LAS 217/POL 271/URB 217/ANT 397 Culture, Politics, and Human Rights in Latin America
From the US-backed dictatorships of the Cold War, to contemporary examples of state violence, many Latin Americans have experienced grave human rights violations. At the same time however, activists in the region have propelled significant international human rights advances. Examining concepts and cases from the anthropology of human rights, this course explores questions of rights as they affect Indigenous peoples, women, gay and lesbian populations, migrants, the urban poor, and children. By analyzing these cases, we will gain a deeper understanding of the opportunities and risks facing the future of human rights in the Latin America.

Marian A. Thorpe L01 11:00 am - 12:20 pm TTh | [Play to learn more about Marian and LAS 217]

LAS 302/HIS 305 Latin America in Modern World History: Global and Transnational Perspectives, 1800 to the Present
This course explores Latin America’s multiple interconnections with the rest of the modern world, highlighting the way people, influences, and ideas have constantly flowed into and out of the region. Using both primary sources and secondary literature, we will follow the struggles of enslaved people in the Age of Revolutions, and the impact of global climate trends in the late nineteenth century; we will explore the region’s changing position in the world economy and US-Latin American relations; and we will consider Latin America’s cultural and political impact during the Cold War, as well as contemporary debates around migration and borders.

Tony Wood S01 11:00 am - 12:20 pm MW | [Play to learn more about Tony and LAS 302]

LAS 412/ENV 414/ANT 482 Amazonia, The Last Frontier: History, Culture, and Power
This course focuses on the Brazilian Amazon, the world’s largest tropical forest and the ancestral home of over one million Indigenous peoples, now threatened by deforestation and fires. Further degradation will have disastrous consequences for its peoples, biodiversity, rainfall and agriculture, and global climate change. Combining perspectives from the social sciences and the humanities, we will critically examine projects to colonize, develop, and conserve the Amazon over time and reflect on the cultural wisdoms of its guardians. Students will work together to develop alternative visions to safeguard the forest for Brazil and the planet. The course will be co-taught with Princeton Global Scholar Carlos Fausto.

Miqueias H. Mugge S01 1:30 pm - 4:20 pm T | [Play to learn more about Miqueias and LAS 412]

LAS 416/HUM 416/ART 416 Reading the Landscapes of Colonial Latin America
The three centuries of Spanish and Portuguese colonialism in the Americas saw some of the most dramatic transformations in global history, from massive population collapse to the first global commodity chains. This course explores the relationships between abstractions like ‘colonialism’ and ‘capitalism’ and the concrete places that shaped and were shaped by Indigenous rebels, colonial administrators, missionaries, and enslaved laborers. Bringing together insights from history, archaeology, and historical ecology, we will explore these landscapes through a rich combination of archival maps, satellite imagery, and archaeological datasets.

Noa E. Corcoran-Tadd S01 7:30 pm - 10:20 pm W | [Play to learn more about Noa and LAS 416]

Meet Our Lecturers

Noa Corcoran-Tadd, (Ph.D., Harvard). Corcoran-Tadd is an associate research scholar and lecturer with PLAS. His current research explores the long-term history of mobility through the landscapes of northern Chile and southern Peru using a multidisciplinary approach that combines archaeological and archival methods.

Marian Ahn Thorpe, (Ph.D., Rutgers University) Thorpe is a postdoctoral research associate and lecturer with PLAS. She is an environmental and political anthropologist who studies Indigenous rights and development in Latin America.

Miqueias H. Mugge, (Ph.D., Federal University of Rio de Janeiro). Mugge is an associate research scholar and teaching fellow at the Brazil LAB/PIIIRS. Mugge’s research is centered on the political economy of war, slavery, and migration in modern Brazil.

Tony Wood, (Ph.D., New York University). Wood is a postdoctoral research associate and lecturer with PLAS. He is a political and social historian of modern Latin America. His current work focuses on transnational radical debates on the national question of race and class in the 1920s and 1930s, tracing connections between Mexico, Cuba, and the Soviet Union.

For a full list of PLAS course offerings, visit: plas.princeton.edu/courses