



Cornell **CAU**
Education Vacations

130 Seneca Place
Alumni Affairs and Development
Ithaca, NY 14850
cauinfo@cornell.edu

Dear Participants,

Welcome! I am delighted that we will be spending a week together in July to examine the history (and current reality) of Chile and its place in the wider world—from its Pacific orientation to its global connections. I am a historian of modern Latin America and have been teaching at Cornell in the History Department since 2001. I did my graduate work at the University of New Mexico (where I earned an MA in Latin American Studies) and Yale University (where I earned a PhD in Latin American history). My focus early in my career—and my first book—was on the history of Mexico. In 2006 I began researching and writing on (and traveling in) Chile. In 2016 I published *The Cry of the Renegade: Politics and Poetry in Interwar Chile* (with Oxford University Press and a Spanish translation in 2017 with LOM Editoriales) and I continue to research and write on Chile to this day. Some years ago I had the pleasure of leading a two-week CAU travel tour to Chile and Argentina with a focus on poetry, politics, and wine and I have also had the honor of giving a keynote lecture at Chile's Museum and Memory and Human Rights as part of their annual distinguished lecture series.

For our course I will combine lectures, discussions, and some non-class excursions in the hopes of giving you a broad sense of Chile's modern history, literature, arts, and politics. My lectures will provide you with a broad view of the political, social and cultural history of Chile from the early 1800s to the present; these will be interspersed with repeated opportunities for wider discussion of readings and films. I have requested that the Monday evening film series include a screening of the wonderful and important film *Machuca* (dir. Andrés Wood) which we can discuss later that week when we get to the early 1970s. For readings I have made suggestions in the course description you hopefully received and can modify some of these accordingly based on your specific interests as we go through the week. The only reading I have 'required' is the short story by Manuel Rojas ('The Glass of Milk') which I will make available to you all as a pdf well in advance of our class. Of the suggested readings I included in the course description, if you were to choose only one to read, I would recommend Isabel Allende's *My Imaginary Country*. If you have specific interests and/or would like further reading recommendations, do please feel free to contact me at your convenience (my email address is below). In addition I have scheduled an excursion to the Johnson Museum where we can view and discuss the work of Roberto Matta, one of the most important artists and surrealists of the 20th century and whose son, Gordon Matta-Clarke, attended Cornell's Architecture program and became an important experimental 'anarchitect' prior to his death at the age of 36. We will visit also the Kroch Rare Books and Manuscript collection where Emily Beran will introduce us to some of the materials on Chile that the university has collected over the decades.

I look forward to meeting you all in July and, again, do please feel free to be in touch via email if I can answer any questions in advance. Con mis saludos muy cordiales...

Raymond Craib
Marie Underhill Noll Professor of History
Director of Graduate Studies
Cornell University
rbc23@cornell.edu