Syllabus

Dr. Robert Schmidtchen

**Title:**

„We won’t allow another Cuba“: Introduction to the History of US-Latin American Cold War relations

**Course Description:**

The course examines the history of US-Latin American relations between 1946 and 1982. After World War II., the United States became more interested in Europe and Asia. They offered lucrative markets and Washington as well as Moscow competed for dominance on both continents. Meanwhile, Latin America went through a transformation process that started in the 1940s. Since it was considered an integral part of the Western Hemisphere and subject to Trumans Containment Policy, Washington observed these changes suspiciously: Change per se and especially social movements as well as liberal to left-wing parties posed a potential threat to the desired political and economic stability. Following an ambiguous strategy, the US offered financial aid, investment and exchange of goods, however, also used these agreements as leverage. Military supplies to authoritarian regimes and groups as well as direct and indirect engagement in foreign domestic policy completed the range of applied methods to stabilise the region in favour of the United States.

**Recommended Texts:**

1. Bethell, Leslie/ Roxborough, Ian (Ed.): Latin America between the Second World War and the Cold War, 1944-1948, Cambridge 1992.
2. Brands, Hal: Latin America’s Cold War, Cambridge (MA)/ London 2012.
3. Dawson, Alexander: Latin America since Independence. A History with Primary Sources, 2nd edition New York (NY)/ London 2015.
4. Eakin, Marshall C.: The History of Latin America. Collision of Cultures (Palgrave Essential Series) New York (NY) 2007.
5. Holden, Robert/ Zolov, Eric (Ed.): Latin America and the United States. A Documentary History, New York (NY)/ Oxford 2011.
6. Hunt, Michael H.: Ideology and U.S. Foreign Policy, New Haven (CT) 2009.
7. Keen, Benjamin/ Haynes, Keith: A Histoy of Latin America, Vol. 2: Independence to the Present, 9th edition Boston (MA) 2013.
8. Lynch, Edward A.: The Cold War’s Last Battlefield. Reagan, the Soviets and Central America (Global Academic Publishing), Albany (NY) 2013.
9. Miller, Nicola: Soviet Relations with Latin America 1959-1987 (Cambridge Soviet Paperbacks, Vol. 1), Cambridge 1989.
10. Prizel, Ilya: Latin America through Soviet Eyes: The Evolution of Soviet Perceptions during the Brezhnev Era 1964-1982 (Cambridge Russian, Soviet and Post-Soviet Studies, Vol.: 72), 2008.
11. Reid, Michael: Forgotten Continent. A History of the New Latin America, New Haven (CT)/ London 2017.
12. Smith, Joseph: The United States and Latin America. A history of American diplomacy, 1776-2000, London/ New York (NY) 2005.
13. Smith, Wayne S. (Ed.): The Russians aren’t coming. New Soviet Policy in Latin America, Boulder (CO)/ London 1992.
14. Suri, Jeremi: American Foreign Relations since 1898 (Uncovering the Past: Documentary Readers in American History) Malden (MA) 2010.
15. Williams, Marc Eric: Understanding U.S.-Latin American Relations. Theory and History, New York (NY) 2012.

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