

## Mexican Politics and Institutions

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This course will introduce students to the evolution of the Mexican political economy and political system in the past five decades approximately. In particular, it will analyze, from a political science perspective, its dual economic and political transitions: 1) from a relatively closed economy with a strong government intervention up until the eighties, to a more liberalized and deregulated economy; and 2) from an authoritarian regime where one party monopolized power, to a system where electoral competition and effective contestation for political power started to take place.

Mexico is an interesting case study because it represents a wide array of historical trends and contemporary political processes that can be contrasted with other developing countries. These include the legacies of colonialism, civil war, revolution, ethnic and class divisions, state corporatism, experiments with state and market-driven economic models, a successful democratic transition, struggles with democratic consolidation, and domestic policy challenges of poverty, inequality, and insecurity.