid. "Afro-World: African-Diaspora Thought and Practice in Montevideo, Uruguay, 1830-2000."	(2)	3	33.33%	<div></div>	
Braga-Pinto, César. "Journalists, Capoeiras, and the Duel in Nineteenth-Century Rio de Janeiro."	(3)	4	44.44%	<div></div>	
Carassai, Sebastián. "The Dark Side of Social Desire: Violence as Metaphor, Fantasy and Satire in Argentina, 1969-1975."	(4)	1	11.11%	<div></div>	
Keller, Renata. "The Revolution Will Be Teletyped: Cuba's Prensa Latina News Agency and the Cold War Contest Over Information."	(5)	4	44.44%	<div></div>	
Lambe, Jennifer. "The Medium Is the Message: The Screen Life of the Cuban Revolution, 1959-1962."	(6)	3	33.33%	<div></div>	
Lawson, Chappel. "Opening Mexico's Print Media."	(7)	0	0.00%	<div></div>	
López, Rick A. "The India Bonita Contest of 1921 and the Ethnicization of Mexican National Culture."	(8)	3	33.33%	<div></div>	
McEnaney, Tom. "Radio's Revolutions"	(9)	1	11.11%	<div></div>	
Milanesio, Natalia. "Sex and Democracy: The Meanings of the Destape in Postdictatorial Argentina."	(10)	3	33.33%	<div></div>	
Piccato, Pablo. "Representing Public Opinion: Combat Journalists and the Business of Honor."	(11)	2	22.22%	<div></div>	
Schudson, Michael. "News, Public, Nation."	(12)	2	22.22%	<div></div>	
Soriano, Cristina. "Public Sphere without a Printing Press: Texts, Reading Networks, and Public Opinion in Venezuela during the Age of Revolutions."	(13)	3	33.33%	<div></div>	
Uribe-Urán, Víctor. "The Birth of a Public Sphere in Latin America during the Age of Revolution."	(14)	2	22.22%	<div></div>	
Zeltsman, Corinna. "Defining Responsibility: Printers, Politics, and the Law in Early Republican Mexico City."	(15)	1	11.11%	<div></div>	
Zeltsman, Corinna. "Printing Capitalism in Nineteenth-Century Latin America and the Caribbean"	(16)	2	22.22%	<div></div>	
Response Rate		9/10 (90%)			