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A LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

This has been another lively year for Latin American and Latino Studies. We launched a new presence on-line that allows us to communicate more directly and more regularly. We inaugurated the Latin American and Latino Studies speaker series with three campus-wide talks. We have been very active, and we intend to keep gaining strength.

One sunny afternoon this last Fall we welcomed Dartmouth professor Silvia Spitta to a full room at the Mandel Humanities Center, where she made the audience reflect on the way objects, animals, and people travelled across the world in the early modern/colonial period, and the way they were classified and collected. Professor Spitta elaborated on the component of 'wonder,' and what this emotion still says about dialogues across cultures.

Another wintery day this last Spring, NYU Anthropologist Arlene Davila spoke to an enthusiastic audience in Rappaport Hall, about cultural representation of the Hispanic population in the U.S. In particular, Davila introduced us to the fascinating polemic surrounding the creation of a national museum of Hispanic heritage in the Washington mall. And to crown this great line-up of guest speakers, Anthropology and Environmental Studies Professor Sarah Hill, from Western Michigan University, presented her research on the connection between violence and economic development in Ciudad Juarez.

LALS students were no less active. Our two University Undergraduate Representatives, Yeiri Roberts ’12 and Laura Aguирre ’13, demonstrated their own enthusiasm for all things Latin American by organizing an unprecedented International Business School – Latin American and Latino Studies joint event. Taking advantage of an IBS-sponsored trip to Cuba, ‘Business in Cuba’ was the theme of the evening, and IBS faculty, graduate and undergraduate students presented their experience and expertise. Discussion was lively, and food was abundant! It was a wonderful evening spent learning, discussing, and socializing.

We will continue bringing to Brandeis the most interesting scholars working on Latino and Latin American subjects, and organizing events that give faculty and students the opportunity to enrich our constant dialogue and enjoy each other’s presence.

Since its foundation in 1963, LALS has always exemplified the best of Brandeis’ educational and social values. Our program is interdisciplinary, it is diverse, and it is socially engaged. Inspired by what they have learned, our students keep crossing borders to continue their engagement with the world, learning by conducting research, applying what they learn, and working with communities and organizations. As we approach our 50th anniversary, my colleagues and I are proud to be able to make all this good work possible.

- Fernando Rosenberg
LALS EVENTS 2011-2012

ROSA ELENA BELLO Nicaraguan activist and doctor, keynote address “Village by Village, Barrio by Barrio: Integrated Development in Nicaragua”, September 21st.

PROFESSOR SILVIA ARROM Fall Distinguished Faculty lecture, featuring, Professor of History and Jane’s Professor of Latin American Studies in LALS, “Hiding in Plain Sight, but Lost to History: Charitable Ladies in 19th Century Mexico”, September 22nd.

IEVA JUSHIONYTE Jane’s Grant Presentations: “In Search of Taboo Stories: Treading the Boundary Between the Legal and the Illegal” (Argentina), October 5

KATIE LUKACH Jane’s Grant Presentations: "Uni-Cansahcab Regional Irrigation Project" (Mexico), October 12th

SAMANTHA PIETRUSZEWSKI "Caves and Excavations: Gaining Archaeological Field Experience with the Central Yucatan Archaeological Cave Project" (Mexico), October 12th

STATE OF FEAR – Film Screening of an account of Peru’s 20-year “war on terror.” Introduction by Professor Cristina Espinosa, SID Program, Heller, This event is part of a film series leading to “Just Performance: Enacting Justice in the Wake of Violence,” October 24

PROFESSOR SILVIA SPITTA, (Dartmouth College) LALS Fall Speaker Series Presents: “Jefferson’s Big Bones: Scientific Knowledge and Colonial Triangulations Between the Americas and Europe”, October 27

PROFESSOR MICHELE LAMONT (Harvard University)"Responses to Discrimination and Social Resilience under Neo-Liberalism: The Case of Brazil, Israel, And the United States”, October 27th

STUDY ABROAD PANEL The Hispanic Studies and LALS Departments along with the Office of Study Abroad hosted a panel discussion with students who have returned from time abroad in Spain, Argentina, and Chile, November 14

AN AFTERNOON OF HAITIAN CULTURE Art–Food–Stories–Music–Children's Books, November 19

JUST PERFORMANCE: ENACTING JUSTICE IN THE WAKE OF VIOLENCE This two-day symposium will explored the performative dimensions of justice-seeking in the aftermath of violence, with a focus on Cambodia, Peru and the United States, December 1-2, 2011


JUST PERFORMANCE FILM SERIES

*October 3: The Reckoning – Seeking justice for crimes against humanity
*October 24: State of Fear – A nation wages a war on terror and loses its democracy...
*October 31: Fires in the Mirror – What happens when ethnic tensions in an American neighborhood explode into violence

THE SCHUSTER INSTITUTE FOR INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM AT BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY Haiti Grassroots Watch, January 12

PROFESSOR ARLENE DAVILA (New York University, Anthropology) Spring Lecture Series “Latin@s and the Politics of Museum Display”, March 1

DIEGO ARRIA Venezuelan Leader speaks on Globally Conscious Citizenship. Arria served as the Permanent Representative of Venezuela to the United Nations and as President of the Security Council, and currently serves on the advisory boards of Unilever, the Latin American Advisor of the Inter-American Dialogue, and the International Crisis Group. Arria is Chairman of the Advisory Board of Athleta LLC in New York, a strategic financial advisory firm focused on mergers and acquisitions, March 12

BUSINESS IN LATIN AMERICA: PROMISES AND CHALLENGES SPOTLIGHT: CUBA A faculty & student led panel discussion of student experiences of research in Cuba this past winter, the present and prospective regional business climate, and how business affects and is affected by contemporary social issues such as poverty, government, infrastructure, traditional economies, legal issues, powerful elite’s, March 22 Participants: Dr. Alfonso Canella, Gerson Morales Cutzal, Abigail Katzenelson, Marcos Sandler, Nuo Chen

MARK WEISBROT (Center for Economic and Policy Research) “The Latin American Spring: How democracy has changed the hemisphere and the world and why it matters”, March 27
DAVID CARBALLO (Boston University) "Ritual Offerings and Sacred Architecture in Ancient Central Mexico". The talk examined the socially integrative and divisive elements of ritual offerings and ceremonial space within later Formative period (c. 600 BC – AD 100) central Mexico, with a particular focus on recent investigations at La Laguna, Tlaxcala, March 28

CULTURAL FOOD GALA sponsored by the Brandeis Pluralism Alliance. Participating groups include Ahora!, the Anthropology Club, Russian Club, SASA, KSA and others, April 1

HERMANN HUDDE Jane's Travel Grant Talk with special musical performances, "Pan Americanism in Action: Latin American Music and Composers at Tanglewood from 1941 to 1965" April 27th

SARAH HILL Economic Anthropology in Practice Group, "Making a Living, Making a Killing in Cuidad Juarez: How the World's Most Violent City is also Where Your TV is Made", April 27th

ELISE ALLAN Jane's Travel Grant Talk, "Assessing Health Care Alimentation and Guatemala's Rural Poor"

EMILY GELFMAN Jane's Travel Grant Talk, "Heightened Anxieties and Security Measures: The Politics of Recognizing Jews in Argentina" May 2nd

LALS ANNUAL LUNCHEON, May 2nd

JANE'S TRAVEL GRANTS

Nine Jane's Travel Grants were given during the 2011-2012 academic year. The students who received the awards to fund research in Latin America and the Caribbean during the winter break are:

Elise Allan, '12
"Investigating Ventures to Improve Alimentation: Measuring the affectivity of projects to improve the health of Guatemala's rural, indigenous poor"

Bryce Davenport, PhD Anthropology
"Codices and Communities in the Mixteca Alta"

Emily Gelfman, MA Anthropology
"Modeling Pluralism, Modeling Discourse: The creation of a pluralistic Jewish space in Buenos Aires"

Hermann Hudde, MA Music
"The Untold Story about Latin American Music Composers at Tanglewood"

Donald Slater, PhD Anthropology
"Return to the Heart of the Turtle: Final Lab Analysis of Material Recovered by the Central Yucatan Archaeological Cave Project 2009-2011"

The recipients for the summer research grants are:
Claire Clugston, MA Sustainable International Development, Heller School
"Livelihoods Strategies of Small Scale Dairy Producers in Los Altos de Jalisco, Mexico"

Terrance Hall, MA Anthropology
"On the Border Within: Understanding the Touristic Segmentation of Tulum"

Katharine Lukach, PhD Anthropology
"Analysis of the Ceramic Type Collection at the Autonomous University of Yucatan"

Leah Smith, LALS Minor, Class of 2013
"Sex, Inequality and Babies: The Implications of Widespread Tubal Ligation in Brazil"

JANE'S ESSAY & TRAVEL GRANT WINNERS, FACULTY AWARDS

JANE'S ESSAY PRIZE

Maya Jacob '13 won the Essay Prize for her paper entitled "De la fragmentacion a la unidad: familias transnacionales cochabambinas y las relaciones a larga distancia a consecuencia de la migracion a los estados unidos". She is a minor in the LALS Program

Additionally we are pleased to give honorable mention to Benjamin Beutel, whose essay is entitled "The Occupation, The Center, and the Periphery: How the United States Occupation of Haiti, 1915-1934, Transformed the Haitian Political Landscape"
JANE'S FACULTY DEVELOPMENT AWARDS

Six professors were given Jane's Faculty Development Awards for summer research in Latin America. They are

- **Charles Golden** (Anthropology) for archaeological research materials and to attend the International Committee on Archaeological Heritage Management conference,
- **Faith Smith** (AAAS) to attend the Caribbean Studies Association in Guadeloupe as a member of the Executive council,
- **Elizabeth Ferry** to obtain images for her upcoming book, *Earthly Value: Minerals, Museums and Markets in Mexico and the US*,
- **Cristina Espinosa** (Heller School) for travel to Peru to study economic, social, and gender inequality affecting women's rights and political representation,
- **Javier Urcid** (Anthropology) for research of stone monuments in several regions in the State Oaxaca, Mexico, and
- **Fernando Rosenberg** (Romance Studies) will travel to Argentina to continue his two parallel projects on Latin American documentaries and tango global circulation.

STUDY ABROAD & WOW FELLOWS

Fifteen Brandeis students studied in Latin America and the Caribbean during the 2010-11 academic year. They attended universities in Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, and Mexico.

The Hiatt Career Center selected four Social Justice World-of-Work (WOW) Fellows to work in Latin America and the U.S. Latino community during the summer. The grants of $3,500 support undergraduate students performing unpaid, full-time summer internships in agencies working for social justice. The following comments by each student were part of their proposals before they began their internships.

**Brandon Frank**
*Fundación Paraguaya, Asuncion, Paraguay*

Referred to as the Microcredit program, Fundación Paraguaya's largest initiative involves working one on one with citizens of limited resources to set up a sustainable business model. Brandon was attracted to the org not only because of their involvement in microfinance, but also because of their socially impactful mission. Says Frank, "Making a connection with the social impact of my work is perhaps the most important of my personal goals. Through the personal conversations with loan beneficiaries that I will have in fieldwork, I will experience firsthand how Fundación Paraguaya's efforts improve the lives of Paraguay's neediest in meaningful ways."

**Ivonne Moreno**
*Centro Presente, Somerville, MA*

*Ivonne has always been very interested in immigration, advocacy, and community work and was attracted to Centro Presente*, a Latin America immigrant organization dedicated to the self-determination and self-sufficiency of the Latino immigrant community in Massachusetts. This organization is led primarily by Central America immigrants who struggle for immigrant rights and for economic and social justice. Through her work at Centro Presente, Ivonne hopes to improve her bilingual proficiency, leadership skills, and learn the ins and outs of educating immigrants about their rights to improve their lives and wellbeing in the United States.

**Abigail Simon**
*San Juan del Sur Biblioteca, San Juan del Sur, Nicaragua*

Abigail has negotiated an internship based around social advocacy work with the public library in San Juan del Sur. Given her passions for both education and Spanish, teaching English as a second language (ESL) is a natural point of intersection. Says Abigail, "As I further research the education system in this country, I become convinced that a pressing issue for the future will be inadequate resources for increasing immigrant and minority populations. Expecting children to master material, without full knowledge of English is both unrealistic and unfair. With this in mind, I believe I could make a tangible difference with such populations by working through ESL programs."

**Sarah Steele**
*Ostional National Wildlife Refuge, Guanacaste Province, Costa Rica*
Sarah is interested in environmental and biological conservation and found an internship through the Ostrumal National Wildlife Refuge with Professor Roldán Valverde. The project is focused on conservation of endangered turtles and presentations to researchers and the community. She has gained valuable skills in scientific and research Spanish vocabulary, and seeks to integrate her independent research during her internship as a potential part of her senior thesis.

ESSAYS, THESES, & DISSERTATIONS
The following seniors wrote essays or theses on Latin American-related fields:

- **Dara Rosenkrantz** (Hispanic Studies): “El escándalo fronterizo: el arte de esconder y devaluar en 2666 por Roberto Bolaño”

- **Amy Englesberg** (Hispanic Studies): “La representación del pasado: la literatura infantil como instrumento del recuerdo en la Argentina postdictadura”

- **Laura Hickey** (Hispanic Studies): “Sin nombre de Cary Fukunaga: Las pandillas en América Latina como un mundo humano, organizado, e incomprendido”

- **Shayna Medley** (Hispanic Studies): “Antes de que anochezca y la relación entre sexualidad y poder”

- **Alisa Wecker** (Hispanic Studies): “El papel del narcotráfico en la sociedad Mexicana”

- **Anthony Famiglietti** (Hispanic Studies): “La frontera en la representación del narcotráfico en el cine de los Estados Unidos y México”

Dissertations

- **Ieva Jusionyte** (Anthropology): "Writing on the Margins of the State: News Production in an Argentine Border Town". PhD awarded May 2012.

FACULTY NOTES

Jerónimo Arellano (Romance Studies) attended the NECLAS annual meeting at Dartmouth and presented a paper: "The Eclipse of Magical Realism as an Episode in the Cultural History of Emotions." He presented a second paper at the LASA convention this May: "Scraps of Life: The Rhopographic Impulse in Latin American Visual Culture." He also wrote a journal article that is forthcoming this summer in Revista de Estudios Hispánicos: "Writing the Desert: Latin American Narrative and the Materiality of New Media Forms"

Silvia Arrom (History) published “Para contener al pueblo: el hospicio de pobres de la Ciudad de México, 1774-1871.” Mexico City, CIESAS, 2011.

Elizabeth Ferry (Anthropology) taught Latin America in Ethnographic Perspective and Power and Violence and gave papers at the Colegio de Michoacan colloquium, AAA and LASA. She has book in production through Indiana University Press. (Working title) Earthly Value: Minerals, Markets and Museums in Mexico and the United States. Her first book was translated into Spanish and published: (2011) No sólo nuestro: patrimonio, valor y colectividad en Guanajuato. [Spanish translation of Not Ours Alone: Patrimony, Value and...
Collectivity in Contemporary Mexico] Translated by Marcelo Damiani and Martín Árias. Mexico City: Universidad Iberoamericana; Zamora: Colegio de Michoacán.

Ricardo Godoy (Sustainable International Development) spent the summer under an NSF funded grant in the Bolivian Amazon pilot testing surveys to assess the effects of the construction of a new road on village, household, and individual well being among native Amazonians. The purpose of the study is to measure baseline conditions before the constructions of the road in villages likely to be directly affected by the road and villages likely to be unaffected by the road and in so doing use the road construction as a natural experiment of the effects of road building on local level well-being.


Lucia Reyes de Deu (Romance Studies) won the Theodore and Jane Norman Award for Faculty Research and Creation Projects in Arts and Sciences, with a project titled: "El Círculo del Magisterio: Cultural Promotion and Professional Development for Schoolteachers in Tucuman Province, Argentina". Lucia was awarded a Fellowship for Higher Education of Present and Prospective Teachers from the Marion and Jasper Whiting Foundation. The title of the project is "Educated Women: Literacy, Literature, and the Issue of Education for Women in Early XX Century Argentina". She also conducted research in San Miguel de Tucuman and Buenos Aires.

Fernando J. Rosenberg (Romance Studies). On top of an intense administrative agenda as Chair of the program and member of the Strategic Planning Committee, Fernando attended the American Comparative Literature Association meeting at Brown where he presented the paper "Documentary Practices. The Case of Patricio Guzmán." At the Latin American Studies Association meeting in San

Francisco he organized a panel on documentary film, presented a paper entitled "Juicio y estética documental en la postpolitica" and he was a discussant at the panel Literature and Film after the True Commissions.

Laurence Simon (Sustainable International Development) was on sabbatical last semester writing a book on the Brazilian social theorist Paulo Freire. He also presented a paper on inclusion in higher education to the Ford Foundation’s meeting on the International Fellowship Program held in Hawaii in July.

Faith Smith (African and Afro-American Studies; English) attended the meeting of the Caribbean Studies Association in Guadaloupe. She participated in a roundtable on "Archival Work and Literary Studies" and presented a paper, "Beyond Windrush: Locating Roger Mais' Brotherman and W. Adolphe Roberts' A Single Star", on the panel, "Who 'Belongs' to Postwar West Indian Literature?". She also moderated the annual Book Launch, held at the home of author Simone Schwarz-Bart.


ALUMNI NOTES

Mary G Berg was a panelist for "Narradoras cubanas de ayer y de hoy" at LASA 2012, Her work is titled "New fiction by Havana women writers".

Kendra Harrison continues teaching Spanish at Acton-Boxborough Regional High School and also became an adjunct professor at Quincy College this spring. She continues to work on projects in the Dominican Republic, especially for an orphanage there. hogarforchildren.org

David E. Lewis, PhD '83 was named to Puerto Rico Convention Bureau (PRCB) Ambassador's Program to promote Puerto Rico as convention site destination, Elected to Board of Trustees and Executive Committee of Caribbean-Central American Action (www.c-aca.org) in Washington, DC; Adjunct Professor with FIU's Executive MBA Program
"International Trade & Business" in Dominican Republic with Universidad Iberoamericana de Santo Domingo (UNIBE); Adjunct Professor with ESAN Peru's Executive MBA Program "International Trade & Business" - Trade Advisor to Colombia's Proexport; speaker for trade conference programs in Bogota, Cali, Medellin and Pereira in May 2012 - USAID Senior Trade Advisor contractor.

Kim Tellez '85 taught elementary school in both Spanish and English for many years, now works for Aflac supplemental insurance. Her daughter plans to study in Argentina in 2013. Her 10-year-old son attends a bilingual charter school in the San Fernando Valley.

Sergio Reyes '98 has been serving as Communications Director / Press Secretary for California State Senator Michael J. Rubio (D-Shafter) since 2010. He moved to Sacramento where he loves living close to bike and running trails. He ran his third half marathon in July in San Francisco.

Luis Rubio co-authored "Mexico: A Middle Class Society — Poor No More, Developed Not Yet."


Becky Smith joined the Learning and Development team in Human Resources at Boston Children’s Hospital, and earned an M.A. in Organizational Psychology in 2011. She sits on Children’s committee for Latino Heritage Month. She volunteers for Conexión, a leadership and mentoring program for mid-career Latinos in Boston. Becky vacationed in Dominican Republic, was delighted with Santo Domingo and enchanted by the mountain towns of Jarabacoa and Constanza. It is not unusual to find Becky dancing salsa in the kitchen with her boyfriend Richard.

Steve Volk '68 was named U.S. Baccalaureate Colleges Professor of the year for 2011-12. The award is given by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education.

**VIOLENCE AND TVS IN JUAREZ, MEXICO**

- ELIZABETH FERRY

On April 27th, 2012, Dr. Sarah Hill came to Brandeis as part of the Economic Anthropology in Practice Speaker Series. Her talk was co-sponsored by the LALS program and the Anthropology Department. Dr. Hill is Associate Professor of Anthropology and Environmental Studies at Western Michigan University. Her talk, entitled “Making a Living, Making a Killing in Ciudad Juárez: How the World’s Most Violent City is also the place your TV is Made” on the U.S.-Mexican border, drew parallels between the entrepreneurial logics of global assembly (maquila) factories centered in Juárez and that of the drug cartels now operating in the same area. The economic restructuring of the drug trade in northern and central Mexico allowed for the penetration of new markets and far more efficient distribution networks. This new “modernized” economy – and the U.S. and Mexican government involvement in it – have made Juárez into an alarming violent city. Dr. Hill’s talk was accompanied by striking photos of ghost communities in the city filled with newly constructed, abandoned bungalows.

**FAREWELLS AND ADDITIONAL FAIRE**

**LALS GRADUATES**

The LALS Program congratulates its 2012 seniors and wishes them all the best:

- Yeiri Robert
- Jared Fitterman
- Elise Allan
- Victoria Negus
- Madeleine Stix
- Nicholas Petrocchi

**FAREWELLS**

This year, we say goodbye to a well-respected and valued colleague: Kirsten
Weld (History). Kirsten came to LALS as the recipient of the prestigious Kay Fellowship, which provides a two-year full-time faculty position. While at Brandeis, Kristen taught classes such as “Social Movements in the Americas” and “Dirty Wars, Peace Processes” Kirsten was well liked by her students for her energetic and engaging teaching style. We wish Kirsten all the best in her new position at Harvard University.

INTEGRATING SOCIAL MEDIA

LALS has been engaged in a number of venues to increase our presence throughout the university community, one of which is our ongoing blog: (accessible at this URL) http://blogs.brandeis.edu/lals A goal of this blog is to feature upcoming events and frequent stories from faculty, staff, students, and alumni related Latin America, Latinos, and the Latin American diaspora in the United States. We are inviting submissions for stories (around 400 words), quips, reflections, and anecdotes for inclusion in the blog. If you have questions or would like to submit text, please email Adam Gamwell, Gamwell@brandeis.edu.

We now have a Facebook page, be sure to ‘Like’ LALS!

Selected Upcoming Fall 2012 events

¡Ahora! Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration
Oct 11 - Michael Nava, Chicano novelist, public reading from his forthcoming novel The City of Palaces at 5pm in Shiffman 219.

Oct 20 – Pablo Ziegler and his Classical Tango Quartet concert, part of the Tango Residency through Music Unites Us (http://www.musicunitesus.info/schedule-fall2012.html)

Oct 23 visit and tasting from Kallari indigenous chocolate cooperative – part of Elizabeth Ferry’s ANTH20A Feast and Famine: Food and Social Relations class (http://www.kallari.com/chocolate.html)

Oct 29 – Professor Marjorie Salvodon of the French Department at Suffolk University - Professor Salvodon will join “Imagining Freedom in the Caribbean” ENG 267 to discuss translation for English-speaking audiences, as well as contemporary fiction set during the period of slavery.

For more information:
http://www.brandeis.edu/programs/lals/news-events/events.html
Or email Adam Gamwell, Gamwell@brandeis.edu

Alumna Elise Allan at her Jane's Travel Grant Presentation
Photo: Ryo Morimoto
LATIN AMERICAN AND LATINO STUDIES COURSES OFFERED DURING 2011-2012

FALL 2011

AAAS171a Reggae, Race, and Nation Marshall
ANTH55a Anthropology of Development Johnson
ANTH131b Latin America in Ethnographic Perspective Ferry
ANTH 136A Archaeology of Power: Authority, Prestige, and Inequality in the Past Golden
ANTH156A Power and Violence: The Anthropology of Political Systems Ferry
ENG138A Making Modern Subjects: Empire, Citizenship, and Intimacy Smith
HISP111B Introduction to Latin American Literature and Culture Rosenberg
HISP161B Reality Effects Arellano
HIST71a Empire and Its Discontents: Latin America from Conquest to Independence Weld
HIST115A History of Comparative Race and Ethnic Relations Sundiata
POL144A Latin American Politics I Hindley

SPRING 2012

AAAS135B Global Hip-Hop Marshall
AMST55A Race, Ethnicity, and Immigration in American Culture Davé
ANTH 119A Conquests, Resistance, and Cultural Transformation in Mexico and Central America Golden
FA178A Frida Kahlo: Art, Life, and Legacy Ankori
FREN164A Haiti, Then and Now Donovan
HISP 11B Introduction to Latin American Literature and Culture Arellano
HISP165B The Storyteller: Short Fiction in Latin America Rosenberg
HISP192B Latin American Global Film Rosenberg
HISP194B Borderland Literature and Visual Culture in Latin America and the United States Arellano
HIST71B Latin American History, 1870 to the Present Arrom
HIST171B Latinos in the U.S. Arrom
HIST172A 20th Century Social Movements in the Americas Weld
POL144B Latin American Politics II Hindley
SOC122A The Sociology of American Immigration Lucken

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