University of Miami
Latin American & Caribbean Studies
Course Booklet
Spring 2019
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Undergraduate Courses

LAS 301: Introduction to Global Health: Effective Responses to Hemispheric Challenges
Section: T/U  Instructor(s): Frenk, Knaul, Rodriguez
The divides between the health and well-being of diverse populations, between and within borders, have never been greater. Intense changes in demographics, from population growth to rapid urbanization, along with unprecedented shifts in patterns of disease and cross-border risks, are coupled with game-changing advances in knowledge, technology, and innovation. This is a pivotal moment for future leaders from diverse disciplines to come together to improve the health of our hemisphere. Our discussions will cover a broad range of topics in global health, with a focus on emerging challenges in Latin America and the Caribbean.
*Cross-listed with EPH 613/BPH 499/INS 503/INS 605/GEG 625/GEG 590/APY 418

LAS 301: Sounds, Waves, and Movements: A Social History of Brazil through the Medium of Music
Section: S  Instructor: de Moraes
This course will focus on providing students with an understanding of the fundamental role of music in Brazil over the past two centuries, examining music not only as a medium of artistic expression, but also as a sociopolitical manifesto. Considering the transformational and ideological power of music, students will explore how artistic expressions have served to promote social change, while simultaneously engaging with the construction of a national identity informed by inequality, prejudice, corruption, and oppression. We will begin by examining the transatlantic relations between Brazil and Africa and the role of samba in the favelas, then move forward to more recent political matters such as the 20th century dictatorship and the creation of musical expressions such as bossa nova and tropicalismo, the rise of democracy in the 1980s, and the resurgence of regionalism in the 90s, before finally focusing on the 21st century and the place of Brazilian music in a globalized world. The class is taught in English; however, the written work of students taking the class for Portuguese (POR) credit must be submitted in Portuguese.
*Cross-listed with MCY 554/POR 322/AFR 390

LAS 301: Undocumented in America
Section: U  Instructor: Lanuza
Our goal in this course is to understand the phenomenon of “unauthorized” or “undocumented” migration to the United States from a sociological perspective. In particular, we will highlight the lived experiences of individuals who are subject to an “unauthorized” status. We will first gather theoretical tools that can help us understand this social phenomenon. We will spend some time examining the notion of “illegality.” After expanding our theoretical toolkit, we will examine the experiences of individuals who are subjected to an “unauthorized” status in a number of dimensions of social life, including education, family life and formation, and work. In the last part of the course, we will analyze the phenomenon of deportation, the most consequential – and feared – aspect of being subject to an “unauthorized” status.
*Cross-listed with SOC 291

**LAS 302: Puerto Rico travel course**

Section: 4U  
Instructor: Pestle

Imagine the thrill of uncovering actual artifacts used by people hundreds or even thousands of years ago. During Spring Break 2019, LAS302 students will travel to Puerto Rico and gain hands-on experience in archaeological field techniques. This field experience course will allow students to be exposed to aspects of archaeological survey and excavation, as well as the processes of paleoenvironmental sampling and community stakeholder interaction and involvement. Course involves travel to Puerto Rico during Spring Break and it has a program fee.

*Cross-listed with APY 502

**LAS 302: The Caribbean through Literary and Cultural Studies: “The Most Beautiful Land”: Travels through Cuba**

Section: P  
Instructor: Fundora

Course involves travel during the Spring Break and it has a program fee. As the largest island of the Antilles, Cuba has long captivated the attention of explorers seeking conquest and wealth, religious conversion and scientific knowledge, and other encounters with the island’s diverse landscape, wildlife, and people. From Christopher Columbus onwards, many travelers and explorers have come to Cuba to unlock the island’s mysteries, traversing its coasts, its jungle, as well as Havana and other cities. This course examines the experiences of foreign and domestic travelers over the course of the last five centuries in Cuba. Students will look carefully at the shared assumptions of travelers and compare their modes of social inquiry, scientific investigation, and the ways in which they reflect about the island and its various realities. In pursuing a better understanding of the genre of travel writing and its literary and historical significance, the course draws upon a variety of first-person accounts about the island that Columbus called, right after disembarking in its shores, “The most beautiful land human eyes have ever seen.”

*Cross-listed with SPA 360

*Prerequisite: SPA 301 or SPA 302 or SPA 303 or SPA 307

**LAS 302: Fieldwork in Coastal Management**

Section: 4K  
Instructor: Suman

This course will take us to Colombia where we will focus on Port Management issues. This course is organized in cooperation with the Pontificia Universidad Javeriana (Catholic University) in Cali, Colombia, and we will join with students from that university in our activities. We will explore issues related to port development and management (environmental impacts, international trade, strategic port development, institutional arrangements for managing ports and maritime transportation in Colombia) at the Javeriana in Cali and also visit Colombia’s principal Pacific port in Buenaventura, as well as Bahía Málaga National Park. We will fly from Cali to Cartagena for the final 2 days of the course where we will visit Colombia’s main Caribbean port and also explore the UNESCO World Heritage Site in colonial Cartagena.
Participants will meet weekly throughout the semester in Miami to discuss background readings and develop a group research field project that course participants will carry out during a Spring Break trip to the sites we will visit in Colombia. Upon return to the University of Miami, the class will prepare manuscripts and presentations based on the field data that course participants have collected during the trip.

*Cross list with MES 604, LAW 629, ECS 372
*Students are responsible for travel expenses, please contact instructor for more details.

**LAS 350: Cultures of Spanish America**

Section: G  
Instructor: Arce

This course will explore Latin American civilization and culture through the trope of the “Encounter.” This idea will guide, but not limit, our study of the various historical, political, and cultural encounters that helped to establish some of the main questions that have contributed to the construction of what we call “Latin American” culture. The “others” within Latin America that form an integral part of the notion of “Latinidad,” such as indigenous groups, Afro-descendants and US Latino/Chicanos will occupy the central focus of this course.

*Cross-listed with SPA 303

**LAS 350: Mythical Landscapes: Performing Greco-Roman Myths Across the Americas**

Section: R  
Instructor: Fundora

Latin American theater, performance, and cinema provide several examples that illustrate how myths from Ancient Greece and Rome have been nurturing playwrights and stages from the Baroque to contemporary times. In this course, we will learn how to analyze, from a comparative perspective, texts produced by Latin American authors inspired by stories and heroes from Greek and Roman mythology, giving special emphasis to the ways in which Classics have been read from the Latin American postcolonial canon. Students will think critically about the potentiality that Greco-Roman mythology holds for understanding, explaining, and representing concepts and contexts that cannot effectively be conceived by means of language, or under certain epochs (e.g. colonialism) or regimes (e.g. dictatorships). We will analyze the ways in which Greco-Roman mythology offers models of sanctioned and unsanctioned forms of legitimation and transgression, ritualized practices and codified behaviors, and typologies of kinship arrangements and senses of belonging. Central to our study will be the consideration of how Latin American productions reread myths not only as performed fictions, but also as strategies of discovering new ways of understanding narratives of identity, race, gender, sexuality, migration, and nationhood across the Americas.

*Cross-listed with SPA 310
*Prerequisite: ENG 106
LAS 350: Introduction to Literary Themes: Representations of Indigenous Epistemologies in Contemporary Latin American Literature
Section: G   Instructor: Diaz Balsera
This course will explore representations of indigenous epistemologies in twentieth and twenty-first century Latin American poetry, short stories, and longer narratives by indigenous and non-indigenous writers. The course will examine how these epistemologies are aesthetically constructed and the range of voices that are heard. Students will analyze portrayed indigenous relationships to land and waterscapes, to kinship and language, to local histories and cosmologies, to human and non-human actors as horizons of identity. Students will also reflect on how these relations are posited in the texts as political struggles against absorption and domination by Latin American nation states. The course will include readings by Pablo Neruda, Miguel Angel Asturias, José Maria Arguedas, Elena Garro, Maria Sabina, Rigoberta Menchú, Heriberto Prado Pereda, and Román Gemes Jiménez, among others. Class sessions will be conducted in Spanish. Students who are not majors or minors in Spanish may write their papers and exams in English.
*Cross-listed with SPA 321
* Prerequisite: SPA 301 or SPA 302 or SPA 303 or SPA 307, or equivalent

LAS 350: Introduction to Literary Themes: Escritura y poder
Section: Q   Instructor: Civantos
How are reading and writing personally and politically transformative? This seminar explores the relationship between literature and “the Real World” by examining what reading and writing offer us as individuals, how writers try to resist political realities through literature, why and how censorship takes place, and why and how literacy itself is restricted. A key component in this learning process will be participation in the Exchange for Change letter exchange program. This program anonymously pairs students in our class with inmates enrolled in a Spanish-language writing course in a local prison that covers some of the same readings as our course. This will provide an opportunity to reflect upon a set of specific intersections of power and the written word and to assist these inmates in their learning process, as well as to learn from them. We will start out by considering the psychological and social effects of reading and writing. We will then read and comment upon resistance literature, that is, literature from the Hispanophone world that uses the written word as a political tool. One main focus in this segment of the course will be a sub-genre known as The Dictator Novel—narrative fiction that depicts actual dictatorships. These novels will lead us to the intersections between the written word and the power dynamics of gender, sexuality, and religious ideology. Through these novels we will analyze how literature plays a powerful role not only in real-life politics, but also in how we conceive of reality itself. Interspersed with these novels we will look at specific cases of censorship and shorter literary works that focus on writing and political resistance. In the last segment of the course we will consider education as a human right and also study the politics of literacy and how literary imagination and critical literacy can be powerful tools.
*Cross-listed with SPA 321
* Prerequisite: SPA 301, or 302, or 303, or 307, or the equivalent.
LAS 350: Migration Studies: Exile and Culture in the Americas
Section: E  Instructor: Valencia
In this course, students will engage in the analysis of literary pieces: from poetry, short stories, theater, to cinema and performance art to inquire on the varied forms that artists and writers have envisioned displacement, place-making, homeland and mythical returns. The course will tackle the historical contexts that have stimulated/obliged the exodus of persons of Latin American origin from the 19th century to the present. Equally important will be the exposure to the ideological and historical frameworks in which concepts like exiles, travelers, migrants, and nomads have emerged by exploring the diverse histories behind mobility beyond national borders. In addition, students will think critically about the intersection of language, identity and migration.
*Cross-listed with SPA 340
*Prerequisite: SPA 301 or SPA 302 or SPA 303 or SPA 307

LAS 350: Introduction to Hispanic Linguistics
Section: J  Instructor: Gondra
Focus may be thematic or regional, but will address issues in Latin American and Caribbean Art and Culture. Survey of principal areas of inquiry is in Hispanic linguistics, including phonetics/phonology, morphology, syntax, and pragmatics, historical, social and dialectal variations.
*Cross-listed with SPA 401.

LAS 350: Favela Cultures of Brazil: Informality, Criminality and Cultural Vitality in the Favelas of Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo
Section: H  Instructor: Yúdice/Veliz
This course examines the economic, social and cultural dimensions of favela life in Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo. The course begins with the history of favelas in these cities, moves on to the current period, taking into consideration such factors as the informal economy, narco-trafficking, racial discrimination, policing and security, violence and organizing to combat it. Among the materials to be discussed are urban planning documents, policing projects, news coverage of violence in the favelas, high profile literary and audiovisual works such as Black Orpheus, Orfeu, City of God, Tropa de Elite, etc. Additionally, students will read and view community materials such as documentaries, local civil society initiatives aimed at dealing with lack of employment and violence; youth, music and dance venues, and important organizations such as the Grupo Cultural Afro Reggae; Nós do Morro, Central Única das Favelas, and Observatório das Favelas. The course will be taught in English and Portuguese. Most sessions will begin with a ½ hour lecture in English and then the class will break up into two discussion groups, one in English and the other in Portuguese. Each student will write short weekly reaction papers, take a midterm exam, and produce a final project (term paper or in-depth power point presentation or audiovisual work).
*Cross-listed with POR 322
LAS 360: Latin American Thought and Ideologies: Identity and Integration
Section: Q  Instructor: Roy
This course/seminar will explore the evolution of Latin American thought and ideologies in three levels: (1) a review of Latin American political and intellectual history; (2) an in-depth reading of the classical writings of the main "pensadores," the Latin American political, social and economic thinkers, and the main protagonists of the sociological and political essay, whose main interest was and is the inquest of the national identity, social and economic development, and (3) a comparative consideration of the main ideological trends of the past and the present and their future prospects for the reshaping of Latin America, nationally and regionally.
*Cross-listed with INS 584

LAS 360: Global Political Economy
Section: Q1  Instructor: Yaffe
This course explores the relationship between the global economy and politics, as governments seek both to shape it and to respond effectively to the constraints and opportunities it provides. The course format follows the evolution of global capitalism after WWII, and focuses on key issues in global political economy such as trade, monetary and fiscal policy, foreign investment, globalization, development and international cooperation. Through a discussion of the most important current events in the global economy, we will illustrate the economic theories and political coalitions that have arisen to support or oppose policies of trade and monetary regimes in the last century. Additionally, we will explore the recent history of the world economy and contemporary issues such as the Bretton Woods regime, the causes and effects of globalization and the role of international institutions (GATT, WTO, IMF, WB, IDB) in the world economy.
*Cross-listed with GEG 390 & INS 321

LAS 360: Special Topics in Latin American and Caribbean Politics
Section: JK1  Instructor: Hummel
This course addresses questions central to social movement activists and researchers; Draws on examples from across the Americas and on current social movement research.
*Cross-listed with POL 362

LAS 360: Contemporary Latin American Politics.
Section: JK  Instructor: Touchton
This course assumes a basic knowledge of Latin American politics, and is designed to foster deeper understanding of political processes in the region and to provide an overview of key debates among political scientists specializing in Latin America. We discuss issues related to democratic consolidation, political participation, representation and governance.
*Cross-listed with POL 584
* Prerequisite: POL 202
Section: TBA  Instructor: Pestle
Independent study will be leading to a thesis, original piece of research, or creative project on a Latin American or Caribbean subject. Students need permission of Academic Director to enroll in this course.

LAS 495: Senior Honors Thesis I
Section: TBA  Instructor: Pestle
This course pairs students with a faculty mentor to set and guide a research agenda in preparation for writing the senior honors thesis. Students will study advanced topics in Latin American and Caribbean Studies, according to faculty interests. Students need permission of Academic Director to enroll in this course.

LAS 496: Senior Honors Thesis II
Section: TBA  Instructor: Pestle
This course pairs students with a faculty mentor to guide the writing process and completion of the senior honors thesis. Students will study advanced topics in Latin American and Caribbean Studies, according to faculty interests. Students need permission of Academic Director to enroll in this course.

LAS 505: Internship in Latin American and Caribbean Studies
Section: TBA  Instructor: Pestle
On-site experience will be in business, governmental organization, or non-profit organization dealing with Latin America and/or the Caribbean. Students need permission of Academic Director to enroll in this course.

LAS 506: Civic Engagement in Latin America
Section: TBA  Instructor: Pestle
On site experience will be in a civic engagement project in Latin America or the Caribbean. Students need permission of Academic Director to enroll in this course.

LAS 580: “Africa in Cuba, Cuba in Africa”: From the Slave Trade to the Cuban Internationalist Missions in Africa
Section: J  Instructor: Abaka
This course examines the relationship between Cuba and Africa from the period of the slave trade to late 1990s. The course is divided into three sections. Section one deals with Cuba and Africa during the period of the slave trade. It focuses on the forced migration of Africans to Cuba, the contribution of the enslaved to the growth and development of Cuba and the impact of the African presence on the island. The next section will deal with the Cuban revolution and the contribution of Cuba’s Black population to the revolution. It will analyze the impact of the revolution on race relations in Cuba. In the final section, we shall emphasize Cuba’s Africa policy from the Cuban revolution to the independence of Angola, Mozambique, Guinea Bissau, Cape Verde and Principé.
*Cross-listed with HIS 310
LAS 580: History of the Caribbean  
Section: Q  
Instructor: Ramsey  
The focus of this course is on Caribbean history major topics, debates, and themes from the fifteenth to early nineteenth centuries; the centrality of the Caribbean to larger world histories of conquest, colonialism, slavery and emancipation, capitalism, migration, religious transformation, republicanism, and nation-state formation.  
*Cross-listed with HIS 317

LAS 580: Modern Brazil  
Section: H  
Instructor: Mota  
This course examines the history of modern Brazil, Latin America’s largest country, from its independence from Portugal in the 1820s to the present day. Approaching Brazil in its hemispheric, Atlantic, and global context, this class seeks to transform the way students understand concepts that they may take for granted – such as freedom, citizenship, or democracy - helping them to recognize the role played by disenfranchised social actors in shaping Brazilian history. Topics include the meanings of independence; political cultures; slavery and abolition; struggles over citizenship and national identity in a multi-racial society; Brazil’s experiences with authoritarianism, dictatorship, and democracy; and present challenges posed by neoliberalism and globalization.  
*Cross-listed with HIS 355

LAS 580: Latin America in the Age of Emancipation  
Section: U  
Instructor: Mota  
This course explores the range of ways in which Afro-Latin Americans shaped, resisted, and helped overthrow slavery in South America and the Caribbean during the long nineteenth century. It starts with the world created by the Haitian Revolution in the late eighteenth century and concludes in the dawn of the twentieth century with a discussion of the meanings of freedom in post-emancipation societies such as Brazil and Cuba. Students will learn about the lived experiences of rebels, maroons, sailors, slave and free black communities within an Atlantic perspective. In particular, this course examines individual and collective strategies deployed by slaves to navigate a political landscape characterized by the rise of global capitalism and popular struggles over rights to citizenship. We will read primary accounts and a novel, as well as monographic works on Haiti, Jamaica, Cuba, Brazil, and the United States as a point of comparison.  
*Cross-listed with HIS 551
Graduate Courses

**LAS 602: Research Design in Latin American Studies**  
Section: RS  
Instructor: Martinez-San Miguel  
Interdisciplinary research methods and skills in Latin American and Caribbean studies.

**LAS 603: Latin American Thought and Ideologies: Identity and Integration**  
Section: Q  
Instructor: Roy  
This course/seminar will explore the evolution of Latin American thought and ideologies in three levels: (1) a review of Latin American political and intellectual history; (2) an in-depth reading of the classical writings of the main "pensadores," the Latin American political, social and economic thinkers, and the main protagonists of the sociological and political essay, whose main interest was and is the inquest of the national identity, social and economic development, and (3) a comparative consideration of the main ideological trends of the past and the present and their future prospects for the reshaping of Latin America, nationally and regionally.  
*Cross list with INS 584

**LAS 604: Puerto Rico travel course**  
Section: 4U  
Instructor: Pestle  
Imagine the thrill of uncovering actual artifacts used by people hundreds or even thousands of years ago. During Spring Break 2019, LAS302 students will travel to Puerto Rico and gain hands-on experience in archaeological field techniques. This field experience course will allow students to be exposed to aspects of archaeological survey and excavation, as well as the processes of paleoenvironmental sampling and community stakeholder interaction and involvement. Course involves travel to Puerto Rico during Spring Break and it has a program fee.  
*Cross-listed with APY 502

**LAS 604: The Caribbean through Literary and Cultural Studies: “The Most Beautiful Land”: Travels through Cuba**  
Section: Q  
Instructor: Fundora  
Course involves travel during the Spring Break and it has a program fee. As the largest island of the Antilles, Cuba has long captivated the attention of explorers seeking conquest and wealth, religious conversion and scientific knowledge, and other encounters with the island’s diverse landscape, wildlife, and people. From Christopher Columbus onwards, many travelers and explorers have come to Cuba to unlock the island’s mysteries, traversing its coasts, its jungle, as well as Havana and other cities. This course examines the experiences of foreign and domestic travelers over the course of the last five centuries in Cuba. Students will look carefully at the shared assumptions of travelers and compare their modes of social inquiry, scientific investigation, and the ways in which they reflect about the island and its various realities. In pursuing a better understanding of the genre of travel writing and its literary and historical
significance, the course draws upon a variety of first-person accounts about the island that Columbus called, right after disembarking in its shores, “The most beautiful land human eyes have ever seen.”

*Cross-listed with SPA 360
* Prerequisite: SPA 301 or SPA 302 or SPA 303 or SPA 307

**LAS 604: Fieldwork in Coastal Management**
Section: 4K                Instructor: Suman
This course will take us to Colombia where we will focus on Port Management issues. This course is organized in cooperation with the Pontificia Universidad Javeriana (Catholic University) in Cali, Colombia, and we will join with students from that university in our activities. We will explore issues related to port development and management (environmental impacts, international trade, strategic port development, institutional arrangements for managing ports and maritime transportation in Colombia) at the Javeriana in Cali and also visit Colombia’s principal Pacific port in Buenaventura, as well as Bahía Málaga National Park. We will fly from Cali to Cartagena for the final 2 days of the course where we will visit Colombia’s main Caribbean port and also explore the UNESCO World Heritage Site in colonial Cartagena. Participants will meet weekly throughout the semester in Miami to discuss background readings and develop a group research field project that course participants will carry out during a Spring Break trip to the sites we will visit in Colombia. Upon return to the University of Miami, the class will prepare manuscripts and presentations based on the field data that course participants have collected during the trip.

*Cross list with MES 604, LAW 629, ECS 372
*Students are responsible for travel expenses, please contact instructor for more details.

**LAS 605: Internship in Latin American and Caribbean Studies**
Section: TBA                Instructor: Pestle
On-site experience in business, governmental organization, or non-profit organization dealing with Latin America and/or the Caribbean. Permission from the Academic Director is required in order to receive credit for an internship.

**LAS 606: Civic Engagement**
Section: TBA                Instructor: Pestle
On-site experience in a civic engagement project in business, governmental organization, or non-profit organization dealing with Latin America and/or the Caribbean. Permission from the Academic Director is required in order to receive credit for an internship.

**LAS 681: Introduction to Global Health: Effective Responses to Hemispheric Challenges**
Section: T/U                Instructor(s): Frenk, Knaul, Rodriguez
The divides between the health and well-being of diverse populations, between and within borders, have never been greater. Intense changes in demographics, from population growth to rapid urbanization, along with unprecedented shifts in patterns of disease and cross-border risks, are coupled with game-changing advances in knowledge, technology, and innovation.
This is a pivotal moment for future leaders from diverse disciplines to come together to improve the health of our hemisphere. Our discussions will cover a broad range of topics in global health, with a focus on emerging challenges in Latin America and the Caribbean.

*Cross-listed with EPH 613/BPH 499/INS 503/INS 605/GEG 625/GEG 590/APY 418

**LAS 691: Favela Cultures of Brazil: Informality, Criminality and Cultural Vitality in the Favelas of Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo**
Section: H  
Instructor: Yúdice/Velez

This course examines the economic, social and cultural dimensions of favela life in Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo. The course begins with the history of favelas in these cities, moves on to the current period, taking into consideration such factors as the informal economy, narco-trafficking, racial discrimination, policing and security, violence and organizing to combat it. Among the materials to be discussed are urban planning documents, policing projects, news coverage of violence in the favelas, high profile literary and audiovisual works such as *Black Orpheus*, *Orfeu*, *City of God*, *Tropa de Elite*, etc. Additionally, students will read and view community materials such as documentaries, local civil society initiatives aimed at dealing with lack of employment and violence; youth, music and dance venues, and important organizations such as the Grupo Cultural Afro Reggae; Nós do Morro, Central Única das Favelas, and Observatório das Favelas. The course will be taught in English and Portuguese. Most sessions will begin with a ½ hour lecture in English and then the class will break up into two discussion groups, one in English and the other in Portuguese. Each student will write short weekly reaction papers, take a midterm exam, and produce a final project (term paper or in-depth power point presentation or audiovisual work).

*Cross-listed with POR 322

**LAS 694: Directed Readings in Latin America and Caribbean**
Section: TBA  
Instructor: Pestle

Independent Study leading to an original piece of research, or creative project on a Latin American or Caribbean interdisciplinary topic.

**LAS 697: Readings for the Comprehensive Exam**
Section: TBA  
Instructor: Pestle

Readings for M.A. students who are preparing for comprehensive examinations.

**LAS 810: Pre Candidacy Thesis Credits**
Section: TBA  
Instructor: Pestle

The student working on his/her master's thesis enrolls for credit, before student has been admitted to candidacy. Credit is not awarded until the thesis has been accepted. Six (6) credits of 810 are required for MA students in Latin American Studies.

**LAS 815: Post-candidacy thesis credits**
Section: TBA  
Instructor: Pestle
The student working on his/her master's thesis enrolls for credit, not to exceed six, after student has been admitted to candidacy. Credit is not awarded until the thesis has been accepted.

**LAS 820: Research in Residence**  
Section: TBA  
Instructor: Pestle  
Used to establish research in residence for the thesis for the master's degree after the student has enrolled for the permissible cumulative total in LAS 810 (usually six credits). Credit not granted. May be regarded as full time residence.
About the Latin American Studies Program

The Latin American Studies Program at the University of Miami takes an interdisciplinary approach to the study of the politics, economics, cultures, and societies of Latin America and the Caribbean. Courses in the program are offered in departments from every school and college at the University of Miami, and the program's faculty research topics ranging from development economics to immigrant health care, from indigenous music to Caribbean colonial literature, from the archaeology of the region's earliest people to present-day questions of resource conservation and management. Our students become true experts who can speak to a wide range of issues confronting Latin America; experts who can contribute proactively to development and cooperation as well as to business and political analysis in ways that their peers with a more traditional disciplinary focus simply cannot.
Major in Latin American Studies (36 credit)

The Latin American Studies major is designed for students who desire a comprehensive understanding of Latin America and the Caribbean; its history, cultures, languages, economics, politics, and societies. Majors often combine their studies with concentrations in other departments or schools. LAS majors also learn outside of the classroom, through interaction with visiting experts, participation in symposium and conferences, and travel courses. Students are required to attain at least competency in two Latin American languages and are advised (but not required) to spend at least one semester in Latin America.

Curriculum:

- Gateway Course in LAS (LAS 101)
- Advanced language proficiency in Spanish, French, Portuguese or Haitian Creole: This requirement may be met with SPA203, FRE203, POR202, or HAI201 or equivalent
- Secondary language competence in another Latin American or Caribbean language: This requirement may be met with SPA105, FRE105, POR105, HAI102 or equivalent, or by successfully completing a Latin American, Caribbean, or Indigenous language course in the DILS Program.
- Two (2) courses in Latin American history
- Six (6) courses in classes listed in LAS or cross-listed with LAS, 12 credits of which must be completed at the 300-level or higher (FRE, SPA, or POR 214 may count toward this requirement)
- One (1) of the following: LAS 494, LAS 501, LAS 505, LAS 506.

Minor in Latin American Studies (15 credits)

The minor in Latin American Studies is designed for students who have an interest in Latin America and the Caribbean but may not have the flexibility to pursue a Major. The minor may be obtained by completing five courses (detailed below), or through participation in the UBuenos Aires program.

Curriculum:

- Gateway Course in LAS (LAS 101)
- Four (4) LAS Courses, three (3) of which must be at the 300 Level or higher
**FILAS (Fellows in Latin American Studies)**

In this highly selective Honors Program, students follow a rigorous, accelerated curriculum to complete a dual degree (B.A./M.A.) in Latin American and Caribbean Studies in five years. The program provides exciting collaborative research, travel, and work opportunities. Working with UM’s world-class faculty in various academic disciplines, FILAS participants design individualized curricula. In addition to the regular general education course requirements of the College of Arts and Sciences, FILAS students choose one focus track for their most advanced courses: Social Sciences, Literature & Culture, Communication, Environmental Studies, Public Health, or History.

### FILAS Curriculum

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>English Composition</strong></td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENG 105 English Composition I</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ENG 106 English Composition II</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Mathematics, Computing &amp; Statistics</strong></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Second Language</strong></td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Writing Across the Curriculum</strong></td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Cognates</strong></td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Advanced Language Proficiency in Spanish,</strong> French, Portuguese, or Haitian Creole**</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td><strong>Select one of the following:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>FRE 203 Advanced French</td>
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<td>HAI 201 Intermediate Haitian Creole I</td>
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<tr>
<td>POR 202 Intermediate Portuguese II</td>
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<tr>
<td>SPA 203 Advanced Spanish</td>
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<td><strong>Secondary Language Competence in another Latin American or Caribbean Language</strong></td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Select one of the following:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>FRE 105 Accelerated Elementary French</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>HAI 102 Elementary Haitian Creole II ((or equivalent))</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POR 105 Beginning Portuguese for Spanish Speakers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPA 105 Accelerated Elementary Spanish</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FILAS Specific Requirements</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Select one gateway seminar in Latin American Studies</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Select two History courses</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Select two International Studies courses</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Select two Economics courses</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Select two advanced Languages and Literatures courses (SPA, POR, FRE, or HAI)</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Select seven courses in Study Abroad</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Select one course as Internship in Latin America</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Select five courses above the 300-level (third-year) in a range of disciplines</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Select ten courses in one focus track</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MA Phase Requirements</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### GRE Exam in Semester 7 or 8

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LAS 601</td>
<td>Interdisciplinary In Latin American And Caribbean</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAS 602</td>
<td>Research Design in Latin American Studies</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Select two Regional Fundamentals courses: 6 credits

Select four electives from approved LAS or combined courses: 12 credits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LAS 810</td>
<td>Pre-candidacy thesis credits (students must enroll in two semesters of this 3-credit course to fulfill this requirement.)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Credit Hours: 150

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1. Certain AP/IB scores may be used to fulfill the Composition requirement as credit. If Transfer students transfer one of the two above, but not both, they may take ENG 208 to complete the requirement. ENG 105 must be taken unless exempted by SAT/V or ACT/V scores (does not include credits).

2. MTH 108 or higher. Unless exempted by AP/IB, or UM placement test. UM placement test does not include credits. Prerequisites must be met before enrolling in MTH courses.

3. Students must take at least three credits in a language other than English at the 200-level or higher. Prerequisites may be required. Courses taken in order to meet this requirement, including necessary prerequisite courses to the 200 level courses, cannot be used in cognates seen below. **FILAS students already fulfill this requirement when completing the language requirements cited below.**

4. Degree candidates must complete at least four writing courses, and at least one such course must be in the student's major discipline.

5. Typically, students must complete a minimum of three cognates, one from each of the three areas of the University curriculum: Arts & Humanities; People & Society; and Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics. A cognate is a minimum of 9 credit hours, however it can be more. Each major/minor fulfills the cognate requirement in one Area of Knowledge. **However, FILAS students must complete only the STEM Cognate as the FILAS program fulfills the Arts & Humanities and People & Society cognates. To avoid additional course credits, please select a STEM Cognate that includes a Natural Science course to concurrently fulfill this CAS general education requirement. According to the Collage of Arts & Sciences, "three credits must be earned from one of the following departments: Biology, Chemistry, Ecosystem Science & Policy (only ECS 111, 112, or 202), Geological Sciences, Marine Science (except MSC 313 and 314), Physical Science, or Physics. APY 203 and GEG 120 may also count. These credits may double count with any other requirement, e.g., courses in the STEM cognate."**

FILAS students also write a Master’s Thesis based on an original research project. In addition, they must defend the thesis and present their findings at the LAS Annual Student Symposium.
**LAS Graduate programs**

The interdisciplinary graduate programs in LAS offer excellent preparation for careers in international business, law, banking, work in philanthropy, economic development, the environment, government service, education, health care, journalism. At the graduate level, the Latin American Studies program offers a stand-alone Master of Arts, and three joint graduate programs. Below, you will find links to relevant information for these courses of study.

**Master of Arts in Latin American Studies**

The Master of Arts in Latin American Studies is a 30-credit interdisciplinary degree characterized by a distinct level of flexibility in allowing students to create a course of study focused on Latin American and the Caribbean that serves the unique interests of each student. Combining core courses offered by the program with a large variety of co-listed and cross-listed courses offered by departments, programs, and units throughout the University of Miami, the program offers a tremendous diversity in course selection. We encourage students to combine course offerings from around the university into a cohesive course of study that allows them to specialize in an area, topic, country, theme, or issue of their choosing and thus to tap into the many resources available at the University of Miami for students with a passion for Latin America and the Caribbean.

**Curriculum:**

- The required introductory seminar, LAS601 (3 credits)
- The required research design seminar, LAS602 (3 credits)
- A disciplinary research methods course (3 credits)
- Two regional fundamentals courses (6 credits)
- Three electives (9 credits)
- A thesis (6 credits). Students are required to write a master’s thesis, create an equivalent capstone project, or pass a comprehensive exam. The latter two options require the approval of the degree director. For each of these options, a committee consisting of at least three faculty members is required.
- Students must demonstrate advanced language competency in Spanish, Portuguese, Haitian Creole, or French by passing a course taught in the target language at the 600-level or above, or by passing a language competency exam.
- We strongly encourage our students to travel in the region, either through faculty-led travel courses offered by our program, or courses offered by other programs and departments at the University of Miami.
MA/Masters of Public Health (MPH)

Miami is the gateway to Latin America. As such we recognize an urgent need for public health professionals with the training and expertise needed to meet the growing public health challenges both in Latin America and the Caribbean. This program is designed to train students for a career in public health with a focus on social policy, health management and health care in Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as expatriate communities in the United States.

Curriculum:

- LAS601 “Graduate Seminar in Latin American Studies”
- LAS602 “Research Design in Latin American Studies”
- Two regional fundamentals classes
- Two LAS electives (selected in consultation with the Program Director)
- Two classes attaining language competency in Spanish, Portuguese, French, or Haitian Creole. Students may establish proficiency by passing two courses taught in the target language at the 500-level or above, or by passing a language competency exam. A major indigenous language of Latin America may be substituted for either Spanish or Portuguese. Students may petition for a waiver of examination if they have gained language competency in another manner (i.e. native speaker, upper division coursework in target language, Peace Corps service, IB credits or Defense Language Proficiency Test).
- EPH 600 “Introduction to Public Health”
- EPH 601 “Medical Biostatistics I”
- EPH 620 “Health Education and Behavior”
- EPH 621 “Fundamentals of Epidemiology”
- EPH 631 “Public Health Administration”
- EPH 641 “Integrated Aspects of Environmental Health”
- 12 credits of MPH electives (see Bulletin for full list)
- Culminating experience, 6 credits, includes EPH 680 (Practical Field Experience) plus either LAS 810 (thesis) or LAS 697 (Readings for comprehensive exam)
MA/GIS Certificate

The Master of Arts in Latin American Studies with GIS certificate is a 30-credit interdisciplinary degree that allows students to obtain a graduate certificate in GIS (Geographic Information Systems) through the department of Geographic and Regional Studies while working towards their Master of Arts in Latin American Studies.

Curriculum:

- LAS601 “Graduate Seminar in Latin American Studies”
- LAS602 “Research Design in Latin American Studies”
- GEG692 “Geographic Information Systems I”
- GEG693 “Geographic Information Systems II”
- GEG692 “Environmental Remote Sensing” or an appropriate GIS research methods elective
- Three LAS electives
- Students will also have to enroll in six credits in LAS810 consisting of a thesis or GIS capstone project with a focus on Latin America, the Caribbean, or South Florida.
JD/MA in Latin American Studies

The University of Miami School of Law, in partnership with the Latin American Studies program at the College of Arts and Sciences, offers a joint J.D./M.A. in Latin American Studies and the Law. This curriculum prepares Law School students for government, political and nonprofit legal positions in and concerning Latin America. The program provides a solid theoretical framework and grounding in policy analysis, administration, and management in the Latin American region.

This joint program allows students to obtain both J.D. and M.A. degrees in 3 or 3 ½ years -- less time than obtaining the degrees separately. The first year is spent in the Law School and years two, three and four (if needed) are spent taking both Law and M.A. courses.

Curriculum:

On the J.D. side, students must complete 82 credits in the Law School and 6 credits will be double-counted from the M.A. courses to complete the total of 88 JD credits. On the M.A. side, students must complete 21 credits in Latin American Studies courses, and 9 credits will be double-counted from the J.D. coursework to complete the total of 30 credits. Students will be required to complete a total of 103 credits for both degrees.

Juris Doctor (J.D.) Course Requirements

- During their first year of the joint program, students will be required to attend the J.D. program full-time.
- Students who begin in the JD program will be able to take courses in the Latin American Studies Master’s program beginning the fall of their 2L year.
- Students must complete all J.D. requirements and all M.A. requirements as defined by their programs.
- Students may take summer law courses which may reduce the length of the joint degree program by up to a semester.
- Students may not take more than 16 credits/semester (17 credits/semester may be taken with permission from the Associate Dean, Academic Affairs, School of Law).

Master of Latin American Studies Requirements

- Required courses in LAS are: LAS601: Introductory Seminar; LAS602: Research Design; and a disciplinary research methods course (to be approved by the degree director.) Two regional fundamentals courses are also required.
- Students will be required to write a master’s thesis, create an equivalent capstone project, or pass a comprehensive exam. (6 credits)
- Language Requirement: Students must demonstrate advanced language competency in Spanish, French, Portuguese, or Haitian Creole.
For any questions regarding the Latin American Studies Program, please contact the Academic Director:

Dr. William J. Pestle
Academic Director
Merrick Hall 102-E
University of Miami
Coral Gables, FL 33124-2005
Email: w.pestle@miami.edu