



SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY  
MADRID

## EAS 2700 M01: Sustainable Development in Latin America

Spring 2018

**Class Days and Time:** MW, 14:30-15:45

**Classroom:** SIH A

**Prerequisite(s):** None

**Credit(s):** 3

**Instructor:** Iván A. Sánchez Ph.D

**Instructor's Email:** ivan.sanchez@slu.edu

**Instructor's Campus Phone:** 91 554 58 58, ext. 266

**Office:** PAH-202

**Office Hours:** M 13:20-14:20

### Course Description:

The analysis of Latin American environmental problems linked to the sustainable development possibilities of the region. The environmental history of Latin America; contemporary environmental issues, such as deforestation, mega-projects development, cattle ranging, water management and land use, environmental problems, such as forest extractable resources, eco-tourism and conservation policies. The long human co- existence with nature and the impact of modern society on the environment.

### Course Goals and Student Learning Outcomes:

The main course goals are:

- provide a broad overview to the eco-geography of natural regions of Latin America and its natural resources.
- identify the mayor issues in the Latin American environmental history.
- be acquainted with the main current environmental problems of Latin America and some of its solutions.
- achieve a better understanding of the traditional relationship between native communities and their environment.
- be able to think critically and with a broad interdisciplinary perspective on the environmental problems of Latin America to draw lessons from them.
- understand some of the economic implications of the main environmental issues of Latin America.
- achieve a better understanding of the regional environmental policies and sustainable development objectives.

At the end of the course should achieve the next learning outcomes:

- Students will know the founding principles in their field of study as well as the facts and content appropriate to the field.
- Students will be able to use their knowledge to reason about issues in their discipline.
- Students will be able to solve quantitative problems in their discipline.

### Student Learning Outcomes

PLOs	Student Learning Outcomes	Assessment Method
		- Mid-term and final exam.
		- Class participation.

	<p>A.1. Understand the basic facts of the environmental history of Latin America and be able to apply them to concrete countries or natural regions.</p> <p>A.2. Demonstrate knowledge and comprehension of the roots of Latin America ´s environmental problems and the links with development issues.</p> <p>A.3. Know the basic concepts of Environmental Sciences and the main drivers for humans to conserve or degrade the environment in Latin America</p> <p>A.4. Work collaboratively to undertake research projects, interpret information, and critically analyze ideas and conclusions related to the environment of Latin America.</p> <p>A.5. Provide analytical capacity and constructive criticism to link environmental issues in Latin America with political, ecological, economic and social issues to achieve a better understanding of the main pathways to development.</p> <p>A.6. Be acquainted with real and uptodate information on the topics such as deforestation, urban environment, land use and ecotourim in Latin America.</p> <p>A.7. Understand the relationship on indigenous people of Latin America with nature and how they contribute to a sustainable future.</p> <p>A.8. Show ability to present an argument that displays their knowledge and understanding of concrete problems and solutions for the development of Latin America.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Homework assignments.</li> <li>- Written paper.</li> <li>- Oral presentations.</li> </ul>
<b>B</b>	<p>B.1. Be acquainted with the recent news related with the issues dealt within the class.</p> <p>B.2. Understand the implications of overpopulation and the current transformations in Latin America within the context sustainable development and the societal implications.</p> <p>B.3. Possess the thinking skills and ability to skip popular views and understand the different environmental issues in Latin America from a scientific and applied point of view, including the consequences for the rest of the world</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Class participation.</li> <li>- Homework assignments.</li> <li>- Written paper.</li> <li>- Oral presentations.</li> </ul>
<b>C</b>	<p>C.1. Include economic analysis and other data in the written paper that contribute to the analysis of the chosen topic.</p> <p>C.2. Understand and apply the basic numbers of the environment in Latin American Issues and be able to observe the changes.</p> <p>C.3. Be able to include new data within the theoretical information that is covered during the class.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Class participation.</li> <li>- Homework assignments.</li> <li>- Written paper.</li> <li>- Exams.</li> <li>- Oral presentations.</li> </ul>

Saint Louis University - Madrid Campus is committed to excellent and innovative educational practices. In order to maintain quality academic offerings and to conform to relevant accreditation requirements, the Campus regularly assesses its teaching, services, and programs for evidence of student learning outcomes achievement. For this

purpose anonymized representative examples of student work from all courses and programs is kept on file, such as assignments, papers, exams, portfolios, and results from student surveys, focus groups, and reflective exercises. *Thus, copies of student work for this course, including written assignments, in-class exercises, and exams may be kept on file for institutional research, assessment and accreditation purposes.* If students prefer that Saint Louis University - Madrid Campus does not keep their work on file, they need to communicate their decision in writing to the professor.

### **Required Texts and Materials:**

Students will find the some of the required text and other materials in Blackboard however additional recommended books are listed here:

1. Blackman, A and others. 2014 Biodiversity Conservation in Latin America and the Caribbean: Prioritizing Policies (Environment for Development) RFF Press
2. Romero, A., West SE., 2010. Environmental Issues in Latin America and the Caribbean. Springer.
3. Hillstrom, K. and Hillstrom, L.C. 2003. Latin America and the Caribbean: A Continental Overview of Environmental Issues (World Environments S.) ABC-CLIO
4. GUTMAN, P. 1988 Desarrollo rural y medio ambiente en América Latina. Centro Editor de América Latina (Bibliotecas Universitarias). Buenos Aires. (In Spanish)
5. VV.AA. 2000. Medio ambiente y desarrollo en America Latina. CSIC
6. Slater, C. 2003. Entangled Edens: Visions of the Amazon. University of California Press ISBN: 0520226429
7. Bifani, P. 2006. Medio Ambiente y Desarrollo Sostenible. Instituto de Estudios Políticos para America Latina y África (IEPALA)
8. Sánchez, I. 2011. De Amazonia a Patagonia: Ecología de las Regiones Naturales de América Latina. Lynx Edicións.
9. Diamond, L. 1997. Guns, Germs, and Steel: The Fates of Human Societies. Vintage
10. Silvius, K.M., R.E. Bodmer and Fragoso JMV. People in Nature: Wildlife Conservation in South and Central America. Columbia University Press.
11. Olga F. Linares (Foreword), Anthony G. Coates (Editor). 1999. Central America: A Natural and Cultural History. Yale University Press
12. Riordan, R. and Paz, G. 2003. Latin America in a Changing Global Environment. Lynne Rienner Publishers Inc,US.
13. J. Timmons Roberts, Nikki Demetria Thanos. 2003. Trouble in Paradise: Globalization and Environmental Crises in Latin America. Routledge, Inc.
14. Kricher, JC. 1999. A Neotropical Companion: An Introduction to the Animals, Plants, and Ecosystems of the New World Tropics. Princeton UP.
15. De Castro et al. 2016. Environmental Governance in Latin America. Palgrave Schol UK

### **Attendance and Course Policy:**

(1) Students are encouraged to participate in class discussions and to ask questions. Announcements may be made during the semester.

(2) Announcements may be made during the semester

(3) It is strictly forbidden to use the mobile phone or other electronic devises during class. Anyone using or showing them in the classroom will be asked to give it to the professor (that will keep it in the professor´s table until the end of the class session) or, in some cases, the professor will ask the student to leave the classroom. Using or showing your mobile phone, tablet or personal computer during the classroom will influence negatively your grade.

(4) Syllabus, reading and paper topics are subject to change. The order and number of the topics on the syllabus, readings and homework assignments are subject to change.

(5) Students are responsible for all lecture material, handouts, homework and assigned reading

(6) All students have to be punctual. Repeated cases of lateness may reduce the grade. Late arrivals to class are considered up to 10 minutes. Students who arrive 15 minutes or more after the beginning of class will be considered as having missed that class.

(7) Make up exams are not given. Students who legitimately miss an exam, due to a doctor's visit or family emergency must provide written documentation of the circumstances. A letter from the university counsellor is

accepted. Exams that are missed illegitimately result in a score of F. Grades for these students will be based on the remaining exams.

(8) No food or drink (except water) in class is allowed.

(9) Students are expected to remain in the classroom throughout the class meeting, except for reasonable emergencies that must be explained to the professor.

(11) It is mandatory to attend all classes unless a reasonable excuse is given. More than 2 unjustified absences will have consequences in the grade. Reasonable excuses are attendance at excursions or other special events of the SLU, illness or family emergency. In cases of illness or family emergency, a written documentation of the circumstances must be given. A letter from the university counselor is accepted.

Students, which are missing more than three times the class without a reasonable excuse, are not allowed to attend the examinations.

(12) Useful and important information for the course will be given in Blackboard.

This information includes: PowerPoint-Presentations and notes shown in class, readings, supplementary study material, further information about the elaboration of the research work or presentations, grades of exams and paper.

To communicate with the students the professor will use Blackboard, e-mail. Consequently it is necessary, that the students check their Blackboard-email.

(13) Students with accredited accommodations for exams need to communicate them to the professor at least 14 days before the mid-term or final dates.

(14) E-mails are answered from Monday 12:00h to Friday a 12:00h

(15) Exams include all the material covered in the classroom.

(16) During exams it is not allowed to go out of the classroom, so it is recommended to go to the toilet right before exams and to bring water and an extra pen.

(17) The recommended presentation is APA, without page numbers in inner citations, 1.5 spaced, Times New Roman 11. However web citations should include date of access and the rest of relevant information. The paper should also include sections an index and page numbers.

### **Course Requirements and Grading Rationale/System:**

RESEARCH PRESENTATION and PAPER: 20 Points

HOMEWORK, ASSISTANCE and PARTICIPATION: 20 Points

MID-TERM EXAM: 30 Points

FINAL EXAM: 30 Points

#### Grading scale

93% < A < 100%,

90% < A- < 93%

87% < B+ < 90%

83% < B < 87%

80% < B- < 83%

77% < C+ < 80%

73% < C < 77%

70% < C- < 73%

60% < D < 70%

F < 60%

**E-mail:** Campus and course announcements will often be handled by e-mail. Students should check their "@slu.edu" e-mail regularly.

**University Statement on Academic Integrity:** Academic integrity is honest, truthful and responsible conduct in all academic endeavors. The mission of Saint Louis University is "the pursuit of truth for the greater glory of God and for the service of humanity." Accordingly, all acts of falsehood demean and compromise the corporate endeavors of teaching, research, health care and community service via which SLU embodies its mission. The University strives to prepare students for lives of personal and professional integrity, and therefore regards all breaches of academic integrity as matters of serious concern.

The governing University-level Academic Integrity Policy can be accessed on the Provost's Office [website](#). Additionally, SLU-Madrid has posted its academic integrity policy online: <http://www.slu.edu/madrid/academics>. As a member of the University community, you are expected to know and abide by these policies, which detail definitions of violations, processes for reporting violations, sanctions and appeals.

The professor will review these matters during the first weeks of the term. Please direct questions about any facet of academic integrity to your faculty, the chair of the department of your academic program, or the Academic Dean of the Madrid Campus.

**University Title IX Statement:** Saint Louis University and its faculty are committed to supporting our students and seeking an environment that is free of bias, discrimination, and harassment. If you have encountered any form of sexual misconduct (e.g. sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking, domestic or dating violence), we encourage you to report this to the University. If you speak with a faculty member about an incident of misconduct, that faculty member must notify SLU's Title IX deputy coordinator, Marta Maruri, whose office is located on the ground floor of Padre Rubio Hall, Avenida del Valle, 28 (mmaruri@slu.edu; 915-54-5858, ext. 213) and share the basic fact of your experience with her. The Title IX deputy coordinator will then be available to assist you in understanding all of your options and in connecting you with all possible resources on and off campus.

If you wish to speak with a confidential source, you may contact the counselors at the SLU-Madrid's Counseling Services on the third floor of San Ignacio Hall (counselingcenter-madrid@slu.edu; 915-54-5858, ext. 230) or Sinews Multiplettherapy Institute, the off-campus provider of counseling services for SLU-Madrid (www.sinews.es; 917-00-1979). To view SLU-Madrid's sexual misconduct policy and for resources, please visit the following web address: <http://www.slu.edu/Documents/Madrid/campus-life/SLUMadridSexualMisconductPolicy.pdf>.

**Students with Special Needs:** In recognition that people learn in a variety of ways and that learning is influenced by multiple factors (e.g., prior experience, study skills, learning disability), resources to support student success are available on campus. Students who think they might benefit from these resources can find out more about:

- Course-level support (e.g., faculty member, departmental resources, etc.) by asking your course instructor.
- University-level support (e.g., tutoring/writing services, Disability Services) by visiting the Academic Dean's Office (San Ignacio Hall) or by going to <https://www.slu.edu/madrid/academics/student-resources>.

Students with a documented disability who wish to request academic accommodations must contact Disability Services to discuss accommodation requests and eligibility requirements. Once successfully registered, the student also must notify the course instructor that they wish to access accommodations in the course. Please contact Disability Services at disabilityservices-madrid@slu.edu or +915 54 58 58, ext. 230 for an appointment. Confidentiality will be observed in all inquiries. Once approved, information about the student's eligibility for academic accommodations will be shared with course instructors via email from Disability Services. For more information about academic accommodations, see "Student Resources" on the SLU-Madrid webpage.

Note: Students who do not have a documented disability but who think they may have one are encouraged to contact Disability Services.

**Spring 2018 Course Schedule:**

<b>JANUARY</b>	
Wednesday 10	First Day of Classes. Introduction to the Course
Monday 15	Natural Regions of Latin America
Wednesday 17	Natural Regions of Latin America
Sunday 21	Last Day to Drop a Class without a Grade W and/or Add a Class; Last Day to Choose Audit (AU) or Pass/No Pass (P/NP) Options
Monday 22	<i>Environmental history of Latin America</i>
Wednesday 24	<i>Environmental history of Latin America</i>
Friday 26	No Classes Application Deadline for Spring Semester Degree Candidates
Monday 29	<i>Roots of the environmental problems in Latin America</i>
Wednesday 31	<i>Roots of the environmental problems in Latin America</i>
<b>FEBRUARY</b>	
Monday 5	<i>Deforestation and alternatives to deforestation</i>
Wednesday 7	<i>Deforestation and alternatives to deforestation</i>
Monday 12	<i>Land use, urbanization, water and rural development</i>
Tuesday 13	<i>Land use, urbanization, water and rural development</i>
Wednesday 14	Ash Wednesday Registration for Summer 2018 Begins
Monday 19	Finishing up units and Review Class
Wednesday 21	Mid-term 14:30h
Thursday 22	No Classes (Winter Break)
Friday 23	
Monday 26	<i>Agriculture and cattle ranging</i>
Tuesday 27	Professors' Deadline to Submit Midterm Grades
Wednesday 28	<i>Agriculture and cattle ranging</i>
<b>MARCH</b>	
Monday 5	Deforestation debate and roll game
Wednesday 7	<i>Agriculture and cattle ranging</i>
Friday 9	Last Day to Drop a Class and Receive a Grade of W
Monday 12	<i>Eco-tourism and community-based conservation</i>
Wednesday 14	<i>Eco-tourism and community-based conservation</i>
Thursday 15	Last Day to Submit Transfer Application for Fall Semester
Monday 19	<i>Indigenous people and environment</i>
Wednesday 21	<i>Indigenous people and environment</i>
Monday 26	<i>Semana Santa</i> Holiday (Campus Closed)
Tuesday 27	
Wednesday 28	
Thursday 29	<i>Jueves Santo</i> (Campus Closed)
Friday 30	<i>Viernes Santo</i> (Campus Closed)
<b>APRIL</b>	
Monday 2	<i>Indigenous people and environment</i>
Wednesday 4	<i>Conservation policies and biodiversity</i> Registration for Fall 2018 Semester Begins
Monday 9	<i>Conservation policies and biodiversity</i>
Wednesday 11	<i>Mining, oil resources and pollution</i>
Monday 16	Students presentations
Wednesday 18	Students presentations
Monday 23	Students presentations
Wednesday 25	<i>Mining, oil resources and pollution</i>
Monday 30	Finishing up units and Review Class
<b>MAY</b>	
Tuesday 1	<i>Día del Trabajador</i> (Campus Closed)

Wednesday 2	<i>Día de la Comunidad</i> (Campus Closed)
Thursday 3	Spring 2018 Final Day of TR Classes
Friday 4	Spring 2018 Final Exams
Monday 7	
Tuesday 8	
Wednesday 9	
Thursday 10	
Friday 11	University Housing Move-out Date
Saturday 12	Commencement
Sunday 13	Professors' deadline to submit spring 2018 final grades