

LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN STUDIES

The Institute of Latin American Studies:

Department website: <https://ilas.columbia.edu/>

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Senior Manager of Business & Students Affairs: Eliza Kwon-Ahn, ek2159@columbia.edu

The Study of Latin American & Caribbean Studies

The major in Latin American and Caribbean Studies stresses knowledge of a dynamic, historically deep and extensive region, but it also focuses on social, political, and cultural phenomena that transcend physical boundaries. The major thus reflects multidisciplinary dialogues that are transnational yet remain anchored in the common historical experience of Latin American societies. Thanks to the broad range of courses on Latin America offered in different departments of instruction and centers at Columbia, the major provides a multidisciplinary training on politics, history, culture, economy and society.

The Institute of Latin American Studies coordinates the major and offers access to research support, study abroad options, and linkages and credits toward the M.A. program in Latin American and Caribbean studies.

Student Advising

For general advising, please contact ILAS Senior Manager of Business & Student Affairs Eliza Kwon-Ahn ek2159@columbia.edu

Preparing for Graduate Study

Please contact the DUS Prof. M. Victoria Murillo mm2140@columbia.edu

Coursework Taken Outside of Columbia

Advanced Placement

Not applicable

Barnard College Courses

Not applicable

Transfer Courses

Students are allowed to receive course credit for study abroad only. To find out more, please see "Study Abroad Courses"

Study Abroad Courses

Students are encouraged to study abroad during their Junior years. The program accepts up to 12 credits for the disciplinary of choice for the major and up to 3 credits for the minor. Interested students should submit the syllabi and all the coursework related to each course prior to traveling for approval by the DUS.

Summer Courses

Not applicable

Core Curriculum Connections

Many of the interdisciplinary courses for the program may partially satisfy Global core requirements. Not all courses are offered every semester, but there are ample opportunities to take these courses:

HIST UN2618: The Modern Caribbean

HIST UN2660: Latin American Civilization I

HIST UN2661: Latin American Civilization II

LACV UN1020: Primary Texts of Latin American Civilization

HIST GU4301: Politics and Justice in Latin America through Crime Fiction

Undergraduate Research and Senior Thesis

Undergraduate Research in Courses

Students in the major track will have opportunities to develop their own research as part of the required seminar course. Students can work independently with a professor for one seminar or if accepted, take the graduate seminar courses for the MA students in Latin American & Caribbean Studies (LCRS G6400 and G6401).

For more information, please contact Eliza Kwon-Ahn at ek2159@columbia.edu.

Senior Thesis Coursework and Requirements

not applicable

Undergraduate Research Outside of Courses

not applicable

Department Honors and Prizes

Department Honors

Departmental Honors are awarded to no more than 10% of graduating majors (including October, February and May graduates); students should have a GPA of at least 3.6 in major courses in order to be considered for Departmental Honors; and students should have successfully completed an honors thesis, or an equivalent project of high quality.

Students may work independently with a professor or if accepted, take the graduate seminar courses for the MA students in Latin American & Caribbean Studies (LCRS G6400 and G6401).

Academic Prizes

Not applicable

Other Important Information

ILAS website: <https://ilas.columbia.edu/>

ILAS Undergraduate Program: <https://ilas.columbia.edu/content/undergraduate>

ILAS Undergraduate Research and Internship Grants and Summer FLAS Fellowship:

<https://ilas.columbia.edu/content/funding-opportunities-students>

For language placement: <https://laic.columbia.edu/content/language-placement-examination>

Guidance for Undergraduate Students in the Department

For additional information on Latin American and Caribbean Studies, please visit the Institute's [website](#) or contact Eliza Kwon-Ahn, Senior Manager of Business & Student Affairs, at ek2159@columbia.edu.

Program Planning for all Students

Not applicable

Course Numbering Structure

Not applicable

Guidance for First-Year Students

Students interested in Latin American & Caribbean Studies are encouraged to take one of the following 3 history courses:

1. HIST UN2660: Latin American civilization, I
2. HIST UN2661: Latin American civilization, II
3. LACV CC1020: Primary Texts of Latin American Civilization

These above courses will fulfill the global core requirement and give students the historical foundation as Latin America as a whole.

Guidance for Transfer Students

Students interested in Latin American & Caribbean Studies are encouraged to take one of the following 3 history courses:

1. HIST UN2660: Latin American civilization, I
2. HIST UN2661: Latin American civilization, II
3. LACV CC1020: Primary Texts of Latin American Civilization

These above courses will fulfill the global core requirement and give students the historical foundation as Latin America as a whole.

If a transfer student has taken a similar course in a previous institution, we encourage students to consult the DUS for course replacement.

Undergraduate Programs of Study

Required Coursework for all Programs

Students interested in the major or the minor should start taking one of the following 3 courses:

1. HIST UN2660: Latin American civilization, I
2. HIST UN2661: Latin American civilization, II
3. LACV CC1020: Primary Texts of Latin American Civilization

Major in Latin American and Caribbean Studies

The major requires a minimum of 31 points as follows:

Select five of the following fourteen courses. One of these courses must be Latin American Civilization I (HIST UN2660), Latin American Civilization II (HIST UN2661) or Primary Texts in Latin American Civilization (LACV UN1020):

CLEN GU4644	REVOLUTION IN/ON THE CARIBBEAN
HIST UN1786	History of the City in Latin America
HIST UN2618	THE MODERN CARIBBEAN
HIST UN2660	LATIN AMERICAN CIVILIZATION I
HIST UN2661	LATIN AMERICAN CIVILIZATION II
HIST BC2664	FAMILIES LATIN AMERICA
HIST BC2676	LATIN AMERICA: MIGRATION, RACE, AND ETHNICITY
HIST BC2681	WOMEN AND GENDER IN LATIN AMERICA
HIST GU4301	Politics and Justice in Latin America through Crime Fiction
LACV UN1020	PRIM TEXTS OF LATIN AMER CIV
POLS UN3560	PLCS URBAN DEV LATIN AMERICA
POLS UN3565	DRUGS # POLITICS IN AMERICAS
POLS GU4461	Latin American Politics
SPAN UN3300	ADV LANGUAGE THROUGH CONTENT

***** The SPAN UN3300 section taken for the Major must focus on Latin America. Please contact the ILAS Student Affairs Coordinator for details.**

Language Requirement

Select one course on Spanish, Portuguese, or an indigenous language at the intermediate or advanced level; if students can demonstrate advance knowledge of one of these languages, they can replace this course with an area studies course.

Discipline of Choice

Select four courses in a discipline or theme of choice with substantive focus on Latin America. One of these courses must be a seminar. All students, however, need to take at least two courses in a discipline or theme outside of their specialization. The director of undergraduate studies advises students on areas of specialization and must approve courses with substantial Latin American or Caribbean contents not included in the list of eligible courses.

Up to 12 credits for Discipline of Choice requirement can be earned through study abroad. Students are encouraged to explore study abroad options before their junior year. Upon return, they should submit the syllabi and all coursework related to each course taken abroad for approval by the director of undergraduate studies.

Minor in Latin American & Caribbean Studies

The minimum number of credits is 15 (5 courses).

A. CORE COURSES: At least One (1) courses from the following Four (4) courses.

1. HIST UN2660: Latin American civilization, I
2. HIST UN2661: Latin American civilization, II
3. LACV CC1020: Primary Texts of Latin American Civilization
4. POLS GU4461: Latin American Politics

B. SPECIALIZED LECTURE/SEMINAR COURSES: At least Two (2) from the following Ten (10) courses.

1. ASFB GU4100: Slavery and Freedom in Latin America
2. CLEN GU4644: Revolution in/on the Caribbean
3. HIST UN1786: History of the City in Latin America
4. HIST UN2618: The Modern Caribbean
5. HIST BC2676: Reproducing Inequalities: Families in Latin America
6. HIST BC2681: Women and Gender in Latin America
7. HIST GU4301: Politics and Justice in Latin America through Crime Fiction
8. POLS UN3560: Political Urban Development in Latin America
9. POLS V3565: Drugs and Politics in the Americas
10. SPAN UN3300: Advanced Language through Content (with Latin American focus)

C. SEMINAR COURSE: Students will take one seminar course in any department with DUS approval to develop an in-depth topic in the region.

Up to 3 credits (1 course) can be earned through study abroad. Students are encouraged to explore study abroad options before their junior year.

Prior to traveling, they should submit the syllabi and all coursework related to each course taken abroad for approval by the director of undergraduate studies.

For students who entered Columbia in or before the 2023-24 academic year

Concentration in Latin American and Caribbean Studies

The concentration requires a minimum of 18 points as follows:

Select three of the following fourteen courses. One of these courses must be in Latin American Civilization I (HIST UN2660), Latin American Civilization II (HIST UN2661) or Primary Texts in Latin America (LACV UN1020):

CLEN GU4644	REVOLUTION IN/ON THE CARIBBEAN
HIST UN1786	History of the City in Latin America
HIST UN2618	THE MODERN CARIBBEAN
HIST UN2660	LATIN AMERICAN CIVILIZATION I
HIST UN2661	LATIN AMERICAN CIVILIZATION II
HIST BC2664	FAMILIES LATIN AMERICA
HIST BC2676	LATIN AMERICA: MIGRATION, RACE, AND ETHNICITY
HIST BC2681	WOMEN AND GENDER IN LATIN AMERICA
HIST GU4301	Politics and Justice in Latin America through Crime Fiction
LACV UN1020	PRIM TEXTS OF LATIN AMER CIV
POLS UN3560	PLCS URBAN DEV LATIN AMERICA
POLS UN3565	DRUGS # POLITICS IN AMERICAS
POLS GU4461	Latin American Politics
SPAN UN3300	ADV LANGUAGE THROUGH CONTENT

*** The SPAN UN3300 section taken for the Concentration must focus on Latin America. Please contact the ILAS Student Affairs Coordinator for details.

Language Requirement

Select one course on Spanish, Portuguese, or an indigenous language at the intermediate or advanced level; if students can demonstrate advance knowledge of one of these languages, they can replace this course with an area studies course.

Discipline of Choice:

Select two courses in a discipline or theme of choice with substantive focus on Latin America. One of these courses must be a seminar. All students, however, need to take at least one course in a discipline or theme outside of their specialization. The director of undergraduate studies advises students on areas of specialization and must approve courses with substantial Latin American or Caribbean contents not included in the list of eligible courses.

The concentration requires a minimum of 18 points as follows: Up to 6 credits for the Discipline of Choice requirement can be earned through study abroad. Students are encouraged to explore study abroad options before their junior year. Prior to traveling, they should submit the syllabi and all coursework related to each course taken abroad for approval by the director of undergraduate studies.

Of Related Interest

Africana Studies (Barnard)

AFRS BC2005	CARIBBEAN CULTURE # SOCIETIES
AFRS BC3110	THE AFRICANA COLLOQUIUM
AFRS BC3150	RACE #PERFORMNCE IN CARIBBEAN
AFRS BC3562	Caribbean Sexualities

Anthropology

ANTH UN1008	THE RISE OF CIVILIZATION
ANTH V2009	Culture through Film and Media
ANTH V3120	Historical Rituals in Latin America
ANTH UN3921	Anticolonialism

Anthropology (Barnard)

ANTH UN1008	THE RISE OF CIVILIZATION
ANTH UN3921	Anticolonialism
ANTH V3922	The Emergence of State
ANTH G4390	Borders and Boundaries

Art History

AHIS W3898	Yoruba and the Diaspora
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Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race

CSER UN3923	LATINX & ASIAN AMER MEMOIR
CSER UN3924	Latin American and Latina/o Social Movements
CSER UN3926	LATIN MUSIC AND IDENTITY
CSER UN3928	COLONIZATION/DECOLONIZATION
CSER UN3932	US Latinx History
CSER UN3964	Maya Guatemala-Neoliberalism # Resistance
CSER GU4482	INDIGENOUS PEOPLES:MOVEMNT/RTS
CSER GU4483	SUBCITIZENSHIP

Economics

ECON GU4301	ECONOMIC GROWTH # DEVELOPMNT I
ECON GU4750	GLOBALIZATION # ITS RISKS (Film)

Film

HIST BC2321	COLONIAL ENCOUNTERS
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HIST UN2660	LATIN AMERICAN CIVILIZATION I
HIST UN2689	COLONIAL CITIES OF THE AMERICAS
HIST UN2661	LATIN AMERICAN CIVILIZATION II
HIST UN2663	MEXICO FROM REVOL TO DEMOCRACY
HIST BC2664	FAMILIES LATIN AMERICA
HIST UN2618	THE MODERN CARIBBEAN
HIST BC2676	LATIN AMERICA: MIGRATION, RACE, AND ETHNICITY
HIST BC2682	Modern Latin American History
HIST UN3687	LAT AMER RIGHT IN THE COLD WAR
HIST BC3870	GENDER# MIGRATN:GLOBAL PERSPC
HIST UN3928	SLAVERY/ABOLITION-ATLANTC WRLD
HIST GU4012	HISTORY OF THE CITY IN LATIN AMERICA
HIST GU4301	Politics and Justice in Latin America through Crime Fiction
HIST GU4692	Violence in Mexico: A Historical Approach
HIST GU4696	The Social Question and State Building in Latin America

Latin American and Caribbean Studies

LCRS W3999	Independent Research Seminar
LCRS UN3999	Independent Research Seminar
LCRS GU4415	PUERTO RICO UNDER U.S. RULE (1898-2016)

Latin American and Iberian Cultures

PORT UN2120	COMPREHENSIVE INTERMED PORT
SPAN UN3300	ADV LANGUAGE THROUGH CONTENT
SPAN UN3349	HISPANIC CULTURES I (SP)
SPAN UN3350	HISPANIC CULTURES II (SP)
PORT UN3301	Advanced Writing and Composition in Portuguese
PORT UN3490	BRAZILIAN SOCIETY # CIV (ENG)
SPAN UN3490	Latin American Humanities I: From Pre- Columbian Civilizations to the Creation of New Nations
SPAN UN3998	Supervised Individual Research (Spring)
PORT GU4033	Language # Queer Brazil (ENG)
PORT GU4467	Race and Decolonial Dialogues in the Americas

Latin American Civilization

LACV UN1020	PRIM TEXTS OF LATIN AMER CIV
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Music

MUSI UN2020	SALSA, SOCA # REGGAE
MUSI V2430	Listening and Sound in Cross-Cultural Perspective
POLS UN3002	HUMAN RIGHTS # IMMIGRATION
MUSI V3435	Music and Literature in Latin America

Political Science

POLS BC3501	COLL: URBAN VIOLENCE
POLS BC3543	COLL:NON-STATE GOV CRIME/WAR
POLS UN3565	DRUGS # POLITICS IN AMERICAS
POLS GU4461	Latin American Politics

Sociology

SOCI UN3324	Global Urbanism
SOCI GU4370	Processes of Stratification and Inequality

Sociology (Barnard)

SOCI V3247	The Immigrant Experience, Old and New
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Spanish and Latin American Cultures (Barnard)	
SPAN UN2101	INTERMEDIATE SPANISH I
SPAN UN2102	INTERMEDIATE SPANISH II
SPAN UN2108	SPANISH FOR HERITAGE SPEAKERS
SPAN BC3099	INDEPENDENT STUDY
SPAN BC3264	The Boom: The Spanish American Novel, 1962-70
SPAN UN3265	LATIN AMER LIT (IN TRANSLATN)
SPAN UN3300	ADV LANGUAGE THROUGH CONTENT
SPAN UN3349	HISPANIC CULTURES I (SP)
SPAN UN3350	HISPANIC CULTURES II (SP)
SPAN BC3435	LANGUAGE # REVOLUTION
SPAN BC3470	Latin(o) American Art in New York City: Critical Interventions, Institutions, and Creative Lives
SPAN BC3510	Gender and Sexuality in Latin American Cultures