



## **Economic Growth in Mexico and Latin America in Historical Perspective**

This course surveys the features and patterns of economic growth followed by Mexico and other Latin American countries since independence. It covers the long transition from a traditional economy to one in which modern economic growth took place, also dealing with the consolidation of a modern, industrial economy in the twentieth century. It analyzes the different patterns of development that characterized the economic evolution of the Latin American region within these two centuries, including an early period of inward-looking stagnation, followed by export-led growth, import substitution industrialization, and the more recent insertion into the global economy.

The purpose of the course is to analyze the more relevant features of the Latin American economy throughout this period, the problems faced by a backward region in its transit to modernization and the kind of difficulties it encountered to achieve a satisfactory economic performance. Special attention will be paid to the current debates that confront scholars regarding each of the periods and phenomena considered. Also of interest will be to examine institutional factors and their role in the performance of the Latin American economies throughout time.

Class meetings will consist of presentations by the instructor and the discussion of selected readings by the group of participants.