## Latin American \& Latino Studies Option

The Latin American and Latino Studies (LALS) major provides students interested in Latin American and Latino history, culture, and language with valuable interdisciplinary skills. Because this is an interdisciplinary program, students will enroll in courses in Modern Languages \& Literatures and History \& Philosophy. Students may also take courses with relevant content from other departments such as Sociology \& Anthropology, Political Science, and Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. The LALS major complements other fields of study: health care, government, agriculture, engineering, history, literature, political science, sociology, international business, and more. The major strengthens the skill-sets of students who wish to become more competitive in the Spanish-speaking job market, both in Latin America and in the United States. A major in LALS will prepare students for the close relationship developing between Latin American and the United States in trade agreements, the growing number of immigrant laborers, and the expansion of Latino communities in the United States with significant political and economic power.

The equivalent of five semesters of Spanish language is required. Students with prior experience in Spanish language or heritage speakers may have some requirements waived. Students interested in the LALS major should consult with LALS faculty in the Department of Modern Languages \& Literatures immediately upon their decision to fulfill the major so that they can ascertain the language requirements that are appropriate for them.

## Required Courses

Language Requirements ( 15 credits)
Students must demonstrate proficiency in a language (other than English) spoken in Latin America by completing one of the following:

- Coursework. Successfully complete the equivalent of two years of college language classes plus one advanced grammar or writing course.
- Placement Exam. Score must be equivalent to coursework level described above.
- Experience to be approved by LALS advisor.

Some examples of languages include Spanish, Portuguese, Nahuatl, Quechua, Creole, and Garifuna.

## Foundation course (3 credits)

Area Requirements (24 credits)
6 credits must be in HSTR and 6 credits in SPNS. The other 12 credits may come from courses in the list below or from courses with relevant content from any other field or combination of fields approved by an LALS faculty adviser.

| ARTH 310 | Art and Architecture of Ancient Mesoamerica |
| :--- | :--- |
| GH 353 | The U.S.-Mexican Border: History, Politics <br> and Culture |
| HSTR 430 | Latin Amer Social History |
| HSTR 431 | Race in Latin America |
| HSTR 432 | Colonial Latin America |
| HSTR 433 | Latin American Perspectives |
| HSTR 434 | Gender in Latin America |
| HSTR 435 | Latin America: Human Rights |
| HSTR 436 | Armed Conflict in Modern Latin America |


| HSTR 438 | Latin American Nature in History and <br> Culture |
| :--- | :--- |
| PSCI 423 | Politics of Development |
| SOCI 485 | Political Sociology |
| SPNS 250 | Spanish for Healthcare Professionals |
| SPNS 329 | Early Cultures of Latin America |
| SPNS 330 | Modern Cultures Latin America |
| SPNS 332 | Contemp Latin Amer Literature |
| SPNS 333 | To Infinity and Beyond: Jorge Luis Borges |
| SPNS 335IH | Travel in Latin Am Lit \& Film |
| SPNS 350 | US Latino Cultures |
| SPNS 351 | US Latino Literature |
| SPNS 352IH | U.S. Latino Text \& Cinema |
| SPNS 361 | Latin American Text and Cinema |
| SPNS 371 | Latin America in Focus |
| SPNS 416 | Latin America: Culture and Revolution |
| SPNS 430 | Latin Amer Perspectives |
| SPNS 438 | Latin American Nature in History and <br> Culture |
| SPNS 445 | Hispanic Caribbean: Cuba, Puerto Rico, |

Research Requirement (3 credits)
Choose one (must focus on Latin American or Latino Studies theme):

| HSTR 490R | Undergraduate Research |
| :--- | :--- |
| SPNS 470R | Seminar: Hispanic Literature |

Experiential Learning (1-3 cr)
Choose one:

| SPNS 196 | Service/Experiential Learning |
| :--- | :--- |
| SPNS 296 | Service/Experiential Learning |
| SPNS 396 | Service/Experiential Learning |
| SPNS 496 | Service/Experiential Learning |

Other opportunity approved by LALS advisor
Summary of Requirements
Total credits: 46-48
Language requirements: 15
Foundation course: 3
Area requirements: 24
Research: 3
Experiential Learning: 1-3

