

Inter-American Histories of Science in the 20th Century

This course is an advanced introduction to the history of science from a regional perspective. Its main focus is on Latin America, but it adopts a hemispheric approach to emphasize connections, exchanges, and resemblances. The course will start by providing an overview of the major themes, issues and approaches that have shaped the history of science in the 20th Century, especially in Latin America. In addition to a brief historiographical introduction, we will examine a selection of historical case studies that exemplify how science was produced and mobilized through the region. Conversely, the course will analyze how the region was made through science. Our discussion will consider some of the main historical processes that marked the 20th Century and the scientific issues that fostered connected, transnational, and comparable trajectories of science in this part of the world.

This course will combine presentations by the instructor (asynchronous mode) and collective discussion of selected readings (synchronous mode). There are no prerequisites to take the course. Students with a general interest in science, history and culture, and willing to engage in discussion on these subjects are more than welcome.