

Latin American Studies Minor

College of Humanities and Public Affairs

Career Preparation

The Latin American Studies Program provides a minor course of study that offers the opportunity to study the Latin American nations from an interdisciplinary perspective, which emphasizes critical approaches to the study of history, political systems, social structures, economic development and literary and artistic expression of the region. In addition, the increasing importance of the Hispanic migration into the United States makes this program very relevant to modern American culture and political institutions. Students who earn this minor will be better prepared for careers in international business, public service, human resources, and graduate studies in history, political science and public administration.

Academic Program

The Latin American Studies Program is housed in the College of Humanities and Public Affairs and is administered by the Associate Dean. It provides a minor course of study allowing students to concentrate their efforts in the study of the peoples, cultures, history, geography, languages, literature and religions of the Latin American countries. The minor consists of 18 hours. All students are required to take six hours of a Latin American language (Spanish or Portuguese). Twelve (12) additional hours must be selected from four areas of emphasis, with no more than six hours taken from any one area. Students may apply up to three hours credit from variable content/special courses to the minor.

Areas of Study

The minor may be applied to the Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Fine Arts and the Bachelor of Social Work degrees. The minor in Latin American Studies includes six hours of a Latin American language, plus 12 hours of additional course work or a total of at least 18 hours, with a minimum GPA of 2.50 in courses counted toward the minor.

Courses

A. Six hours of Latin American language (Spanish or Portuguese)

B. Twelve hours from the following areas, with no more than six hours from any one category:

1. Historical Studies

HST 350: Latin American Civilization
HST 397: Special Topics (Latin American Topic)*
HST 492: Seminar (Latin American Topic)*
HST 587: Mexico from Colony to Nation
HST 588: Modern Mexico

2. Geography and Politics

GRY 305: Selected World Regions*
PLS 338: Politics of Less Developed Countries
PLS 548: Latin American Politics

3. Art, Culture, Religion & Society

ANT 330: Peoples and Cultures*
ANT 331: Peoples and Cultures of the Caribbean
ART 273: Survey of the Art of Africa, Oceania, and the Americas
ART 485: Art of Mesoamerica
ART 385: Art of the Americas
ART 496/598: Special Topics*
REL 397: Variable Topics in Religion*
SOC 336: Race and Ethnic Group Relations

4. Language & Literature

ENG 354: Ethnic American Literature*
ENG 362: Non-European World Literature*
LLT 197: Topics in Language and Literature*
LLT 296: Major Authors in Translation*
SPN 315: Business Spanish
SPN 320: Hispanic Cinema
SPN 325: Civilization of Spain
SPN 326: Civilization of Spanish America
SPN 360: US-Latino Literature
SPN 297: Special Topics in Spanish*
PTG 297: Special Topics in Portuguese*

**when applicable*

Variable Content Courses

A student can petition to apply a variable content/special topics course to the minor, with the approval of the Administrator. Such variable content/special topics courses may include the courses listed above with an (*) placed next to their description.

For More Information

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Faculty

Faculty teaching courses in the program have expertise in a wide range of subjects, including the History of Latin America, Latin American politics, geography, and cultures, and Latin American languages and literature.

Administration of the Minor

Courses must be approved by the faculty of the Latin American Studies Committee for inclusion in the minor. The Associate Dean of CHPA must approve the course of study for each student who wishes to complete a Latin American Studies Minor.