

FALL 2021

GEOG 259: Latin America

Instructor: Gabriela Valdivia

MWF 1:25-2:15pm, CH 220

What comes to mind when you think of Latin America?

Chiquita banana, the Amazon jungle, colorful weaves, corrupt governments and revolutionaries, precarious livelihoods...The list goes on, which indicates an abundance of stereotypes and over-generalizations. The question becomes more complicated when we see that Latin America is not neatly bounded in territories south of the border but is part of everyday life outside of the region. In this course we will read about and discuss sugar and colonies, mines and devils, coca and revolution, corn and genes, bananas and capitalism, among other things to trace the global connections of Latin America.

The goal of this course is to broaden our conceptual and analytical tools for thinking with and relating to Latin America. Students taking this course will gain experience, knowledge, and skills to effectively formulate an opinion on current issues that link Latin American peoples and places to the rest of the world.

