

Argentinian History and Culture

STUDY GUIDE – SPRING 2024

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Changes may occur

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Dates and Deadlines Spring 2024

Week	Dates	Activities, exams and deadline Papers
1	15 January – 09 February	Read the self-study texts
2		
3		
4		
1	15 February	Classes start
2	19-23 February	
3	26-1 March	Classes
4	4– 8 March	
5	11 – 15 March	
6	18 – 22 March	
7	25 – 27 March	
8	28March – 7 April	Reading week
9	8 April – 12 April	Classes
10	15 April – 19 April	
11	22 April – 26 April	
12	29 April – 3 May	
13	6 May – 10 May	
14	13 May – 17 May	
15	20 May – 24 May	Last classes Exam
16	27 May – 31 May	Exam feedback

1. Introduction

This Study Guide is a supplement to the Course Description. It will give information about the course and advice on how best to study and carry out the different tasks.

Studying in Argentina gives you an excellent opportunity to engage with the country and its people. The course will give an introduction to Argentinian culture and history, with a regional focus on Argentina.

If you have any academic questions, please contact Profs. José Luis Inchauspe: inchauspekultur@gmail.com; or Juan Francisco Martínez Peria jfmartinezperia@hotmail.com

All other inquiries, please contact our office in Oslo, mail@kulturstudier.no or tel:+47 22358022.

2. Course Content

This section provides information about the different parts of the course and guidance on how the students should work in collaboration with each other and the teachers.

Part 1 – Self-Study Period

Most of the teaching will take place in Buenos Aires, but the learning should start before that, and the program starts with five weeks of self-studies. It is vital that you use these weeks well in order to follow the progression of the program once the classes start in Argentina. It is expected that you make yourself well acquainted with the curriculum during this period. You will get more out of the lectures if you have looked at the material beforehand, and a slow start to the semester will make the stay unnecessary overloaded with work.

Before the studies in Buenos Aires, students taking Argentinian history and culture are expected to read the first texts found on your [personal Kulturstudier page](#).

1. Dessalines, Jean-Jacques, *Live free or die! (1804)*.

All texts may be download from www.kulturstudier.org before the self-study period starts. Also, they will be provided by your course teacher.

Self-studies can be a challenge. It requires discipline to spend enough time reading and reflecting, but it will also help you develop an individual understanding of your curriculum. If you have questions, lecturers will be available to answer them during these five weeks.

The courses in Argentinian history and culture looks at a variety of texts from the Latin-American revolutions up until the last part of the 20th century. You will learn about the cultural and historical context of Argentina during the lectures and seminars.

Part 2 - Studies in Argentina

The largest advantage of studying Argentinian history and culture in Buenos Aires is that you study and live in the area you read about in many of the text and where the language is being spoken. We have the possibility to gain a positive influence from the social arena. The contact with your neighbours will become easier the more Spanish you learn, and your understanding of Argentina and the rest of the continent becomes greater by reading literary texts from the region. In addition, your lecturers will be available throughout the program, something that will give you a closer academic follow-up. You will also be a part of a small student body that can make the learning easier and create a common involvement.

During the classes, the most important parts of the course will be discussed. You will get an introduction to Argentinian culture and the most relevant events in Argentinian socio-cultural

history. The texts and events in the course will be discussed in a socio-historical context. The lectures will be given by our local teachers, from the University of San Martín, and they will be available for questions throughout the semester.

The texts will be available at www.kulturstudier.org before the course starts.

Tutorials

The tutorials will focus on the text and the production context (historical events). In these groups, the students will play a vital role. You will either individually or in groups discuss the texts you will read, share your thoughts about Argentinian culture and the historical contexts. The aim is that you use what you have learnt during the lectures as a starting point, and incorporate that into the discussions on the culture itself.

Part 3 – Term Paper

The Term Paper must be handed in the last week of May (dates may be changed).

Student Requirement

Assignment – Term Paper

Deadline 22nd May

- Term Paper
- Graded
- Handed in the last week of May

Grading Scale

Description	Percentage
10 (A) Excellent	100-95
9 (A-) Very Good	94-89
8 (B) Good	88-83
7 (B-) Above Average	82-77
6 (C) Average	76-71
5 (C) Below Average	70-65
4 (D) Lowest Passing Grade	64-60
F Failure	59-0
W Officially withdrawn	Academic Advisor's approval
I Incomplete	Only with Academic Advisor's approval

3. Reading List

Texts:

Bethell, Leslie (ed), *Argentina since independence, chapter 1, 7.*

Brown, Jonathan, *A Brief History of Argentina*, chapter 4, 7, 10

Chasteen, John, *Born in Blood and Fire: A Concise history of Latin America*, chapter 9 and 11.

COPI, *Eva Perón* (1970)

Cortazar, Julio, "Second time round" (1975/78).

Dessalines, Jean-Jacques, *Live free or die!* (1804).

Esteban Echeverría, *The Slaughteryard*, (1871).

Hernández, José, *Martín Fierro* (excerpts) (1973).

James, Daniel; *Resistance and integration: Peronism and the Argentine working class (1946-1976)*, chapters 1, 2, 6-9

Martínez, Guillermo. "Vast Hell", (1989).

Nouzeilles, Gabriela; Montaldo, Graciela (eds), *The Argentina Reader: History, culture and politics*, chapter 2, 5, 7, 8 9

Perlongher, Nestor. "Evita lives" (1975).

Rock, David, *Argentina 1516.-1987: From Spanish colonization to Alfonsín*, chapter 3-9.

Storni, Alfonsina, Selected poems.

Various Authors, Tango lyrics.

Various Authors. National Rock lyrics (selection)

Walsh, Rodolfo, "That Woman", (1963).

In addition, there will be compendiums available at www.kulturstudier.org

4. How to write academic texts

The exam will be a home exam, and for some of you this will be the first academic essay you write. The following paragraphs will hopefully help you prepare for the exam and facilitate your:

- Reading and understanding of the course texts and other relevant information.
- Critical reflection around the topics the course addresses.
- Knowledge of academic writing.

Even if it is not expected that you come up with new and original answers, there are formative ways how an exam should be written. These guidelines are the same as the normal standards for academic texts written at tertiary institutions.

These guidelines can be split into five main topics:

1. Define the topic, the intention and structure for the exercise already in the introduction, and keep your promise.

Regardless of what kind of academic text you are writing you should always start on the introduction. This is where you first introduce the topic of the text. Afterwards you should define the questions you want to answer. The questions you ask and the intentions of asking them should be well defined and realistic. At the end of the introduction you can give an overview of the structure for the text, and this involves giving an overview of what is to come in the text and how you will answer your questions you ask. This structure should be:

- An introduction (which you have already explained)
- A main section where you present your material, discuss the result in regards to the topic and the questions you asked in the introduction (this part is often split into smaller chapters)
- A conclusion where you sum up your material and draw conclusions.

We advise you to start the exercise by giving a short statement on how you understand the task given and how this will impact your answer to the exam. When you have defined the topic, the intention and the structure of the exam it is important to stick to this for the rest of the text. You have the right to guidance from a teaching staff during the writing period and we suggest you make use of this offer.

2. Systematize your material

To have order in your text is vital for the quality of your exam and to make it easy to read and understand the different points you are arguing. (By “your material” we mean the different viewpoints, theories or empirical examples you will use to answer the task). There is no right way of doing this, but it is important that you throughout the text give the reader an explanation of why you are doing the things you do. Every time you introduce a new idea or a new example you need to ask yourself: Is it understandable for the reader why this is being introduced here? If you cannot give a clear yes to that answer you should edit the text.

3. Discuss your result and come up with a conclusion

How you discuss your material is crucial to the quality of the text. Nevertheless, be humble towards the text you are referring to and do not come with your own distinct opinions. Explain the different views, the theoretical viewpoints and the empirical examples and put them in relation to the rest of the text and the questions you asked in the introduction. Try to put the different theories up against each other, explain the similarities and differences, pros and cons, and always discuss this with the help of other texts. At the end of the text this discussion should be summed up and you should come with a conclusion based on the previous discussion.

4. Write clearly and understandable

Even if academic texts should be written in a formal language, there is no use using intricate sentences. On the contrary, you should try to explain the discussion as clear as possible. It is also a good idea to have flow in the text, so work on getting good flow between the paragraphs. Avoid single sentences with no connection to the surroundings and always have a short introduction or explanation if the text suddenly jumps from one main argument to another. It can be a good idea to split the text into chapters, but still try to have logic switches between the different parts. This can include mentioning the questions in the introduction and as long as you do not exaggerate, re-mentioning important things can be a good thing.

5. Sort out the technical aspects.

References in the text

You must reference after every quotation, or after each paragraph that refers to someone else's literature, viewpoints or other specific information. These references should be written in parentheses in the right spot in the text (always after the paragraph or quotation). These references should only include the last name and year of publication. If it is a direct quotation the page should also be mentioned. I.e. (Ekern 1986) (UDNP 2004: 37).

Reference list

All references mentioned in the text needs to be completely referred to in a reference list at the end of a document. This list should be organised alphabetically after the last name of the author. The reference list should have the following format:

Author's last name, first name or initials (year of publication in parentheses) "Title", place of publication (normally a city), name of publicist, i.e:

Woodward, Ralph Lee (1999) "Central America, A Nation Divided", New York: Oxford University Press

If you refer to an article that is a part of an anthology or article collection (meaning a book with different authors), you must write the reference like this: Author's last name, first name or initials (year of publication in parentheses), "Title of article", author of the article in Title of the book, place of publication, name of publicist, i.e.:

Larrain, Jorge (1999) "Modernity and Identity: Cultural Change in Latin America" Robert N.Gwynne and Cristobal Kay, Latin America Transformed. Globalization and Modernity, London: Arnold Publishers

When you refer to an article from a magazine the reference list should have the following format: Author's last name, first name or initials (year of publication in parentheses), "Title of the article" in Name of Magazine, edition, page number, i.e.:

Vilas, Carlos (1992) "Family Affairs:Class,Lineage and Politics in Contemporary Nicaragua"
In Journal of Latin American Studies 24,s 306-341.

Only references that are actually used in the exam should be referred to and written in the reference list.

Format

The exam should be written in Times New Roman, 12 point, 1,5 line spacing, 3cm margin (left and right). This equals approximately 400 words per page.
page.

5. Internet resources

In addition to preparing for the studies in Argentina we suggest that you become a bit familiar with the country and the continent before you travel. There are many good internet pages that will give you good introductions to what the country has to offer. Some of the pages are:

Facts on Argentina (more or less non-political):

Public site: <http://www.argentina.gov.ar/argentina/portal/paginas.dhtml?pagina=356>

Newspapers:

An overview of different newspapers with their own website:

<http://www.prensaescrita.com/america/argentina.php>

Latin America groups (in Norwegian):

<http://www.latin-amerikagruppene.no/Medieklipp/index.html>

The Economist (Political magazine with focus on economic news, there is a section of news about Latin America): <http://www.economist.com/world/la/>

We have also gathered some websites that can be useful for the Spanish studies before and during the program in Argentina:

Dictionaries:

Tritrans (Norwegian-Spanish-English): <http://www.tritrans.net/>

Word reference (English-Spanish): www.wordreference.com

Lexin (Norwegian-English): <http://decentius.hit.uib.no/lexin.html>

Jergas de habla hispana (local slang from the different Spanish speaking countries, check out the site for Argentina): <http://www.jergasdehablahispana.org>