DESCRIPTION:
Argentine history bewilders Latin Americanists for its many contradictions and unanswered questions. Argentina is one of the richest countries in the region, and yet it has suffered a series of extremely severe economic crises that has left the country impoverished. Its politics also have many unanswered questions. Thus, the region enthusiastically adopted a republican system of government and yet it has been plagued by civil wars and military coups. And then there is also Peronism, a political movement which, despite its many failures, continues to have an enduring and passionate popularity among the lower classes. This course will provide an opportunity for students to analyze different hypothesis proposed by scholars to explain these riddles as well as to confront these answers with the ideas and beliefs of the people “in the streets.

CREDITS: 3 credits

CONTACT HOURS: 45 hours

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION: English

PREREQUISITES: None

ADDITIONAL COST: None

METHOD OF PRESENTATION:
Lectures, discussions, readings, individual and group in-class activities, and oral presentations.

REQUIRED WORK AND FORM OF ASSESSMENT:
- Weekly Quizzes - 10%
- Homework and Participation - 10%
- Two Exams, 25% each - 50%
- Three Short Essays, 10% each - 30%

Weekly Quizzes
There will be weekly quizzes to be completed on the textbook readings of the week through Moodle. Quizzes will be multiple-choice, true/false questions. Readings included in the quiz will be marked with a [Q].

Homework and Participation
You are required to complete the assigned reading by the date posted in the course schedule. All students must also post in Moodle the following assignments before Monday noon every week:
- Two discussion questions on the assigned readings of the week that are not included in the quiz.
- Each student will be in charge of posting notes for each class at least once during the semester. Notes will be posted in Moodle and they will be available for all students. Other students will be able to add comments to the main post in the thread.

In-class and remote assignments such as small group activities, response paragraphs, oral presentations etc., will be regularly scheduled and graded. Be ready to interview Argentines about their opinions on the most important issues discussed in class. You will notice that Argentines are extremely passionate about politics.

Exams
There will be an in-class midterm and a take home final exam. Both will be based on all readings, videos, lectures, and class discussions.
Short Essays
You will have to write three short essays (5-6 pages each). First essay is on the exhibition “Argentina 1848-2010. Fotografia documental y artes visuales”; the second one is on the former center of detention ESMA, and the third one will be a review of a history book of your choice on a subject related to the main themes of this class. Book review essays will be presented in class at the end of the semester.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:
By the end of the course, students will be able to:

• Demonstrate orally and in writing a general understanding of the most important processes that shaped Argentine political and social history.
• Use knowledge and strategies acquired in class to successfully compare and contrast Argentina’s history with those of other nations in the Americas, including the United States.
• Evaluate critically different interpretations about the nature and consequences of the relationship between leaders and masses in Argentina, including those between independence soldiers and revolutionary elites, gauchos and caudillos, Juan Perón and the working class, and the Peronista party and the poor.
• Analyze the complex causes that led to a spiral of violence, human rights violations and political instability in the late 20th century.
• Relate their personal experiences in Argentina to the main ideas and concepts discussed in this class.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:
Attendance and punctuality are mandatory. Each instructor will record each student’s attendance through Moodle. Any legitimate reason for not attending class or a field work activity (medical emergency, etc.) must be referred directly to the Academic office (not to the instructor) with proper documentation. Students who miss class due to medical reasons need to receive a certified doctor’s note from a medical professional and turn this into the Academic Affairs office. Without that note, the absence cannot be excused.

Instructors have authority to mark students as absent if they arrive 15 minutes or more after the course starting time.

• Courses taught one day per week allow a maximum of 1 absence.
• Courses taught two days per week allow a maximum of 2 absences.
• Courses taught three and four days per week allow a maximum of 3 absences.

Every unexcused absence after the maximum allowance will lower half a point of the student’s final grade (for instance, from “A” to “A-”, from “A-” to “B+” and so on). It is the students’ responsibility to keep up to date on their absence total.

CONTENT:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Content</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
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| Session 2 | Unitarians and Federalists, 1820-1852 | • Bushnell, David and Neill Macaulay, The Emergence of Latin America in the Nineteenth Century, 2nd edition, pp. 117-135. [Q]  
| Session 3 | Nation-Building and Economic Progress, 1852-1930 | • Bushnell, The Emergence, pp. 221-234.[Q]  
| Session 4 | Politics 1880-1930  
• TAR: Osvaldo Bayer, “Simón Radowitzky” (pp. 219-230), David Rock, “The Unión Cívica Radical”, (pp. 231-250). [Q]  
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<th>Content</th>
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| Session 5 | The Origins of Peronism, 1930-1945 | • Skidmore-Smith, Modern Latin America, pp. 82-86 [Q]  
• Plotkin, Mariano B. Mañana es San Perón. A Cultural History of Peron's Argentina, Scholarly Resources, 2003, pp. 3-18.[Q]  
• James, Daniel. Resistance and Integration, Cambridge U. Press, pp. 7-41.  
• James, Daniel. Doña María’s Story, Duke U. Press, pp. 32-70.  
| Session 6 | The Peronista Regime, 1946-1955 | • Skidmore-Smith, Modern Latin America, pp. 86-89 [Q]  
• Plotkin, Mañana es San Perón, pp.105-134.  
• TAR: Tomás E. Martínez, “Saint Evita” (pp. 296-303). [Q] |
| Session 7 | REVIEW SESSION and MIDTERM EXAM | |
| Session 8 | Radicalization, 1955-1976  
Guest lecturer Laura Lenci | • Skidmore-Smith, Modern Latin America, pp. 89-98. [Q]  
• TAR: Guillermo O’Donnell, “Modernization and Military Coups” (pp. 399-420) [Q]  
• TAR: Richard Gillespie, “Soldiers of Perón” (pp. 377-385); Juan D. Perón, “Antirevolutionary Peronism” (pp. 386-394). |
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<th>Content</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
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| Session 9 | Repression and Resistance during the “Proceso”, 1976-1983  
*Fieldstudy: Plaza de Mayo – Madres de Plaza de Mayo weekly round.*  
*Fieldstudy: ESMA (Escuela de Mecánica de la Armada): date TBC* | • Skidmore-Smith, Modern Latin America, pp. 98-101. [Q]  
| Session 10 | Democracy and its Limits, 1983-Today (I) | • Skidmore-Smith, Modern Latin America, pp. 101-108.[Q]  
• TAR: Osvaldo Soriano, “Living with Inflation”, (pp. 481-486), Novaro-Palermo, “Menem: A New Style in Politics” [Q]  
| Session 12 | Oral Presentations | |
Review session | |
| Session 14 | FINAL EXAM | |
• Bushnell, The Emergence, pp. 221-234.[Q]
• Bushnell, David and Neill Macaulay, The Emergence of Latin America in the Nineteenth Century, 2nd edition, pp. 117-135. [Q]
• Guillermo O’Donnell, “Modernization and Military Coups” (pp. 399-420)
• James, Daniel. Resistance and Integration, Cambridge U. Press, pp. 7-41.
• James, Daniel. Doña María’s Story, Duke U. Press, pp. 32-70.
• Lavrin, Asunción, “Women´s Politics and Suffrage in Argentina”. In Women, Feminism, and Social Change in Argentina, Chile and Uruguay, 1890-1940, U. of Nebraska Press, 1995..
• Osvaldo Soriano, “Living with Inflation”, (pp. 481-486), Novaro-Palermo, “Menem: A New Style in Politics”
• Osvaldo Bayer, “Simón Radowitzky” (pp. 219-230), David Rock, “The Unión Cívica Radical.”
• Richard Gillespie, “Soldiers of Perón” (pp. 377-385); Juan D. Perón, “Antirevolutionary Peronism.”
• Tomás E. Martínez, “Saint Evita” (pp. 296-303).