### Course Objective

The course would deal with historic and contemporary political and economic issues in Latin America from the latter half of the twentieth century and trace them to their present integration into world polity and economy. There would be a special focus on political restructuring (constitutional developments) and economic restructuring (neoliberalism, globalization and debt management). The consequences of the process of restructuring need to be examined that would comprise the social costs this restructuring has generated. In addition, attention would be given to the role of global, hemispheric and regional forces in shaping the Latin American political, economic, and social developments and events.

### Course Content

**Theme 1: Process of Political Restructuring**
- Democratic Transition: Patterns, Mechanisms and Processes
- Circumstances leading to Transitions -- Domestic, Regional and International
- Post Transition Processes
- Civil-Military Equations

**Theme 2: Constitution-building Process**
- Constitutional Developments: New Constitutions
- Classification of Constitutions
- Latin American Constitutionalism
Theme 3: Economic Restructuring Process
- Domestic and Global Economic Problems
- Debt Management; Employment; and Inflation
- Globalisation and New Development Agenda; Neo-liberalism
- International Economic Integration in Latin America: Trade Relations with Asia-Pacific

Theme 4: Social Costs of Economic Restructuring
- Gender aspects in governance
- Poverty and Inequality
- Social Policy and Distributive Politics: CCTs- *Bolsa familia* (Brazil), *Oportunidades* (Mexico), *Solidario* (Chile)
- Educational Restructuring

Learning Outcomes
At the end of the course, the students would be able to develop skills to have a nuanced understanding of comparative politics and economics within the Latin American region. Theoretical and conceptual foundations would be laid to inculcate critical reading, analysis, and evaluation of available sources to be able to develop competency in the application of comparative methodologies in Latin America and India.

Suggested Readings

**Theme 1: Process of Political Restructuring**


Smith, P. H. (2005), *Democracy in Latin America: Political Change in Comparative Perspective,*
New York: Oxford University Press.


**Theme 2: Constitution-building Process**


**Theme 3: Economic Restructuring Process**


New York: Routledge Falmer.


UNU-WIDER (2014), International Economic Integration and Growth in Latin America, Helsinki: UNU-WIDER.


**Theme 4: Social Costs of Economic Restructuring**


