Latin American Studies Program

Program Director and Faculty Advisor
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Program description

The Latin American Studies Program at the University of Montana provides students an opportunity to study and research the history, culture, lands, art, geography and institutions of Spanish and Portuguese speaking nations of America through an interdisciplinary perspective. The importance of the United States economic, political and cultural relations with the Latin American region makes knowledge of Latin America and its people an essential part of a liberal arts education.

The Latin American Studies program is administered by the Latin American Studies Steering Committee. The interdisciplinary faculty who teach and direct research in the program, drawn mainly from the College of Arts and Sciences, are internationally known for their research and experience abroad. The program encourages and promotes travel and exchange with institutions of higher education in Latin America. Several study abroad options in Latin America are available both for a short period of time or for longer stays (one semester or two semester programs).

The Latin American Studies Program offers a Minor in Latin American Studies in conjunction with a Major in another discipline. Students admitted to the Program must register with the Academic Advisor of the Latin American Studies Program who will review their course of study and advise on planning their course sequence. Students are encouraged to plan these options early in their studies to be able to participate in a Study Abroad Program if possible.

Students minoring in Latin American Studies will be prepared for graduate study or for employment in fields such as government, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), business, industry, health and education.

Requirements:

The following will be requirements for a Minor in Latin American Studies:

1. Completion of a minimum of 18 semester credits in approved Latin American Studies courses (including all courses listed below in addition to special offerings) in at least three different disciplines. One of these courses must be MCLG100/ ANTY103- Introduction to Latin American Studies (3 credits).

2. Completion of Spanish 101-201 or equivalent.
Participation in a Study Abroad Program in Latin America is highly recommended.

COURSES

Latin American Studies Core Curriculum.

- MCLG100/ANTH103H Introduction to Latin American Studies. 3cr.
- MCLG/LS 358 Latin American Civilization through Literature and Film 3 cr. or SPAN 359 Spanish American Civilization through Literature and Film 3 cr.
- SPNS 331 (SPAN 312L) Introduction to Latin American Literature 3 cr.
- SPNS 432 (SPAN 450L) Latin American Literature 3 cr. (R–6)
- SPNS 494 (SPAN 494) Seminar Variable cr. (R–12) (when topic is related to Latin American literature such as Latin American drama, poetry, novel, short story, Argentinian literature, 19th Century Latin American Literature)
- HSTR 230H (HIST 286H) Colonial Latin America 3 cr.
- HSTR 231H (HIST 287H) Modern Latin America 3 cr.
- HSTR 334 (HIST 385) Latin America: Reform and Revolution 3 cr.
- HSTR 435 (HIST 485) Latin American Human Rights and the Politics of Memory 3 cr.
- HSTR 436 (HIST 486) Latin America: Workers and Labor History 3 cr.
- HSTR 437 U.S.-Latin American Relations (UDW) 3 cr.
- PSCI 325 (PSC 325) Politics of Latin America 3 cr.
- PSCI 327 (PSC 327) Politics of Mexico 3 cr.
- PSCI 432 (PSC 430) Inter–American Relations 3 cr.
- PSCI 463 (PSC 463S) Development Administration (when offered during Summer Session in Mexico)
• ARTH 433H/NASX 833H Art of the Ancient Americas 3 cr.

• ARTH 434H/NAS 368H Latin American Art 3 cr.

• ART 451 Seminar in Art History and Criticism 3 cr. (when topic refers to Latin America)

• SW 323 Women and Social Action in the Americas 3 cr.

• ANTH 354 Mesoamerican Prehistory 3 cr.

• EVST 410 Environmental Justice in Latin America (credits variable).

***Span 494: Seminar: Latin American Literature offers a variety of topics in Latin American literature. Recent topics have included: Latin American Drama/ Latin American Poetry/ Latin American novel/ Literature of the Boom/ XIX Century Latin American literature/ Argentinean literature/ The Latin American historical novel/ The Latin American Short Story/The Southern Frontier/ Argentinean Literature.

*** Political Sciences 496: Development administration is an approved Latin American Studies course only when taught in Mexico as part of the Summer Study Abroad Program organized by the Political Sciences Department.

Faculty:

David Aronofsky, J.D., University of Texas, 1982 (Law)
Maria José Bustos Fernandez, Ph.D., University of Colorado, Boulder, 1990 (Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures)
Hipolito Rafael Chacón, Ph.D., University of Chicago, 1995 (Art)
John E. Douglas, Ph.D., University of Arizona, 1990 (Anthropology)
Eduardo Chirinos, Ph.D, Rutgers University, 1997 (Foreign Languages Department)
Janet Finn, Ph.D., University of Michigan, 1995 (Social Work)
Paul Haber, Ph.D, Columbia University, 1992 (Political Sciences)
Clary Loisel, Ph.D., University of Florida (Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures)
Jannine Montauban, Ph.D., Rutgers University, 2000 (Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures).
Jody Pavilack, Ph.D., Duke University, 2003 (History)
Stan Rose, Ph.D., University of Wisconsin, 1969 (Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures)
Daniel Spencer, Ph.D., Union Theological Seminary, 1994 (Environmental Studies)