

# LATIN AMERICAN AND LATINX STUDIES

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Program Website (<https://www.uwec.edu/academics/college-arts-sciences/departments-programs/latin-american-latinx-studies/>)

The globally interdependent nature of today's world makes second language proficiency and cross-cultural understanding valuable assets for students in any field. Students in the Latin American and Latinx Studies (LAS) Program can choose between two majors. The language emphasis major provides students the opportunity to develop a high proficiency in Spanish through the LAS core language courses and (typically) a six week minimum language immersion requirement in a Spanish speaking country of Latin America, though other possibilities exist which you can discuss with an LAS advisor. The culture and society emphasis -- which requires Spanish courses only through SPAN 202 and (typically) an immersion of only three weeks in a number of countries of the Americas, including some non-Spanish speaking ones -- is geared towards students who are less interested in developing a high proficiency in Spanish or who already have that proficiency but still want to learn more about Latin America and its people, including Latinx/Hispanic people in the US. Other immersion possibilities exist for that major as well which you can discuss with an LAS advisor.

Both majors allow students to gain in-depth knowledge and understanding of Latin America and the Latinx/Hispanic communities in the United States through an array of courses from multiple disciplines including geography, art history, religion, history, anthropology, public and environmental health, environmental studies, sociology, nursing, and women's, gender, and sexuality studies.

The significant Latinx/Hispanic population in the United States and the increasing social, cultural, and economic interconnectedness between the countries and peoples of the hemisphere will increase the demand for professionals who can communicate in the Spanish language and are prepared to work with the Latinx/Hispanic communities in the US and the people of Latin America. To mention just a few options, the Latin American and Latinx Studies majors, minor, and certificate are well suited for students who plan to:

1. pursue careers which require residence in or knowledge of Latin America (e.g., in business, journalism, government, NGOs, and others);
2. teach Spanish in Early Childhood through Adolescence classrooms (combining a Spanish Teaching major with an LAS major); and/or
3. pursue graduate work in Latin American and/or Latinx studies, or other disciplines where a Latin American and/or Latinx specialization would be helpful (e.g., Latin American and Latinx/Hispanic literature, political science, economics, history, art history, to name just a few).

Note: For program combinations involving Latin American and Latinx Studies programs, students must earn a minimum of 48 unique credits for purposes of meeting graduation requirements for first and second degree programs.

Application for Admission to Latin American and Latinx Studies Internships

*Applying for Admission to the Internship:* Visit the Latin American and Latinx Studies Program's (<https://www.uwec.edu/academics/college-arts-sciences/departments-programs/latin-american-latinx-studies/explore-opportunities/internships/>) internships web page or talk to your advisor or the LAS Program Director to learn about the application requirements and procedures for internships. Students planning to enroll in LAS 488/LAS 688: Internship,

or LAS 498/LAS 698: Internship with Language Immersion, in the summer or fall should apply by the priority deadline of February 1 of the year of internship for summer or fall enrollment. October 1 is the priority deadline for winterim or spring enrollment.

Latin American and Latinx Honors Program

The Latin American and Latinx Studies (LAS) Honors Program is intended for students pursuing either the LAS Language emphasis or the LAS Culture and Society major -- including majors under various different names prior to the 2020-21 UW - Eau Claire catalog -- who have demonstrated excellence in their coursework, and who want to experience the study of topics relevant to the major outside the classroom. The high impact practices required for honors in the LAS program align with such experiences.

The LAS Honors Program is not equivalent to the University Honors Program. They are two different programs and, because they are distinct, students should review the requirements of each with care.

Students who pursue the LAS Honors Program do not have to be part of the University Honors Program.

Students in the University Honors Program can also apply to be part of the LAS Honors Program.

**Eligibility:** LAS majors who have a major GPA of 3.00 or higher. Completion of LAS 150 and LAS 222 is required before applying to the Honors program, whether doing the LAS Language emphasis major or the LAS Culture and Society emphasis major.

**Application:** An application must be submitted to the LAS program via an e-form. The e-form may be accessed by going to the main Latin American and Latinx Studies web page (<https://www.uwec.edu/academics/college-arts-sciences/departments-programs/latin-american-latinx-studies/academic-offerings/latin-american-latinx-honors-program/>). The e-form (<https://uwec.bplogix.net/form.aspx?pid=d6b4de7a-a68b-41af-97f5-ecc275ef7d2d&formid=2edc529d-6fae-4fae-95f3-ceb81d024bf5&nohome=0&completepageprompt=0&completepage=&completetext=&%20click%20the%20link%20below%20to%20continue>) will ask that you identify an LAS faculty or affiliate faculty/IAS member to serve as a reference. The application must be submitted prior to the student's last two semesters of study. That being said, students are encouraged to apply after completing LAS 150 and LAS 222, but no later than their final two semesters.

**Requirements:** At graduation, the student must have a major GPA of 3.00 or higher. In addition, the student must submit evidence that two of the options from the list below have been satisfactorily completed at a standard of excellence deserving of a recognition in LAS Honors.

With the exception of the OPI proficiency test, students may do two of any of the other given options to meet the LAS Honors Program requirements if their projects are distinct. For example, a student could conduct two separate faculty/student collaborative research projects with the same or different LAS faculty or affiliate faculty/IAS member(s) or, with approval from the LAS Program Director, with faculty from departments or programs outside of and not formally affiliated with the LAS program.

Students that select OPI proficiency as one of the options to fulfill one of their requirements must complete work in a different category for the second option.

Students pursuing Honors in both Spanish and LAS can do so, but must complete different projects for each one (completing four different projects overall).

1. A faculty/student collaborative research project with an LAS faculty or affiliate faculty/IAS member(s) or, with approval from the LAS Program Director, with faculty or affiliate faculty/IAS member(s) from departments or programs outside of and not formally affiliated with the LAS program. In special circumstances approved by the LAS Director, certain independent studies can be counted for this requirement.

2. Advanced Low or higher on an official ACTFL Oral Proficiency Interview. This applies to both LAS Language emphasis and LAS Culture and Society majors.

3. An off-campus presentation at a conference on a topic related to the major.

4. Completion of an LAS related internship approved by an LAS faculty or affiliate faculty/IAS member(s).

5. Submission of a publication-worthy manuscript to a journal related to the major.

6. Completion of application to the U.S. Fulbright program (or other similar prestigious grants or awards with approval from the LAS Director). Similar prestigious grants or awards would have to have some relation to the major, take place in a Latin American country, or have to deal with an issue related to Latinx populations in the US or elsewhere.

7. Certification as an interpreter by the State of Wisconsin. This applies to both LAS Language emphasis and LAS Culture and Society majors. This requirement can be extended to other bodies providing other kinds of certifications for other types of interpreting (medical, etc.).

8. Completion of the UW - Eau Claire Peace Corps Certificate requirements.

#### Optional Concentrations

Students interested in developing an expertise in a particular substantive area can choose to take courses in the following areas of expertise. Optional concentrations should consist of a minimum of 12 credits.

#### First Nations

AIS 444	Indigenous Theory and Methodologies	3
ARTH/AIS 335	Ancient Art and Architecture of Mexico and Central America	3
ARTH/AIS 337	Art of Tawantinsuyo	3
HIST/LAS 172	Latin American History: Colonial to the Present	3
MATH 107	Mathematics in Latin American Cultures	4
RELS/AIS 330	Indigenous Religions of the Americas	3
WGSS 315	Women of Color Feminisms	3

#### Development

AIS 444	Indigenous Theory and Methodologies	3
ECON/LAS 356	Economic Development of Latin America	3
ECON/WGSS 357	Women and Economic Development	3
GEOG 111	Planet Earth: Human Geography	3
GEOG 178	Planet Earth: Conservation of the Environment	3
GEOG/LAS 321	Geography of Latin America	3
HIST/LAS 172	Latin American History: Colonial to the Present	3
PHIL 320	Environmental Ethics	3
POLS/LAS 319	Politics of Latin America	3

POLS 325	Model United Nations	3
SW 290	Human Rights and Global Justice	3
WGSS 335	Transnational Feminism	3

#### History

ARTH/AIS 335	Ancient Art and Architecture of Mexico and Central America	3
ARTH/AIS 337	Art of Tawantinsuyo	3
HIST/WGSS 205	American Women's History	3
LAS 222	Introduction to U.S. Latino History and Culture	3
HIST/LAS 172	Latin American History: Colonial to the Present	3

#### Cultural Studies

AIS 444	Indigenous Theory and Methodologies	3
ANTH 315	Language in Culture and Society	3
ARTH/AIS 335	Ancient Art and Architecture of Mexico and Central America	3
ARTH/AIS 337	Art of Tawantinsuyo	3
CJ/WGSS 111	Gender, Race, Class, and Communication: The Social Construction of Identity	3

ECON 330	Experiences of Minoritized Groups in U.S. Economy	3
ECON/WGSS 357	Women and Economic Development	3
FLG 378	Second Language Acquisition Theory	3
FLTR/LAS 350	Latin American Literature in Translation	3

GEOG 111	Planet Earth: Human Geography	3
LAS 222	Introduction to U.S. Latino History and Culture	3
LAS 314	Music and Dance of Latin America	3
LAS 491	Special Topics (when topic relates to cultural studies)	3

RELS/WGSS 203	Women and World Religions	3
SOC/WGSS 202	Sociology of Gender	3
WGSS 100	Introduction to Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies	3
WGSS 206	Perspectives in LGBTQ Studies	3

#### Race, Ethnicity, Gender and Sexuality Studies

ANTH 315	Language in Culture and Society	3
CJ/WGSS 111	Gender, Race, Class, and Communication: The Social Construction of Identity	3

ECON 330	Experiences of Minoritized Groups in U.S. Economy	3
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ECON/LAS 356	Economic Development of Latin America	3
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ECON/WGSS 357	Women and Economic Development	3
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HIST/WGSS 205	American Women's History	3
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RELS/WGSS 203	Women and World Religions	3
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SOC/WGSS 202	Sociology of Gender	3
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WGSS 100	Introduction to Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies	3
WGSS 206	Perspectives in LGBTQ Studies	3
WGSS 315	Women of Color Feminisms	3

WGSS 335	Transnational Feminism	3
WGSS 422	Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Advanced Travel Seminar (when offered as Women in Nicaragua)	1-6

**Business/Health**

NRSG 367	Community and Public Health Nursing	3
NRSG 389	Cross Cultural Health	3
NRSG 428	Practicum: Nursing Leadership I (when focused on L. America or Latinx related topics)	3

LAS 324	Latinx Health and Migration to the U.S.	3
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PH 115	Global Health	3
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PH/NRSG 225	Introduction to Public Health	3
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SPAN 409	The Craft of Translation	3
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SPAN 410	Advanced Grammar	3
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SPAN 420	Spanish for Health Professions	3
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SPAN 440	Spanish Business Writing	3
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**Spanish Language, Linguistics and Literature**

ANTH 315	Language in Culture and Society	3
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FLG 378	Second Language Acquisition Theory	3
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SPAN 325	Phonetics and Pronunciation	3
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SPAN 360	Survey of Hispanic Linguistics	3
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SPAN/LAS 367	Survey of Latin American Literature	3
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SPAN 405	Advanced Conversation	3
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SPAN 409	The Craft of Translation	3
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SPAN 410	Advanced Grammar	3
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SPAN/LAS 418	Spanish Sociolinguistics in the United States/Latin America	3
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SPAN/LAS 475	Topics in Latin American Literature	3
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SPAN/LAS 480	Latin American Literature and Film	3
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SPAN 491	Special Topics (Latin American or Phonetics topics only)	1-3
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SPAN 492	Seminar in Hispanic Linguistics Research	3
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**Sustainability**

AIS 444	Indigenous Theory and Methodologies	3
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BIOL 320	Studies in Tropical Environments (when relates to Latin America)	3
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ECON/LAS 356	Economic Development of Latin America	3
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GEOG 111	Planet Earth: Human Geography	3
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GEOG 178	Planet Earth: Conservation of the Environment	3
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GEOG/LAS 321	Geography of Latin America	3
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NRSG 367	Community and Public Health Nursing	3
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NRSG 428	Practicum: Nursing Leadership I (when focused on L. America or Latinx related topics)	3
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PH 115/NRSG 225	Global Health	3
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PH/NRSG 225	Introduction to Public Health	3
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PHIL 320	Environmental Ethics	3
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SW 290	Human Rights and Global Justice	3
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Faculty

Manuel Fernández, Ph.D. (Program Director)

Gerardo Licón, Ph.D.

**Majors**

- Major: Latin American and Latinx Studies, Language Emphasis, Liberal Arts - B.A./B.S. (<http://catalog.uwec.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/latin-american-latinx-studies/latin-american-latinx-studies-major-language-ba-bs/>)
- Major: Latin American and Latinx Studies, Culture and Society Emphasis, Liberal Arts - B.A./B.S. (<http://catalog.uwec.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/latin-american-latinx-studies/latin-american-latinx-studies-major-culture-society-ba-bs/>)

**Minors**

- Minor: Latin American and Latinx Studies, Liberal Arts (<http://catalog.uwec.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/latin-american-latinx-studies/latin-american-latinx-studies-minor/>)

**Certificates**

- Certificate: Latin American and Latinx Studies (<http://catalog.uwec.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/latin-american-latinx-studies/latin-american-latinx-studies-certificate/>)