

## Syllabus **Political History in Argentina, XIX and XX Century**

SWARTHMORE BUENOS AIRES

Fall Semester - 2007

Profesora Cecilia Belej

Classes: Thursday 2.00 pm-4.00 pm

### **Objectives:**

This course explores the Argentinean political history from the crisis of the colonial order to the present. The course concentrates on the dynamics of social and political change and the development and transformation of the state in Argentina and the role of the government, political parties and the political practices during the XIX and XX Century.

The course will cover five main areas: (i) crisis of the colonial order and creation of a new order, (ii) consolidation of the National State and the modernization; (iii) new social actors and demands of political participation; (iv) development of political parties: conservatives, radicals, socialists, anarchists, communists, peronist; v) Democracy and political instability: the use of violence; (vi) neoliberalism.

In addition to assigned readings we will explore other relevant materials that include documentaries, films and visits to historical places such as Parque de la Memoria and Evita's Museum.

### **Requirements**

This course combines lectures, class discussions, writing assignments, and informal oral presentations. Students must stay up with all assignments and readings and attend to a minimum of 75% of the classes.

In order to pass this course students must take two exams: A mid-term exam and a final exam.

**Cecilia Belej** is a history teacher. She teaches Latin American history at Universidad de Palermo and European and Argentinean history at Facultad de Ciencias Sociales, Universidad de Buenos Aires. She is a researcher of the Interdisciplinary Institute of Gender Studies and has published several essays about gender and politics in Argentina.

## Course outline and readings

### Unit 1

Crisis of the colonial order and creation of a new order. Post-independence *caudillismo* and national organization.

- Tulio Halperin Donghi, “Economy and society in post Independence Spanish America” in Bethel, Leslie (Editor) *The Cambridge history of Latin America Volume III From Independence to c. 1870*, Cambridge University Press, 1986, pages 299-345.
- John Lynch, “The River Plate Republics from Independence to the Paraguayan war”, in Bethel, Leslie (Editor) *The Cambridge history of Latin America Volume III From Independence to c. 1870*, Cambridge University Press, 1986, pages 615-676.
- Ricardo Salvatore, “Rituals of Federalism” in *Wandering Paysanos. State order and subaltern experience in Buenos Aires during the Rosas Era*, Durham and London, Duke University Press, 2003, pages 361-393.

### Unit 2

National organization. Consolidation of the National State and modernization. Economy and society at the turn-of-the-century. The Liberal State. New social actors and demands of political participation. Apogee and crisis of Argentina.

- Gallo, Ezequiel, “Argentina: society and politics”, in Bethel, Leslie (Editor), *The Cambridge History of Latin America Volume V c. 1870 to 1930*, Cambridge University Press, 1986, pages 359-391.
- Rock, David, “Argentina from the first world war to the Revolution of 1930” in Bethel, Leslie (Editor), *The Cambridge History of Latin America Volume V c. 1870 to 1930*, Cambridge University Press, 1986, pages 419-452.
- Eduardo P. Archetti, “Multiple Masculinities: The Worlds of Tango and Football in Argentina.” in Balderston, Daniel and Guy, Donna, *Sex and Sexuality in Latin America*, New York, New York University Press, 1997, pages 200-216.

### Unit 3

Political and economical crisis. The conservative restoration and the origins of Peronism. Industrialization, and the rise of Peronism.

- Luis Alberto Romero, “The Conservative Restoration. 1930-1943” in *A History of Argentina in the Twentieth Century*, Buenos Aires, Fondo de Cultura Económica, 2006, pages 59-90.
- Nicholas Fraser and Marysa Navarro, “17 October 1945”, “The new Argentina” and “The gift of giving” in *Evita. The Real Life of Eva Perón*, New York, W.W. Norton & Company Inc., 1996. pages 49-68, 102-113, 114-133.

### Unit 4

The peronist Resistance. Democracy and political instability: the use of violence. The 3<sup>rd</sup> government of Peron. Radicalization of the political conflict. The Military dictatorship and *desaparecidos*.

- Luis Alberto Romero, “The Stalemate. 1955-1966” in *A History of Argentina in the Twentieth Century*, Buenos Aires, Fondo de Cultura Económica, 2006, pages 131-171.
- Luis Alberto Romero, “Dependency or Liberation, 1966-1976” in *A History of Argentina in the Twentieth Century*, Buenos Aires, Fondo de Cultura Económica, 2006, pages 173-214.
- Luis Alberto Romero, “The Process, 1976-1983” in *A History of Argentina in the Twentieth Century*, Buenos Aires, Fondo de Cultura Económica, 2006, pages 215-254.
- Jean Elshtain, “The Mothers of the Disappeared: Passion and Protest in Maternal Action” in Bassin, Donna – Honey, Margaret and Kaplan, Meryle Mahrer, (Editors) *Representation of Motherhood*, New Haven and London, Yale University Press , 1994, pages 75-91.

### Unit 5

The democratic transition. The challenge of Democracy. Neoliberalism.

- Luis Alberto Romero, “Advance and Retreat, 1983-1989” in *A History of Argentina in the Twentieth Century*, Buenos Aires, Fondo de Cultura Económica, 2006, pages 255-282.
- Luis Alberto Romero, “The Great Transformation, 1989-1999” in *A History of Argentina in the Twentieth Century*, Buenos Aires, Fondo de Cultura Económica, 2006, pages 285-317.
- Petras, James “The Unemployed Workers Movement in Argentina.” in *Monthly Review*, volume 53, number 8, January 2002, pages 32-45.