



KIIS Argentina Program, Summer 2024

PS 460: Topics: Dictatorship and Democracy

Instructor: Dr. Shawn Schulenberg

Email: schulenberg@marshall.edu

Instructor's office hours: on site and by appointment

Syllabus subject to change

1. Course Description:

This course will examine the relationship between the armed forces and the societies they are charged to protect, with a focus on the cases of Argentina, Brazil, and Chile. Although we will focus primarily on Argentina, we will also study events in Brazil and Chile so that we can understand how and why we see different regional variations and the consequences of these differences today. We will study the events chronologically and thematically as follows: the preconditions to a military coup, military regimes in power, transitions to democratic rule, how civilians deal with human rights prosecutions afterwards, and the impact this all has on democracy after the transition is complete.

2. Overall KIIS Program Student Learning Outcomes:

KIIS Study Abroad Mission Statement:

KIIS provides high-quality education abroad programs for students from all diverse backgrounds that promote deep international learning, are integrated into the curriculum, and encourage critical and creative thinking. Our goal is to help students understand the wider world and develop personal and professional skills for lifelong enrichment. We strive to go beyond generalizations and cultural stereotypes to help foster a nuanced appreciation of the world in which we live.

Students participating on KIIS study abroad programs aim to:

- 1) Understand contemporary issues of their host country/countries (i.e. KIIS program location).
- 2) Develop skills to interact comfortably in a global setting.
- 3) Understand other cultures.

Prior to your KIIS study abroad program, and again at the conclusion of your program, KIIS will ask each student to a) answer a few multiple-choice questions, and b) write a short reflective essay (two paragraphs in length) related to the elements detailed above. There is no right or wrong answer, and your responses will not affect your grade in any way. The purpose of the exercise is to help KIIS measure the effectiveness of its study abroad programs.

3. Course Objectives and Specific Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:	How students will practice each outcome:	How student achievement of each outcome will be assessed:
1. Explain why militaries sometimes overthrow civilian governments while at other times remain subordinate.	Readings/Class Discussion	Short Essays
2. Evaluate the preconditions leading to military coups Argentina, Brazil, and Chile.	Readings/Class Discussion	Short Essays
3. Evaluate and compare the tenure of military rule in Argentina, Brazil, and Chile.	Readings/Class Discussion	Short Essays/Independent Research & Presentation
4. Explain the legacy of military dictatorships on democratic rule in Argentina, Brazil, and Chile today.	Readings/Class Discussion	Short Essays/Independent Research & Presentation

4. Major Topics covered in the Course:

Dictatorship, Democracy, Political Regimes, Civil-Military Relations, Development, Human Rights, Memory, and Justice

5. Required Readings: You should complete all readings before you depart for Argentina:

- Dávila, Jerry. 2013. *Dictatorship in South America*. Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell. Kindle: <http://www.amazon.com/Dictatorship-South-America-Viewpoints-Puntos-ebook/dp/B00CO32BEO/>
- Google Classroom. You can access all other course-related files, including this syllabus.

6. Graded Assignments:

Grades for the course will be calculated based on your work on the following items:

- **Participation (20%)** – Students are expected to attend every class and participate in out-of-class activities as directed by the instructor/program director. KIIS requires that any unexcused absence results in a grade reduction. Multiple unexcused absences may result in expulsion from the program. You will be graded here not just on your attendance, but your active engagement with our guest speakers and tours (during excursions) and the readings (during class).
- **Independent Research/Final Presentation (40%)** – Students will research a specific contemporary political issue that is shaped in some way by the history of military rule/democratization. You will complete a five-page essay (20%) and present your research to the class during our last meeting. You will be expected to reference academic and non-academic articles, books, and websites as your source material, as well as take advantage of the on-site location to interview a few locals regarding their perspective on your topic.

- **Class Reflection Essays (40%)** – For each class period and each excursion/speaker, you will complete a short essay (200 words minimum) at the beginning of class (or at the next class for the excursion/speakers). I will assign a specific topic for each class, but generally they will ask you to relate the course readings to our experiences in Argentina. Typically, you will email these to me by 8AM each day.
 - For first class: Many people in these countries thought these types of human rights abuses by the military could never happen there, but many in the United States also believe it could never happen within our borders. Could such abuses happen in the United States? Why or why not? What would it look like?

All course assignments must be completed to receive a passing grade. There will be no extra credit offered. Your course will use the following scale:

A = 90-100% B = 80-89% C = 70-79% D = 60-69% F ≤ 59%

7. Attendance Policy:

KIIS program participants are expected to be punctual to and in attendance at all classes, presentations, meetings and required excursions, and to remain with the program for the full academic period. Unexcused absences from classes and/or mandatory meetings will result in a lowering of the student's final grade, as will excessive tardiness. Multiple unexcused absences could result in expulsion from the program. Any absence from an academic class session must be excused for medical reasons.

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8. Disability Accommodation:

KIIS will make every reasonable effort to provide accommodations for program participants with special needs or disabilities, but we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. Be aware that many foreign countries do not have comprehensive legislation comparable to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). As a result, businesses and other establishments operating in foreign countries may not be able to provide accommodations.

If you have a disability accommodation need, we recommend you contact your KIIS Campus Representative, <https://www.kiis.org/about-kiis/contact-us/campus-representatives/> early in your program selection process so that s/he has time to discuss any specific needs, including which KIIS programs may be best suited. You also are welcome to contact KIIS Assistant Director, Maria Canning, maria.canning@wku.edu, to discuss your disability accommodation needs (e.g. housing, transportation, excursions, class schedule, etc.).

Immediately after acceptance, notify KIIIS Admissions and Enrollment Specialist, Haley McTaggart, haley.mctaggart@wku.edu, if you have a special need or disability that might require any form of accommodation abroad. Failure to notify KIIIS may prevent you from participating on your KIIIS program.

If you require any accommodations abroad, you must provide KIIIS Admissions and Enrollment Specialist, Haley McTaggart, an accommodation letter from your home campus' disability accommodation office that lists the accommodations you are eligible to receive. Please do not request accommodations directly from your KIIIS Program Director or other KIIIS Faculty; the KIIIS Office will notify your KIIIS Program Director and/or Faculty after we have received your above accommodation letter.

In some cases, you may need to make arrangements for a caregiver to join you on your KIIIS program, should your physician, campus disability accommodation office, or KIIIS make such a recommendation or require it.

9. Title IX / Discrimination & Harassment:

Recent attention to gender discrimination and sexual harassment at colleges and universities reminds us of the importance of adhering to standards of ethical and professional behavior. KIIIS Study Abroad is committed to supporting and encouraging safe and equitable educational environments for our students, faculty, and program directors. Students, faculty, and program directors are required to be civil and treat each other with dignity and respect. As such, harassment and/or discrimination of any kind will not be permitted or tolerated.

Sexual misconduct (sexual harassment, sexual assault, and sexual/dating/domestic violence) and sex discrimination are violations of KIIIS policies. If you experience an incident of sex/gender-based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct, you are encouraged to report it to a) KIIIS Assistant Director, Maria Canning (+1-859-200-1000) or KIIIS Executive Director, John Dizgun (+1-270-227-2288), b) WKU's Title IX Coordinator, Ena Demir (270-745-6867 / ena.demir@wku.edu) or WKU's Title IX Investigator, Michael Crowe (270-745-5429 / michael.crowe@wku.edu). Please note that while you may report an incident of sex/gender based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct to a KIIIS program director and/or faculty member, KIIIS program directors and faculty are considered "Responsible Employees" of Western Kentucky University and MUST report what you share to WKU's Title IX Coordinator or Title IX Investigator.

If you would like to speak with someone who may be able to afford you confidentiality, you may contact WKU's Counseling and Testing Center, <https://www.wku.edu/heretohelp/> at 270-745-3159.

For more information on KIIIS Title IX, see <https://www.kiis.org/students/health-safety/title-ix-clery/>; additional Title IX resources can be found here <https://www.wku.edu/eeo/titleixbrochure2020.pdf>.

Everyone should be able to participate on a KIIIS program, attend a KIIIS event, or work in a KIIIS environment (e.g. KIIIS office) without fear of sexual harassment or discrimination of any kind. Be respectful of each other.

10. Tentative Course Schedule:

DATE	TOPIC	READINGS
Class 1	Syllabus/Background	Dávila, Introduction & Chapter 1
Class 2	Argentina: Theory	Huser Chapter 2 (Dropbox)
Class 3	Argentina, Pre-Coup	Dávila, Chapter 3
Class 4	Argentina, Dictatorship	Dávila, Chapter 5 & Hauser Chapter 3 (Dropbox)
Class 5	Argentina, Dictatorship	Dávila, Chapter 5 & Hauser Chapter 3 (Dropbox)
Class 6	Brazil, Pre-Coup	Dávila, Chapter 2
Class 7	Brazil, Dictatorship	Dávila, Chapter 6
Class 8	Chile, Pre-Coup	Dávila, Chapter 4
Class 9	Chile, Dictatorship	Dávila, Chapter 7 & Conclusion
Class 10	Argentina in Democracy	Epstein and Pion Berlin (Dropbox)
Class 11	Chile in Democracy	Arceneaux and Pion-Berlin (Dropbox)
Class 12	Brazil in Democracy	Hunter and Power (Dropbox)
Class 13	Final Presentations	None