LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES

Hibbard Humanities Hall 384
715-836-3212
Program Website (https://www.uwec.edu/academics/college-arts-sciences/departments-programs/latin-american-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 Studies (LAS) Program can develop a high proficiency in Spanish through the LAS core language courses and language immersion requirements. Students also 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 economics, geography, political science, art history, religion, history, anthropology, public and environmental health, 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 are both proficient in the Spanish language as well as prepared to work with the Latinx/Hispanic communities in the US and the people of Latin America. The Latin American 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., business, journalism, government, NGOs, and others);
2. teach Spanish in Early Childhood through Adolescence classrooms (through the LAS Comprehensive Major - Teaching); and/or
3. pursue graduate work in Latin American studies or other disciplines where a Latin American specialization would be helpful (e.g., Latin American and Latinx/Hispanic literature, political science, economics, history, art history, to name just a few).

Note: Students who pursue Latin American Studies and Spanish liberal arts program combinations will need to earn at least 48 unique credits between any major-minor or major-certificate program combinations and 54 unique credits between any major-major program combinations for purposes of meeting graduation requirements for first and second degree programs.

Application for Admission to Latin American Studies Internships

Applying for Admission to the Internship: Visit the Latin American Studies Program's 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.

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.

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<th>First Nations</th>
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<td>AIS 444 Indigenous Theory and Methodologies 3</td>
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<td>ARTH/AIS 335 Ancient Art and Architecture of Mexico and Central America 3</td>
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<td>LAS/ECON 356 Economic Development of Latin America 3</td>
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<td>ARTH/AIS 337 Art of Tawantinsuyo 3</td>
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<td>LAS 222 Introduction to U.S. Latino History and Culture 3</td>
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<td>LAS/HIST 309 Latin America Through Independence 3</td>
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<td>AIS 444 Indigenous Theory and Methodologies 3</td>
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<td>ANTH 315 Language in Culture and Society 3</td>
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<td>LAS 314 Music and Dance of Latin America 3</td>
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<td>LAS/FLTR 350 Latin American Literature in Translation 3</td>
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<td>LAS 491 Special Topics (when topic relates to cultural studies) 3</td>
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<th>Women’s, Gender and Sexuality Studies</th>
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<td>ANTH 315 Language in Culture and Society 3</td>
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<td>WGSS/SPAN 482 Women in Latin American Literature 3</td>
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<td>WGSS 422 Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Advanced Travel Seminar (when offered as Women in Nicaragua) 1-6</td>
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<td>NRSG 389 Cross Cultural Health 3</td>
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<td>SPAN 409 The Craft of Translation 3</td>
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**Faculty**

Manuel Fernandez, Program Director  
Gerardo Licón

**Majors**

- Major: Latin American Studies, Language Emphasis, Liberal Arts - B.A./B.S.  
- Major: Latin American Studies, Culture and Society Emphasis, Liberal Arts - B.A./B.S.

**Minors**

- Minor: Latin American Studies, Liberal Arts

**Certificates**

- Certificate: Latin American Studies

**LAS 150 Introduction to Latin American Studies (3 crs)**

An interdisciplinary course introducing students both to the culture and civilization of Latin America and to Latin American Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire.

Attributes: Foreign Culture, GE IIG Social Science-Interdisciplinary Study, LE-I1 Integration, LE-R2 Global Perspectives  
Lecture/Discussion Hours: 3  
Lab/Studio Hours: 0

**LAS 222 Introduction to U.S. Latino History and Culture (3 crs)**

- For LAS majors and minors credit can only be earned in either LAS 222 ("Introduction to U.S. Latino History and Culture") or LAS 312/SPAN 312 ("Latinos in the U.S.").

An interdisciplinary introduction to the history and culture of Latinos in the United States with lectures and course materials in English.

Attributes: Cultural Diversity 3 cr., GE IVE Humanities-Interdisciplinary Studies, LE-DDIV Design for Diversity, LE-K3 Humanities, LE-R1 Equity, Diversity, and Inclusivity  
Grading Basis: A-F Grades Only  
Lecture/Discussion Hours: 3  
Lab/Studio Hours: 0

**LAS 309 Latin America Through Independence (3 crs)**

Prerequisite: Six credits of history, or junior standing, or consent of instructor.

- Credit may not be earned in both HIST 309 and LAS 309.

Pre-Columbian background, establishment of Spanish and Portuguese empires and institutions in the New World, and the struggle for independence.

Attributes: GE IVC Humanities-History, Undergraduate/Graduate Offering  
Lecture/Discussion Hours: 3  
Lab/Studio Hours: 0

**LAS 311 Latin America Since Independence (3 crs)**

Prerequisite: Six credits of history, or junior standing, or consent of instructor.

- Credit may not be earned in both HIST 311 and LAS 311.

Political, economic, and cultural development from independence to present. Primary emphasis on Mexico and Brazil.

Attributes: Foreign Culture, GE IVC Humanities-History, Undergraduate/Graduate Offering  
Lecture/Discussion Hours: 3  
Lab/Studio Hours: 0

**LAS 314 Music and Dance of Latin America (3 crs)**

An interdisciplinary investigation of Latin American and U.S. Latino music and dance and their influence in the United States.

Attributes: Foreign Culture, Cultural Diversity 1 cr., GE IVE Humanities-Interdisciplinary Studies  
Lecture/Discussion Hours: 3  
Lab/Studio Hours: 0

**LAS 319 Politics of Latin America (3 crs)**

- Credit may not be earned in both POLS 319 and LAS 319.

An examination of major institutions, groups, and selected topics related to Latin American politics.

Attributes: Foreign Culture, GE IIII Social Science-Political Science  
Lecture/Discussion Hours: 3  
Lab/Studio Hours: 0
LAS 321 Geography of Latin America (3 crs)
  • Credit may not be earned in both GEOG 321 and LAS 321.

The physical and cultural landscapes of Latin America, including North, Central, and South America and the Caribbean Islands, with attention to the major cultural, economic, social, and political currents of each region.

Attributes: Foreign Culture, GE IIIC Social Science-Geography, LE-I1 Integration, LE-R2 Global Perspectives, Undergraduate/Graduate Offering
Lecture/Discussion Hours: 3
Lab/Studio Hours: 0

LAS 350 Latin American Literature in Translation (3 crs)
  • Credit may not be earned in both FLTR 350 and LAS 350.

This course introduces students to Latin American authors and their writings in a historical and social context.

Attributes: Foreign Culture, GE IVD Humanities-Literature, Undergraduate/Graduate Offering
Lecture/Discussion Hours: 3
Lab/Studio Hours: 0

LAS 352 Latin American Civilization (3 crs)
Prerequisite: SPAN 302 or consent of instructor. No credit if taken after LAS 354, SPAN 351 or SPAN 354.
  • Credit may not be earned in both SPAN 352 and LAS 352.

Introduction to the historical background necessary for comprehending contemporary Latin America. Analysis of current social, political, and economic issues, with consideration of influential personalities in present-day Latin American society.

Attributes: Foreign Culture, GE IVD Humanities-Literature, Undergraduate/Graduate Offering
Lecture/Discussion Hours: 3
Lab/Studio Hours: 0

LAS 354 Latin American Civilization Regional Focus (3 crs)
Prerequisite: SPAN 302 or consent of instructor. No credit after LAS 352, SPAN 351, 352
  • Credit may not be earned in both SPAN 354 and LAS 354. To be taught only in a study abroad program in Latin America. Restricted to semester-long regional civilization courses.

Introduction to the historical background necessary for comprehending contemporary Latin America through a regional focus. Analysis of current social, political, and economic issues, with consideration of influential personalities in a region of present-day Latin American society.

Attributes: Foreign Culture, GE IVD Humanities-Literature
Grading Basis: A-F Grades Only
Lecture/Discussion Hours: 3
Lab/Studio Hours: 0

LAS 356 Economic Development of Latin America (3 crs)
  • Credit may not be earned in both ECON 356 and LAS 356.

Analysis of the process of the economic and social development of Latin America. Topics include: nature of economic development, obstacles to economic development, evaluation of economic policies, and the role of women in economic development.

Attributes: Foreign Culture, GE IIIIB Social Science-Economics, LE-I1 Integration
Lecture/Discussion Hours: 3
Lab/Studio Hours: 0

LAS 367 Survey of Latin American Literature (3 crs)
Prerequisite: SPAN 302 or consent of instructor.
  • Credit may not be earned in both SPAN 367 and LAS 367. This course is recommended to be taken after study abroad.

Study and literary analysis of the work of the principal writers of Latin American Literature from indigenous to contemporary literature.

Attributes: Foreign Culture, GE IVD Humanities-Literature, Undergraduate/Graduate Offering
Lecture/Discussion Hours: 3
Lab/Studio Hours: 0

LAS 390 Latin American Studies Immersion Experience (1-3 crs)
Consent: Instructor Consent Required
Project-based, intensive immersion experience focusing on the social, cultural, and historical aspects of a Latin American country.

Attributes: Foreign Culture, GE IIIG Social Science-Interdisciplinary Study, Service-Learning Optional Half, Field Trip(s) Required
Repeat: Course may be repeated for a maximum of 6 credits
Grading Basis: A-F Grades Only

LAS 395 Directed Studies (1-4 crs)
Prerequisite: Limited to Latin American Studies majors or minors.
Consent: Department Consent Required
  • Instructor and LAS Program Director permission required.

Study of a particular topic, issue, language, or question related to Latin America or Latinos in the United States.

Attributes: Undergraduate/Graduate Offering
Repeat: Course may be repeated
Grading Basis: A-F Grades Only

LAS 399 Independent Study - Juniors (1-3 crs)
Prerequisite: Minimum junior standing.
Consent: Department Consent Required

Individual project under the direction of a faculty member.

Repeat: Course may be repeated for a maximum of 6 credits
LAS 418 Spanish Sociolinguistics in Latin America/USA (3 crs)
Prerequisite: SPAN 360 or consent of instructor. SPAN 352/LAS 352 highly recommended.
• Credit may not be earned in both SPAN 418 and LAS 418.
Addresses theoretical foundations of sociolinguistic variation in Spanish-speaking communities, interplay of social and linguistic factors on dialectal variation of Latin American Spanish, and sociolinguistic methods for data collection.
Lab/Studio Hours: 0
Seminar Hours: 3

LAS 450 Capstone for Latin American Studies (1-3 crs)
Prerequisite: Limited to Latin American Studies majors. Minimum senior standing.
Consent: Instructor Consent Required
Study of a topic or special area pertaining to any aspect of Latin America or Latinos in the U.S. as approved by the supervising instructor and the Latin American Studies Program Director.
Attributes: Foreign Culture, Capstone Course
Grading Basis: No Auditors

LAS 475 Topics in Latin American Literature (3 crs)
Prerequisite: SPAN 363 or SPAN 367/LAS 367 or consent of instructor.
• Credit may not be earned in both LAS 475 and SPAN 475.
In-depth study of a particular area in Latin American literature.
Attributes: Foreign Culture, Undergraduate/Graduate Offering
Repeat: Course may be repeated for a maximum of 6 credits
Grading Basis: A-F Grades Only
Lecture/Discussion Hours: 3
Lab/Studio Hours: 0

LAS 477 The Novel in Latin America II: 1950-Present (3 crs)
Prerequisite: SPAN 363, or SPAN 367/LAS 367, or consent of instructor.
• Credit may not be earned in both SPAN 477 and LAS 477.
Continuation of SPAN/LAS 476. Covers period from 1950 to the present.
Attributes: Foreign Culture, Undergraduate/Graduate Offering
Lecture/Discussion Hours: 3
Lab/Studio Hours: 0

LAS 478 Latin American Modernismo (3 crs)
Prerequisite: SPAN 363 or SPAN 367/LAS 367, or consent of instructor.
• Credit may not be earned in both LAS 478 and SPAN 478. No credit if take after SPAN 475/675/LAS 475/675 when offered as El Modernismo.
A study of the late 19th century Latin American modernismo movement and its context. The course may focus on a major author, genre, or theme.
Attributes: Undergraduate/Graduate Offering
Lecture/Discussion Hours: 3
Lab/Studio Hours: 0

LAS 480 Latin American Literature and Film (3 crs)
Prerequisite: SPAN 363 or SPAN 367/LAS 367.
• Credit may not be earned in both SPAN 480 and LAS 480.
This course is an in-depth study of contemporary Latin American literature and the film versions of the literature in their historical and social contexts.
Attributes: Foreign Culture, Undergraduate/Graduate Offering
Lecture/Discussion Hours: 3
Lab/Studio Hours: 0

LAS 488 Internship (1-3 crs)
Prerequisite: Limited to Latin American Studies majors or minors.
Consent: Instructor Consent Required
• Permission required by supervising instructor and the LAS Program Director.
Acceptance as specified under criteria for admission into the internship. Consult the LAS Program webpage, your adviser and/or the LAS Program Director for internship admission requirements and procedures. Transportation to internship site and housing arranged by the student. A total of three credits for LAS 488 and LAS 498 will count toward LAS major or minor.
Students engage in productive academic or professional activity related to Latin American Studies, either domestically or abroad.
Attributes: Undergraduate/Graduate Offering
Repeat: Course may be repeated for a maximum of 9 credits
Grading Basis: A-F Grades Only

LAS 491 Special Topics (3 crs)
Prerequisite: Completion of University Writing Requirement. SPAN 301 or consent of instructor.
• See current Class Schedule for specific topic.
In-depth study of a special topic in the area of literature, linguistics, or cultures of Latinos in the United States and/or the Spanish-speaking world.
Attributes: Undergraduate/Graduate Offering
Repeat: Course may be repeated for a maximum of 9 credits
Lecture/Discussion Hours: 3
Lab/Studio Hours: 0
LAS 498 Internship with Language Immersion (1-3 crs)
Prerequisite: Limited to Latin American Studies majors or minors.
Consent: Instructor Consent Required
- Permission required by supervising instructor and the LAS Program Director. Acceptance as specified under criteria for admission into the internship. Consult the LAS Program webpage, your adviser and/or the LAS Program Director for internship admission requirements and procedures. Transportation to internship site and housing arranged by the student. A total of three credits for LAS 488 and LAS 498 will count toward LAS major or minor.
Students engage in productive academic or professional activity and enhance language proficiency while residing in a Latin American country or participating in an alternative intercultural experience for a minimum of six weeks. Fulfills LAS language immersion requirement.
Attributes: Undergraduate/Graduate Offering
Repeat: Course may be repeated for a maximum of 9 credits
Grading Basis: A-F Grades Only

LAS 499 Independent Study - Seniors (1-3 crs)
Prerequisite: Minimum senior standing.
Consent: Department Consent Required
Individual project under the direction of a faculty member.
Repeat: Course may be repeated for a maximum of 6 credits

LAS 509 Latin America Through Independence (3 crs)
- Cross-listed with LAS 309 and HIST 309/HIST 509. Credit may only be earned in one of these courses.
Pre-Columbian background, establishment of Spanish and Portuguese empires and institutions in the New World, and the struggle for independence.
Grading Basis: No S/U Grade Option
Lecture/Discussion Hours: 3
Lab/Studio Hours: 0

LAS 511 Latin America Since Independence (3 crs)
- Cross-listed with LAS 311 and HIST 311/HIST 511. Credit may only be earned in one of these courses.
Political, economic, and cultural development from independence to present. Primary emphasis on Mexico and Brazil.
Grading Basis: No S/U Grade Option
Lecture/Discussion Hours: 3
Lab/Studio Hours: 0

LAS 521 Geography of Latin America (3 crs)
- Cross-listed with LAS 321 and GEOG 321/GEOG 521. Credit may only be earned in one of these courses.
The physical and cultural landscapes of Latin America, including North, Central, and South America and the Caribbean Islands, with attention to the major cultural, economic, social, and political currents of each region.
Grading Basis: No S/U Grade Option
Lecture/Discussion Hours: 3
Lab/Studio Hours: 0

LAS 550 Latin American Literature in Translation (3 crs)
- Cross-listed with LAS 350 and FLTR 350/FLTR 550. Credit may only be earned in one of these courses.
This course introduces students to Latin American authors and their writings in a historical and social context.
Grading Basis: No S/U Grade Option
Lecture/Discussion Hours: 3
Lab/Studio Hours: 0

LAS 552 Latin American Civilization (3 crs)
Prerequisite: SPAN 302 or consent of instructor. No credit if taken after LAS 354, SPAN 351, 354.
- Cross-listed with LAS 352 and SPAN 352/SPAN 552. Credit may only be earned in one of these courses.
Introduction to the historical background necessary for comprehending contemporary Latin America. Analysis of current social, political, and economic issues, with consideration of influential personalities in present-day Latin American society.
Grading Basis: No S/U Grade Option
Lecture/Discussion Hours: 3
Lab/Studio Hours: 0

LAS 567 Survey of Latin American Literature (3 crs)
Prerequisite: SPAN 302 or consent of instructor.
- Cross-listed with LAS 367 and SPAN 367/SPAN 567. Credit may only be earned in one of these courses. This course is recommended to be taken after study abroad.
Study and literary analysis of the work of the principal writers of Latin American Literature from indigenous to contemporary literature.
Grading Basis: No S/U Grade Option
Lecture/Discussion Hours: 3
Lab/Studio Hours: 0

LAS 595 Directed Study (1-4 crs)
Prerequisite: Limited to Latin American Studies majors and minors.
Consent: Department Consent Required
- Cross-listed with LAS 395. Instructor and LAS Program Director permission required.
Study of a particular topic, issue, language, or question related to Latin America or Latinos in the United States.
Repeat: Course may be repeated
Grading Basis: A-F Grades Only
LAS 675 Topics in Latin American Literature (3 crs)
Prerequisite: SPAN 363 or LAS 367/SPAN 367 or consent of instructor.
• Cross-listed with LAS 475 and SPAN 475/SPAN 675.

In-depth study of a particular area in Latin American literature.
Repeat: Course may be repeated for a maximum of 6 credits
Grading Basis: A-F Grades Only
Lecture/Discussion Hours: 3
Lab/Studio Hours: 0

LAS 676 The Novel in Latin America I: 1850-1950 (3 crs)
Prerequisite: SPAN 363/SPAN 563 or SPAN 367/LAS 367 / SPAN 567/LAS 567, or consent of instructor.
• Cross-listed with LAS 476 and SPAN 476/SPAN 676. Credit may only be earned in one of these courses.

Study of the most important novelists of Latin America from 1850 to 1950.
Grading Basis: No S/U Grade Option
Lecture/Discussion Hours: 3
Lab/Studio Hours: 0

LAS 677 The Novel in Latin America II: 1950-Present (3 crs)
Prerequisite: SPAN 363/SPAN 563 or SPAN 367/LAS 367 / SPAN 567/LAS 567, or consent of instructor.
• Cross-listed with LAS 477 and SPAN 477/SPAN 677. Credit may only be earned in one of these courses.

Continuation of SPAN/LAS 676. Covers period from 1950 to the present.
Grading Basis: No S/U Grade Option
Lecture/Discussion Hours: 3
Lab/Studio Hours: 0

LAS 678 Latin American Modernismo (3 crs)
Prerequisite: SPAN 363, or SPAN/LAS 367, or consent of instructor.
• Cross-listed with LAS 478 and SPAN 478/SPAN 678. Credit may only be earned in one of these courses. No credit if taken after SPAN 475/675/LAS 475/675 when offered as El Modernismo.

A study of the late 19th century Latin American modernismo movement and its context. The course may focus on a major author, genre, or theme.
Lecture/Discussion Hours: 3
Lab/Studio Hours: 0

LAS 680 Latin American Literature and Film (3 crs)
Prerequisite: SPAN 363/SPAN 563 or SPAN 367/LAS 367 / SPAN 567/LAS 567.
• Cross-listed with LAS 480 and SPAN 480/SPAN 680. Credit may only be earned in one of these courses.

This course is an in-depth study of contemporary Latin American literature and the film versions of the literature in their historical and social contexts.
Grading Basis: No S/U Grade Option
Lecture/Discussion Hours: 3
Lab/Studio Hours: 0

LAS 688 Internship (1-3 crs)
Consent: Instructor Consent Required
• Cross-listed with LAS 488. Permission required by supervising instructor and the LAS Program Director. Acceptance as specified under criteria for admission into the internship. Consult the LAS Program webpage, your adviser and/or the LAS Program Director for internship admission requirements and procedures. Transportation to internship site and housing arranged by the student.

Students engage in productive academic or professional activity related to Latin American Studies, either domestically or abroad.
Repeat: Course may be repeated for a maximum of 9 credits
Grading Basis: A-F Grades Only

LAS 691 Special Topics (3 crs)
Prerequisite: SPAN 301 or consent of instructor.
• Cross-listed with LAS 491. See current Class Schedule for specific topic.

In-depth study of a special topic in the area of literature, linguistics, or cultures of Latinos in the United States and/or the Spanish-speaking world.
Repeat: Course may be repeated for a maximum of 9 credits
Grading Basis: No S/U Grade Option
Lecture/Discussion Hours: 3
Lab/Studio Hours: 0

LAS 698 Internship with Language Immersion (1-3 crs)
Consent: Instructor Consent Required
• Cross-listed with LAS 498. Permission required by supervising instructor and the LAS Program Director. Acceptance as specified under criteria for admission into the internship. Consult the LAS Program webpage, your adviser and/or the LAS Program Director for internship admission requirements and procedures. Transportation to internship site and housing arranged by the student.

Students engage in productive academic or professional activity and enhance language proficiency while residing in a Latin American country or participating in an alternative intercultural experience for a minimum of six weeks. Fulfills LAS language immersion requirement.
Repeat: Course may be repeated for a maximum of 9 credits
Grading Basis: A-F Grades Only