

Syllabus for Actors and Social Change (Mexico)

Instructor: Carlos Cortez Ruiz

This module is part of a Masters in Rural Development at the Autonomous Metropolitan University in México City.

[Autonomous Metropolitan University's Postgraduate Degree in Rural Development](#)

The module (course) I am teaching is “actors and social organizations in rural areas”, the V module of the Master in Rural Development. It is developed in 3 units, each to be covered in an intensive work during one week every month. During this week, our students come from different regions in Mexico and other countries principally from Latin America. After the week they return to their regions.

The first unit of this module (January) include a general content to be analysed by all the students with the objectives::

- i) to reflect on theories and Concepts on social action, classes, actors, agency, social movements, and social change (Thompson, Touraine, Carnoy, Melucci)
- ii) to reflect on theories and Concepts on ; organization, institution, civil society, democracy, action (Alberoni, Dis Santos, Mouffe, Escobar, Dagnino)
- iii) theories and concepts on; power, hegemony, subalternity and resistance, negotiation and participation (Foucault, Scott, Gruppi, Gramsci, Prakash, Cornwall)
- iv) reflect of different kinds of social movements in rural areas from peasants, indigenous, woman (Wizer, Guardianio, Harvey, Cortez)

For the second unit the Group has been divided around themes. One of this themes is on; “social action, participation forms and citizenship practices”. I am in charge of this one. Along this week, we are having a reflection that will be presented to the rest of the Group at the end of this week

The objectives of the citizenship Group discussion are:

- i) to analyse different theoretical conceptions on citizenship with an historical perspective (Olvera, Rubio,
- ii) consider the relation between citizenship and Rights; civil, political, social, economical and cultural Rights (Calderón, Herrera, Kabeer)
- iii) analyse exclusion process and fight for inclusion, citizenship and conflicts, ethnical and gender issues (Sanchez, De la Peña, Meer and Server)
- iv) To analyse the problematic of citizenship formation (Rubio, Cortez)