

LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES

THE DIRECTOR

Barbara Conboy Communication Sciences & Disorders

THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Ivonne Gordon Vailakis, Spanish

Shana Higgins, Library

Daniel Klooster, Environmental Studies

Liesder Mayea, Spanish

Sara Schoonmaker, Sociology and Anthropology

Patricia L. Wasielewski, Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies/Sociology and Anthropology

Steve Wuhs, Political Science

THE MAJOR

Latin American Studies allows students to bring together knowledge from environmental studies, the humanities, and the social sciences to build a foundation in the cultural, economic, environmental, geographical, historical, literary, and political contexts of Latin America. In addition to breadth in Latin American Studies through coursework in multiple disciplines, the program also emphasizes depth in understanding through concentration in a focused problem, topic, area, discipline, or method. Students develop significant language skills, cross-cultural understanding, an interdisciplinary approach, and the ability to incorporate Latin American perspectives in their analysis of fields including art, development, environmental conservation, history, literature, and politics. Both a major and minor are offered.

Learning outcomes for this program may be found at www.redlands.edu/BA-LAST/learning-outcomes.

Graduates in Latin American Studies will:

- Communicate competently in Spanish or another language from Latin America.
- Examine their core interest through two or more disciplinary approaches.
- Draw connections between the unifying elements of the Latin American Experience and their manifestations in particular regions, countries, and cultures.
- Articulate the ways in which an immersion experience altered their understanding of Latin America.

MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

SPANISH-LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT

All students majoring or minoring in Latin American Studies must achieve communicative competence in Spanish or another language from Latin America. We require satisfactory completion of SPAN 202 or demonstrated proficiency in Spanish at this level. Demonstrated competence in a Latin American language other than English may be substituted for Spanish under exceptional circumstances.

STUDY ABROAD REQUIREMENT

A semester-long program of study abroad in Latin America or other Latin American immersion experience, such as significant interactions with Latin American immigrant communities in the USA, is required for all majors and minors, and can both count toward the program's language requirement and concentration courses. Students should consult their Latin American Studies advisor, the Director, and the University's Office of Study Abroad for program options.

CAPSTONE EXPERIENCE

Majors are required to complete a culminating project in Latin American Studies, such as a portfolio of work and reflections, or a substantial project reflecting the learning outcomes of the major. The project should be completed while the student is enrolled in an upper-division seminar or capstone taught by a program committee member, preferably during the Fall semester of the senior year.

BACHELOR OF ARTS

The major in Latin American studies consists of 12 courses (48 credits).

1. CORE COURSE: 1 course/ 4 credits

-- LAST 101 Introduction to Latin America (4)

2. METHODS COURSE: 1 course/ 4 credits

Majors must take one methods course from the approved list, or another course approved by the LAST advisor or director. Methods courses without Latin American content may be used to fulfill the methods requirement, but do not count toward the credits needed to complete the major. Students are advised to use courses from their content areas for additional appropriate methods to build depth in the major. Note: many of these courses have prerequisites, so students should plan accordingly. The following are some suggested courses, but not a complete list of those that may count for this requirement. Consult the LAST advisor or director if you have questions.

-- ENGL 201 Critical Reading (4)

-- EVST 235 Environmental Impact Assessment (4)

-- EVST 399 Research Methods and Design (with focus on Latin America) (4)

-- MATH 111 Elementary Statistics with Applications (4)

-- POLI 202 Statistical Analysis and Mapping of Social Science Data (4)

-- POLI 200 The Study of Politics (4)

-- SOAN 300 Research Methods and Design (4)

-- SOAN 301 Fieldwork and Ethnographic Methods (4)

-- SPA 110 Introduction to Spatial Analysis and GIS (4)

-- SPAN 410 Introduction to Spanish Linguistics (4)

-- WGS 330 Feminist Research Methods (4)

3. CONTENT AREAS: 8 courses/ 32 credits

LAST majors must take eight courses, distributed across three content areas: Environmental Studies, the Humanities, and the Social Sciences (see the list of "Content Area Courses" below). To demonstrate breadth, at least one course must be taken from each content area. To demonstrate depth, LAST majors develop, in consultation with the LAST advisor, thematic, regional, or disciplinary emphases based on at least four courses, structured around their interests and experiences. Study abroad courses apply to specific content areas at the discretion of the LAST advisor or director.

4. ELECTIVES: 2 courses/ 8 credits

In addition to the above requirements, LAST majors must take another two courses. These include courses such as LAST 400 (Capstone in Latin American Studies), LAST 431/SOAN 431, POLI 495, directed independent studies, additional methods classes, and other electives falling into a content area.

MINOR REQUIREMENTS

SPANISH-LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT

All students majoring or minoring in Latin American Studies must achieve communicative competence in Spanish or another language from Latin America. We require satisfactory completion of SPAN 202 or demonstrated proficiency in Spanish at this level. Demonstrated competence in a Latin American language other than English may be substituted for Spanish under exceptional circumstances.

STUDY ABROAD REQUIREMENT

A semester-long program of study abroad in Latin America or other Latin American immersion experience, such as significant interactions with Latin American immigrant communities in the USA, is required for all majors and minors, and can both count toward the program's language requirement and concentration courses. Students should consult their Latin American Studies advisor, the LAST director, and the University's Office of Study Abroad for program options. The minor in Latin American Studies consists of six courses emphasizing breadth in Latin American Studies.

1. CORE COURSE: 1 course/ 4 credits

-- LAST 101 Introduction to Latin America (4)

2. CONTENT AREA AND METHODS COURSES: 5 courses/ 18-20 credits

Minors must take an additional five LAST, cross-listed, or study-abroad courses approved by the LAST advisor or director. At least two of the three LAST content areas (Environmental Studies, the Humanities, and the Social Sciences) must be represented by at least one course. Study abroad courses apply to specific content area at the discretion of the LAST advisor or director.

SUGGESTED CONTENT AREA COURSES FOR THE MAJOR AND MINOR (OTHER COURSES, SUCH AS STUDY ABROAD COURSES AND OTHER ELECTIVES, MAY BE SUBSTITUTED WITH THE LAST PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S APPROVAL)

Environmental Studies Content Area

- EVST 220 Physical Geography (with a focus on Latin America) (4)
- EVST 242 Food and Nature (4)
- EVST 250 Environmental Design Studio I (3)
- EVST 335 Environment and Development (4)
- EVST 276 Market-Based Conservation Policy (4)
- EVST 350 Environmental Design Studio (Travel Course in Latin America) (3)

Humanities Content Area

- ENGL 239 Chicano/a Literature (4)
- HIST 131 Latin American Civilizations (4)
- HIST 376 Californian Indian Seminar (4)
- LAST 140 Race, Ethnicity, and Gender in Latin American History (4)
- LAST 150 History of Race in Americas (4)
- LAST 220 Latin American Cinema (3-4)
- SPAN 360 Travel/Study in Ecuador (3)
- SPAN 424 Introduction to Hispanic Literature (4)
- SPAN 425 Spanish-American Civilization & Culture (4)
- SPAN 427 Survey of Spanish-American Literature (4)

- SPAN 440 Spanish-American Narrative (4)
- SPAN 441 Hispanic Women Novelists (4)
- SPAN 442 Latin American Literature of the 20th Century (4)
- SPAN 450 Hispanic Poetry: Genres (4)
- SPAN 452 Hispanic Theater (4)

Social Science Content Area

- CDIS 260 Travel/Service Learning in Latin America (3)
- POLI 230 Latin American Politics and Development (4)
- POLI 362 Special Topics in Comparative Politics. (4)
- POLI 462 Advanced Seminar in Comparative Politics (with focus on Latin America) (4)
- POLI 495 Political Science Capstone (with focus on Latin America) (4)
- LAST 310 The Making of Modern Mexico (4)
- LAST 431/SOAN 431 "Drug Wars" in the Americas (4)
- REST 260 Chican@/Latinx Identity, Community & Politics (4)
- SOAN 222 Development and Change in the Americas (4)
- SOAN 257 Latin American Societies and Cultures (4)
- SOAN 269 Travel/Study in Sociology and Anthropology (3)
- SOAN 322 The Border and Beyond
- SOAN 360 Topics in Sociology (4)

ADVISING

Both major and minor students must have a faculty advisor in the LAST program. They can choose from the director or those on the Advisory Committee. Advisors will aid students in choosing a range of courses, fulfilling their respective requirements, and focusing on their concentrations. Students declaring either a major or minor will need to fill out a declaration form with the director.

INTERNSHIPS

A semester-long internship or service-learning project can count toward the completion of the major or minor. Students should consult with their Latin American Studies advisor or the LAST director, who can aid them in finding and/or setting up their internship. Internships need to be focused upon some aspect of Latin American society, language, or culture. If conducted in Spanish, the internship will count toward the Spanish language requirement.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS (LAST)

101 Introduction to Latin America.

Fall (4), Spring (4).

Explores the history, environment, and diversity of human cultures shaping Latin America. Untangles the interrelationships between Latin American regions and global systems, including conquest, colonialism, and globalization. Takes a geographical approach, synthesizing the influence of environment, culture, technology, history, and the influence of power at various scales.

140 Race, Ethnicity, and Gender in Latin American History.

Fall (4).

Examination of the economic, political, and cultural factors that shaped the historical construction of race, ethnicity, and gender in modern Latin America. Analysis of how different social and political mass movements influenced the evolution of racial/ethnic identity and gender roles.

Offered as needed.

150 History of Race in Americas.

Spring (4).

Focus on the social and cultural construction of race in North America and Latin America. Analysis of the predominance of the eugenics movement, ethnocentrism, misogyny, racial discrimination, and violence defined within the Americas during the 19th and 20th centuries.

Offered as needed.

160 Special Topics.

Fall (4), Spring (4).

Topics of current interest in Latin American Studies. May be repeated for degree credit, given a different topic, for a maximum of 8 credits.

220 Latin American Cinema.

Fall (4), Spring (4).

Explores the constitution of Latin American cultural identity through film, both features and documentaries. Topics covered may include relationship between film production and the state, national identity, class, race and ethnicity, gender, concerns about historical representations, and the use of film as a tool for social change.

Offered as needed.

260 Topics in Latin American Studies.

Fall (4), Spring (4).

Diverse topics in Latin American studies dealing with either specific themes, currents of thought, or any other economic, political, social, or cultural manifestation coming from Latin America. May be repeated for degree credit, given a different topic, for a maximum of 12 credits.

310 The Making of Modern Mexico.

Spring (4).

Examination of the social and cultural development of Mexican society from the inception of the Mexican Revolution in 1910 to the Chiapas rebellion of the 1990s. Focus on the impact of political mobilization, social reform, revolutionary change, gender roles, regionalism, ethnic identity, and armed struggle in the creation of the modern Mexican nation.

Offered as needed.

360 Advanced Topics in Latin American Studies.

Fall (4), Spring (4).

Interdisciplinary approaches to key issues, periods, personalities, movements, or tendencies in Latin American intellectual, political, social, or cultural history. Topics chosen tend to be examined from a cultural studies perspective. May be repeated for degree credit, given a different topic, for a maximum of 12 credits.

400 Capstone in Latin American Studies.

Fall (4).

This course integrates the interdisciplinary work of Latin American Studies majors and minors, including their on-campus classes and study abroad coursework. Students engage in the production and consumption of original research in Latin American Studies and begin to plan post-collegiate professional lives as Latin Americanists.

Prerequisite: LAST 101.

Offered as needed.

431 "Drug Wars" in the Americas.

Fall (4), Spring (4).

Exploration of the social control of drug use, both formal and informal focusing on the Americas. The historic and contemporary development of U.S. drug laws is a focus as is international cooperation and policies that deal with controlled substances. We look at ways drugs, drug distribution and consumption are molded by our cultural practices and, in turn, how they help construct our ever-changing vision of culture, particularly in an increasingly global society.

Prerequisite: LAST 101 or SOAN 100 or SOAN 102 or POLI 111 or POLI 123.

Offered as needed.

Not open to students who have received credit for SOAN 431.