

4th Annual University of Kentucky
Latin American, Caribbean, and Latino Studies Symposium

POPULIST AUTHORITARIANISM IN COMPARATIVE AND HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

OCTOBER 5, 2018 | WILLIAM T. YOUNG LIBRARY AUDITORIUM



The global rise of populism from Brexit to the election of Donald Trump has brought populism from the marginalized Global South to the cosmopolitan Global North. Populists are in power not only in unconsolidated and fragile democracies in Latin America, but in Hungary, Poland, Greece, and the U.S. As the world region where populists have come to power since the 1940s, Latin America offers lessons to activists, scholars, and politicians of how populists have undermined democracy from within. Promising to give power back to the people, populists in all regions have followed a playbook of concentration of power in the executive branch, war against the media, regulation of civil society, and the transformation of democratic adversaries into enemies. This symposium will contemplate how, in nations as diverse as Venezuela, Hungary, Ecuador, and Bolivia, populism has displaced democracy and created hybrid political regimes.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER | 10:00-11:45

Dr. Kurt Weyland (University of Texas at Austin)
“When Democracy TRUMPS Populism: European and Latin American Lessons for the United States”

ROUND TABLE | 12:45-3:00

Dr. Federico Finchelstein (The New School)
“Populism in Latin American History”

Dr. Silvia Pedraza (University of Michigan, Ann Arbor)
“Two Revolutions Compared: Cuba and Venezuela”

Dr. Phillip Penix-Tadsen (University of Delaware)
“Digital Media and Populism in 21st-Century Latin America”

GRADUATE STUDENT PRESENTATIONS | 3:15-5:00

Kevin Alejandre (Sociology)
“Differences among Latinos in Oregon Agriculture— Positioning in the Fields”

Shayna Lindquist (Anthropology)
“Mesoamerican Strategies of Economic Positioning: A Perspective from the Classic Period Southern Gulf coast of Mexico”

Jessica Linz (Geography)
“Disturbing the Beast: The Affective Life of Gentrification after the Mexico City Earthquake”

Gabriela Montero Mejía (Anthropology)
“Mapping Time and Space: Contextualizing the Archaeological Site of Mazapa, Veracruz, Mexico”

Gregory Saxton (Political Science)
“Inequality, Fairness, Perceptions and Political Support in the Americas”