



Infrastructure, environment, and society: Critical geographies of socio-environmental relations across Latin America

LAS6938

This graduate seminar draws from political ecology and development geography approaches to examine relationships between infrastructure, environment, and society in Latin America. The course begins by situating contemporary extractive development practices within longer histories of uneven development. Next, we consider how socio-environmental relations are mediated through—and shape—"everyday infrastructures" like roads, fences, water management systems, and the "infrastructural landscapes" created by plantation agriculture and urbanization. Finally, we will consider shifting frontiers of extractivism through an analysis of how hydrocarbon industries, climate change mitigation, and agro-export projects are reconfiguring territory and land rights. Utilizing interdisciplinary scholarship, guest lectures, and a local field project, the course provides students with tools to critically investigate how socio-environmental change, power, and inequality intersect to create new geographies of (in)justice.

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FALL '19

Section No.: 15801

Day: T

Time: 7-9