**Syllabus: Geog 202, Latin America & the Caribbean Spring 2017**

**Instructor: Jim Bell Tuesday/Thursday 11:30am to 12:50pm NSH206**

*Course Description:* The course explores the rich heritage of the regions’ inhabitants, their cultural, economic and political life and the effects of their climate and geomorphology on their way of life. People and place.

Skills You Will Use: Note taking (very important during class, as there is no textbook)

Map reading and interpretation (a critical skill in geography)

Critical thinking – examine both sides of an issue

Independent research, writing and analysis

Tentative Course Plan -

### Week Date Topics

1 4/4 4/6 Pre-Columbian Period - Physical Setting

2 4/11 4/13 Settlement and Past Cultures of South and Central America

3 4/18 4/20 Colonial Period – Iberian Culture/Colonization & Influence

4 4/25 4/27 Spanish Settlements of Mexico, the Columbian Exchange

5 5/2 5/4 “ Modern Era” – Mexico and Central America, *MIDTERM*

6 5/9 5/11 The Caribbean Region

7 5/16 5/18 Andean region

8 5/23 5/25 Brazil

9 5/30 6/1 Argentina, Chile, *RESEARCH PAPERS DUE Tuesday*

10 6/6 6/8 future – Latin America, review

11 6/13 *final examTuesday- see final exam schedule online*

Required Textbook = none, notes taken in class are very important

Grading: Midterm = 50 points

Final = 50 points

Map Projects and Video projects (4) = 40 points

Research Project = 40 points

Class participation = 20 points

* *Grades based on total points earned, no grading curve.*

*\* scoring for late papers = 10 points off for each week past due date.*

Office/Contact: SSH 203 (before/afterclass), office hours TBA and email is: [bellj@linnbenton.edu](mailto:bellj@linnbenton.edu)

Instructor Expectations: Arrive on time for class, do not leave early.

Turn off cell phones and laptops (except with instructor permission)

Keep talking to a minimum, do not disrupt the class.

If you have problems or issues with the course, please notify the instructor.

If you have a medical problem, please let the instructor know.

There will be limited time for acceptance of any late materials/works.

Please let the instructor know by email if you are ill or unable to come to class.

Research Project: 1. the research topics must be related to Latin American geography and approved by the instructor.

2. The research paper must be at least 8 pages long, with one-inch margins and with 10-12 sized font. Maps, diagrams and pictures will not count as a page.

3. Please indicate all sources used, and use APA style, no footnotes are required.

4. All research papers require student critical thinking and a self-reflective/opinion page.

5. Late papers may not be graded in time for final grade deadlines.

6. Submit only your work to the instructor, and sign/date all work that you submit to the instructor. Do not submit someone else’s’ work, do not submit research that is just a print-out from a website. Please do not plagiarize or submit other people’s work.

Scoring for Research Papers:

This scoring guide will be used to grade your papers; your paper is worth 40 points.

*\*this research paper is due week 9.*

Scale: 4= excellent, 3= adequate, 2= meets basics, 1 = lacks depth/effort, 0= absent

a. On-time and readable 4 3 2 1

b. meets minimum length (8 pages) 4 3 2 1

c. describes topic well 4 3 2 1

d. adequate sources 4 3 2 1

e. student provides their insights 4 3 2 1

subtotal = \_\_\_\_ times 2 = \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ score for paper

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# *If you have a learning disability, please notify me early in the quarter so accommodations can be made for you.*

# Office of Disability Services

The Office of Disability Services (ODS) provides academic accommodations for LBCC students who are eligible for services. ODS staff advocate for students with disabilities, supporting their independence, as well as providing information and assistance when appropriate. A variety of services (e.g. test accommodations, including placement tests, sign language interpreting, note taking, etc.) may be requested. Appropriate accommodations are determined individually based on disability documentation.

If you believe you have a documented disability, YOU NEED TO REGISTER with the Office of Disability Services and provide appropriate documentation of your disability.

Students who have any emergency medical information the instructor should know of, who need special arrangements in the event of evacuation, or students with documented disabilities who may need accommodations, should make an appointment with the faculty as early as possible, and no later than the first week of the term. If additional assistance is required, the student should contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS) at ext.4789.

LBCC Comprehensive Statement of Nondiscrimination

LBCC will not tolerate discrimination based on an individual’s race, color, sex (gender), sexual orientation, marital and/or parental status, religion, national origin, age, mental/physical/learning disability, veteran status, personal views regarding safety and health hazards, application for workers’ compensation benefits, or any other status protected under applicable federal, state, or local laws.

(for further information [http://po.linnbenton.edu/BPsandARs/1015 - Nondiscrimination Policy.pdf](http://po.linnbenton.edu/BPsandARs/1015%20-%20Nondiscrimination%20Policy.pdf))