

Please note: The 2012 Syllabus will be posted later. The 2011 Syllabus offers and example of readings and requirements for the course.

Syllabus

Mexico Study Abroad Program

March 2011

Assignments:

1. A book review of either Jorge G. Castañeda, *Ex Mex: From Migrants to Immigrants* (New Press, 2007) or Julia Preston and Samuel Dillon, *Opening Mexico: The making of a Democracy* (Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2005), maximum 1,000 words, due at the orientation session in Mexico City (20% of course grade).

You can substitute another book on Mexico; please let me know what it is before you invest time in it. I want it to be a good introduction to Mexico and it's people, not a narrow, technical subject piece.

2. An essay entitled "Mexico 2009: Impressions and Ideas," based on the trip itself, maximum 1,200 words, due April 1 (20% of course grade).

3. A policy paper on an issue relating to the Mexico course, chosen in consultation with the academic director, maximum 5,000 words, due April 24 (60% of course grade).

4. Working in small groups (assigned during the trip), students will devise a comprehensive proposal for reframing or reasserting an American foreign policy toward Mexico. Groups will defend their proposals at the June 9th class, as if they were briefing a new Secretary of Commerce and the new Director of NAFIN, Mexico's Industrial Development Bank. Your policy proposals will be graded for their perceptiveness and your presentation for its quality. There will be no written component. 10%

Articles and Papers

William Lewis, "[The Power of Productivity: Poor countries should put their consumers first.](#)" *The McKinsey Quarterly*, 2004 Number 2

Sidney Weintraub, "Dealing with Neighbors," CSIS, at <http://www.csis.org/media/csis/pubs/issues200803.pdf>

Farrell, Puron, Remes, "Beyond Cheap Labor: What does a developing country like Mexico do to compete with China?" McKinsey Quarterly, at http://www.mckinseyquarterly.com/article_page.aspx?ar=1545

Writings of Dan Lund, at Policy Bulletins from www.mundgroup.com;

Clare Ribando Seelke, *Mexico-U.S. Relations: Issues for Congress*," Congressional Research Service, June 3, 2010, at http://assets.opencrs.com/rpts/RL32724_20100603.pdf

Sandra Polaski, "Mexican Employment, Productivity and Income a Decade after NAFTA", <http://www.carnegieendowment.org/publications/index.cfm?fa=view&id=1473&prog=zgp&proj=zted>

Doing Business in Mexico, World Bank, (pages 1-18) at http://www.doingbusiness.org/Documents/Reports_07/DB2007_Mexico_English.pdf

M. Angeles Villarreal, *The Mexican Economy After the Global Financial Crisis*, Congressional Research Service, September 16, 2010

General Readings

Check Mexico Institute, at http://www.wilsoncenter.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=topics.home&topic_id=5949

Roderic Ai Camp, *Politics in Mexico: The Democratic Consolidation (2006)* [esp. chapters 1-4, 6, 9, 10]

J. Preston and S. Dillon, *Opening Mexico*

Case Study: Wal-Mart (Booz-Allen)

Specialized readings as interest pulls you:

NAFTA at 10—Point--Counterpoint:

Jeff Faux--

http://www.epinet.org/content.cfm/webfeatures_viewpoints_nafta_legacy_at10

USTR--

http://www.ustr.gov/assets/Trade_Agreements/Regional/NAFTA/asset_upload_file606_3595.pdf

Betty Ramos, *Negotiating Cultural Barriers: A guide to intercultural communications*, provided during trip

Creating Change at Scale through Public-Private Partnerships: Lessons from an innovative financial inclusion partnership in Mexico, McKinsey Global Inst., working Document September 2009, at http://www.mckinsey.com/client/service/Social_Sector/our_practices/Economic_Development/~media/Reports/SSO/Creating_Change_at_Scale_through%20Public%20Private_Partnerships.ashx

Demographics in Mexico (Center for Strategic and International Studies) : http://www.csis.org/gai/041029_transcript.pdf

Environmental Case Studies:

Trade Environmental Database (American University)
<http://search.freefind.com/find.html?id=16142557&pid=r&mode=ALL&t=s&query=MExico>

Shannon O'Neil, "The Real Rick in Mexico," *Foreign Affairs*, July/August 2009

Robert Bonner, "Battling Mexico's Drug Cartel," *Foreign Affairs*, July/August 2010

Developing the U.S.-Mexico Border Region for a Prosperous and Secure Relationship, James Baker Center for Public Policy, April 2009

U.S.-Mexico Transboundary Water Management,
The Case of the Rio Grande/Rio Bravo: Recommendations for Policymakers for the Medium and Long Term,
by US-Mexico Binational Council, January 2003
http://www.csis.org/americas/mexico/binational_council.pdf