

SPRING QUARTER 2024



CUBAN SOCIETY & REVOLUTION

Chc/Lat 157 / Hist 166C / Intl St 177E / Pol Sci 153G

MWF 11:00-11:50

Dr. Robert Duncan



On New Year's Eve 1958, longtime master of Cuban politics, Fulgencio Batista, fled the presidential palace to seek asylum in the Dominican Republic. The following day, partisans of Fidel Castro's 26th of July Movement triumphantly entered the capital city of Havana. For the rebels and many others, this event symbolized the end to social injustice, political corruption, and U.S. economic domination. As one of the "great" modern social upheavals, the Cuban Revolution impacted not just the history of Cuba, but the world as well. But evaluating this history has been the subject of rancorous debate for more than half a century. As one of the very few socialist states left in the world, Cuba remains an enigma for many. This course will uncover the historic development and legacy of the Revolution while serving as an entry point to understanding Cuba both of the past and present. Themes will include the issues of economic dependency, revolutionary theory, social justice, race, gender, culture, and the always-volatile relations between Cuba and the United States.