CFR Resources

A primer on the North American Free Trade Agreement, the new U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement, and their effects on the United States, Canada, and Mexico. (2,800 words)

Amelia Cheatham, “Central America’s Turbulent Northern Triangle.”
A primer on the Northern Triangle countries (El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras) and how conditions there are driving emigration to the United States. (1,700 words)

Claire Felter and Rocío Cara Labrador, “Brazil’s Corruption Fallout.”
An introduction to the Lava Jato corruption scandal that recently rocked Brazil. (1,700 words)

Claire Felter, Danielle Renwick, and Andrew Chatzky, “Mercosur: South America’s Fractious Trade Bloc.”
An overview of the South American trade bloc Mercosur. (1,700 words)

Claire Felter, Danielle Renwick, and Rocío Cara Labrador, “U.S.-Cuba Relations.”
A summary of U.S.-Cuba relations. (1,300 words)

Rocío Cara Labrador, “Haiti’s Troubled Path to Development.”
A primer on economic development in Haiti. (1,600 words)

Brianna Lee and Danielle Renwick, “The Organization of American States.”
An overview of the Organization of American States that includes a discussion of its strengths and weaknesses. (1,800 words)

Brianna Lee, Danielle Renwick, and Rocío Cara Labrador, “Mexico’s Drug War.”
An introduction to the many facets of the drug war in Mexico. (2,100 words)

Articles

Originally published as a special issue of the New York Times Magazine, the 1619 Project aims to help readers see the role that
enslaved people played in American history. (47,800 words)
An immersive feature on gangs in Honduras. (6,000 words)
A feature on the ongoing political crisis in Venezuela. (8,700 words)
A feature on the effects of Chinese investment in science and infrastructure in South America. (2,300 words)
A short article by Haitian writer Edwidge Danticat on the legacy of foreign occupations in Haiti. (1,200 words)
A profile of Simón Bolivar that pays particular attention to his record on race. (1,300 words)
A short history of Evo Morales, the first indigenous president of Bolivia, who brought tremendous change to the country before being forced into exile in 2019. (900 words)
Umair Irfan, “Brazil's Amazon Rainforest Destruction Is at Its Highest Rate in More Than a Decade,” Vox, November 18, 2019.
A primer on ongoing deforestation in the Amazon rainforest. (800 words)
An article on casta paintings, a genre of art that reveals how eighteenth-century colonists in Latin America understood race. (1,200 words)
A feature on the building of the Panama Canal, with an emphasis on the tremendous toll it took on the laborers who built it. (1,400 words)

Juan Moreno, “A Visit to FARC’s Jungle Lair,” Spiegel International, September 23, 2019. A feature on Colombia, where, despite a three-year-old peace agreement, some rebel groups are becoming restless again. (3,600 words)


Emma Turner-Trujillo, Marissa Del Toro, and April Ramos, “An Overview of Latino and Latin American Identity,” Iris, September 13, 2017. An excellent introduction, originally published in conjunction with an exhibit at the Getty Museum, to identity in the region, including a thoughtful discussion of the various words people from Latin America use to self-identify. (3,000 words)


Jonathan Watts, “Operation Car Wash: Is This the Biggest Corruption Scandal in History?” Guardian, June 1, 2017. A feature on Operation Car Wash, an investigation into corruption in Brazil that has had far-reaching consequences for politics and business in the largest country in South America. (5,700 words)

Books
The Americas: Classroom Reading List

An excellent history of the Haitian Revolution. (428 pages)

The story of Paul Farmer, the American doctor who founded Partners in Health, which provides medical care in rural Haiti. (333 pages)

A fascinating account of what the Americas were like before European colonization. (541 pages)

A history of how World War II, which was fought largely in Europe and the Pacific, affected Latin America. (336 pages)

The autobiography of Nobel Peace Prize–winning indigenous rights activist Rigoberta Menchú. (252 pages)

A book based on a Pulitzer Prize–winning series of articles in the *Los Angeles Times* that traces the journey of a seventeen-year-old boy who emigrated alone from Honduras to the United States. (294 pages)

Literature

A classic novel by a Nobel Prize–winning author that details the life of a Colombian family over several generations. (417 pages)

An award-winning novel set during the so-called Dirty War in Argentina. (240 pages)
Multimedia

An excellent podcast on the economic history of Chile, told through the lens of the 2019 Chilean protests. (27 minutes)

A podcast on the history of U.S. expansion. (33 minutes)

A short documentary film on the history of border fences along the U.S.-Mexico border. (7 minutes)

A documentary film on the role women played in the Sandinista rebellion in Nicaragua. (97 minutes)

“Native Land,” Native Land Digital.
An interactive map that approximates where indigenous populations lived in the Americas and Oceania before European colonization.

An online exhibit from the John F. Kennedy Library about the Cuban Missile Crisis that narrates the thirteen-day crisis day by day, illustrated with archival material and recordings from the library’s collections.

A podcast on the history of the United Fruit Company, one of the commercial enterprises that shaped U.S.-Central America relations in the early nineteenth century. (56 minutes)

News Sources

Americas Program
News and analysis from a Mexico City–based nonprofit.

Americas Quarterly
An English-language magazine of news and analysis about Latin
The Americas: Classroom Reading List

America, published in Washington, DC.

**Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC)**
Canada’s state broadcaster, similar to the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) or National Public Radio (NPR) in the United States or the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) in the United Kingdom.

**Globe and Mail**
Canada’s leading newspaper, published in Toronto.

**North American Congress on Latin America (NACLA)**
A site with a long history of offering excellent English-language news about Latin America.