COURSE DETAIL

MEXICAN POLITICS AND SOCIETY
Country Ireland
Host Institution University of Galway
Program(s) University of Galway
UCEAP Course Level Upper Division
UCEAP Subject Area(s) Political Science
UCEAP Course Number 102
UCEAP Course Suffix
UCEAP Official Title MEXICAN POLITICS AND SOCIETY
UCEAP Transcript Title MEXICAN POL&SOCIETY
UCEAP Quarter Units 4.00
UCEAP Semester Units 2.70

Course Description
The course begins with an overview of some of the major social and political processes that have shaped contemporary Mexico. Students explore how the Mexican state and Mexican political cultures have been built. They learn that many of these processes are ongoing, and that many historical, social, and political issues remain "unresolved," particularly in regard to the historical inequalities and relations of power which continue to characterize social and political fields in Mexico. The course considers the terms of engagement between power holders and the major social groups of the peasantry and the working class within processes of post-revolutionary state-building throughout the 20th century. Students examine the radical socio-economic and political impact of Mexico's shift to neo-liberalism in the 1980s upon the peasantry and working classes and the ways this has re-shaped the relations between the popular classes and the state, and evaluate the nature and the quality of the "democratic transition" which accompanied it. The course then explores the rise of the political right, Mexico's repressive "war on drugs" policy and the relationship between the state, the narco economy and organized crime, considering how the violence associated with these dynamics impacts on sovereignty and on border issues. Finally, students consider the widespread rejection of politics-as-usual, expressed in a landslide victory for the left in the 2018 elections, and reflect on the enormous challenges that this movement for radical change has to confront.

Language(s) of Instruction
English

Host Institution Course Number
SP449

Host Institution Course Title
MEXICAN POLITICS AND SOCIETY

Host Institution Course Details
http://www.nuigalway.ie/course-information/module/SP449

Host Institution Campus

NUI Galway

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department
Political Science and Sociology

Course Last Reviewed
2019-2020

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