The Latin American Studies Minor

Program Director:
Professor Peter Winn, History Department
Professor Claudia Kaiser-Lenoir, Romance Languages Department

The Latin American Studies Minor (LAS) allows students to explore the region from a multidisciplinary perspective. It encourages students to integrate their study of the arts and literature, history, and social sciences into a unified view of Latin America.

In pursuing the minor, students can draw on resources throughout the university, including courses on Latin America in Anthropology, History, Music, Political Science, and Romance Languages. In their senior project, students also have the opportunity to explore a theme of particular interest with the coordinated support of the faculty advisors from different fields.

In addition, to providing insight into the culture, economy, history, and politics of our hemispheric neighbors, Latin American Studies offers students planning to pursue careers in diplomacy, international business, and law or graduate study in the humanities and social sciences a solid grounding in the region that will help link theory with Latin American reality and culture with history and politics.

Requirements:

There are three requirements for completing a minor in Latin American Studies:

Study of one of the region's languages for three years or the equivalent.

Five courses in Latin American Studies, including at least one course from each of the three disciplinary areas: Arts and Literature, Social Science, and History.

A senior project (normally done in the second semester of the senior year) that integrates at least two of the three disciplinary areas of the minor. This project may be written work, a photography exhibit, a performance or some other creative work. Students will participate in a monthly senior project seminar taught by the entire Latin American Studies faculty and receive a full course credit for their project.

For Information:

Students interested in pursuing a minor in Latin American Studies should register with either:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Peter Winn</th>
<th>Claudia Kaiser-Lenoir</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>History Department</td>
<td>Romance Languages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Hall Room 112</td>
<td>Olin Building Room 214</td>
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<tr>
<td>Call: x 72314</td>
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<td>Email: <a href="mailto:Peter.Winn@tufts.edu">Peter.Winn@tufts.edu</a></td>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:claudia.kaiser-lenoir@tufts.edu">claudia.kaiser-lenoir@tufts.edu</a></td>
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**NOTE:** This list is incomplete, and the class times are subject to change. Before you register, consult the listings in the course’s home department.

Courses listed with an Asterisk (*) are not exclusively concerned with Latin American material. Students who wish to count these courses for the LAS minor must consult with the course Professor first, and must agree to focus independent work on appropriate LAS topics and secure the approval of the program’s director. For more information contact: Professor Peter Winn, History Department at 617-627-2314 or email: Peter.Winn@tufts.edu or contact Associate Professor Claudia Kaiser-Lenoir, Romance Languages Department at 617-627-2723 or email: claudia.kaiser-lenoir@tufts.edu

http://ase.tufts.edu/cis/LAS.htm
ANTH 149A  Mesoamerican Archeology
Professor Lauren Sullivan
Block: L+ M&W 5:30-6:45

An introduction to the archaeology of pre-Columbian Mesoamerican cultures of Belize, Guatemala, Honduras, and Mexico. The focus is on the origins of village life, the development of social complexity, and the emergence of states. Cultures to be studied include the Olmec, the Maya, the Zapotec, the Mixtec, and the Aztec. The rich cultural heritage left behind in the form of artifacts, architecture, murals, inscribed monuments, hieroglyphs, and codices will be used to examine Mesoamerican daily life, economy, social and political organization and world view that has survived in many areas to the present day. NOTE: Cross-listed as Arch 51 Prerequisite: Anthropology 30 or consent.

ANTH 185B  Transnational Communities: Cross-Disciplinary Approaches to New Immigrants in the US
Professors Aymer & Pacini
Block: 7 W 1:30-4:00

This cross-disciplinary course will explore new patterns of transnational migration and identity formation among Latinos and Anglphone Caribbean immigrants in ethnically and racially diverse urban settings such as New York, Miami and Boston. Topics to be examined may include: new concepts of citizenship and nation belonging, new forms of family structure, new models of articulation with existing racial categories and hierarchies, and the transformation of cultural expressions such as religion and popular music. Readings will be drawn from both the disciplines of both anthropology and sociology. Prerequisites: Sophomore standing or consent. Cross-listed w/ Soc 188b

ANTH 185C  Music, Blackness, Caribbean Latinos
Professors Pacini & Rivera
Block: 10 M 7:00-10:00

Blackness and latinidad (Latinoness) are too often imagined as discreet categories that do not intersect. This course explores the ways in which they do intersect using Caribbean Latino history, identities and musical expressions as examples (from "traditional" Afro-Caribbean music like Dominican palos, Puerto Rican bomba and Cuban rumba, to more recent genres like salsa, rock, hip hop and reggaetón). This course explores the similarities and differences among Spanish Caribbean Latino groups, and also the cultural convergences between Spanish Caribbean Latinos, African Americans and non-Latino Caribbeanbs. The assigned readings, films and recordings examine the historical and social contexts from which these musical forms have emerged (both in the Caribbean and in the United States), highlighting the intricate relationship between music, race, ethnicity, national identities, migration, gender and commercialization. Prerequisites: sophomore standing
Crosslisted w/ Soc 188c

FAH 92B/190B  Imaging and Possessing the Americas: The Complexities of the Colonial Views and the Returning Gazes
Professor Eulogio Guzman
Block: D+ T/Th

Studies focusing on the conquest of the Americas and its ensuing colonial period commonly emphasize the establishment of European ideals among local traditions. These studies usually characterize Amerindians as passive participants who readily accepted the new forms and establishments of their conquerors. However, other, more critical, perspectives
suggest that art and architecture from the colonial period manifested a syncretic approach or even outright resistance to European forms and ideals. Focusing on the flourishing visual arts from colonial Mexico and Peru this class examines how indigenous artists generated new visual vocabularies that accommodated multiple colonial experiences and advanced local interests. Students will examine how these new art forms effectively challenged the ways Europeans used images to promote distorted views of the America’s indigenes. By applying diverse theoretical models from various disciplines including art history, anthropology, social history, literary criticism and critical theory this class will explore how art and architecture were used to promote and assert the social, political, economical, and religious and class ideals of those new societies emerging out of conquest.

**HST 88BD**  
**Introduction to Latino History: 1845-Present**  
Professor Driscoll de Alvarado  
Block: K+

Using the Mexican American War and its conclusion as the point of departure, this course will survey the successive migrations of diverse Latino groups to the United States and their collective and individuals experiences of adaptation and acculturation. Included are the experiences of Mexicans and Mexican Americans, Puerto Ricans, and Cubans, as well as more recent arrivals Dominicans, Central Americans and South Americans. Topics include conditions of migration, patterns of settlement, and problems of prejudice and discrimination as well as identity.

**HST 188PW**  
**Brazil & Argentina**  
Professor Winn  
Block: 6

A research seminar on Argentina and Brazil that surveys their history and historiography from the colonial era to the present day. Colonialism and imperialism, race and ethnicity, export economies and industrialization, democracy and dictatorship, reform and reaction are among the themes that will be explored as will gender, class and culture. Most of the seminar will be focused on student research papers and will culminate in the presentation of student research projects to the class. A reading knowledge of Spanish or Portuguese is strongly recommended. Instructor’s permission required.

**PS90L**  
**Sophomore Seminar: The Political Economy of Latin America**  
Professor Conseulo Cruz  
Block: 11

Explores alternative approaches to political economy, and then employs these approaches to analyze the relationship between states and markets in several Latin American countries. A methodologically focused sophomore seminar.

**SPN 35A**  
**Survey of Latin American Literature II**  
Professor Amy Millay  
Block: D+

This course traces Latin American literature from modernist prose and poetry of the late 19th century through post-boom literature of the last three decades of the 20th century. We will examine major authors and literary movements of modern Spanish America in historical and cultural contexts. Authors include José Martí, Rubén Darío, Gabriel García Márquez and Elena Poniatowska. Varied writing assignments, oral presentations, exams. Conducted in Spanish. Not for seniors or for students returning from programs abroad. Prerequisite: Spanish 21 or equivalent. Texts: Bound packet of readings available at Gnomon Copy, 348 Boston Ave., Medford
SPN 35B  Survey of Latin American Literature II
Professor Mark Hernández
Block: E+ mw

This course traces the development of Latin American literature from the modernist literature of the late 19th century to Post-Boom literature of the 1980s and 1990s. We will read key works of prose, poetry and other genres from various cultures of Spanish America. Authors include José Martí, Rubén Darío, Julio Cortázar and Rosario Castellanos. Emphasis is on historical context and literary analysis. Varied writing assignments, oral presentations and exams; class participation is essential. Conducted in Spanish. Not for senior majors or for students returning from programs abroad. Prerequisite: Spanish 21 or equivalent. Texts: Bound packet of readings available at Gnomon Copy, 348 Boston Ave., Medford

SPN 35C  Survey of Latin American Literature II
Professor Claudia Kaiser-Lenoir
Block: G+

Latin American literature from the 19th-century Modernist poetry and prose through the groundbreaking trends of the 20th century, such as the Regionalist and Indigenist narrative, Magical Realism and the "boom" in the Latin American letters of the sixties and seventies. Writers include: Rubén Darío, Pablo Neruda, Gabriel García Márquez, Jorge Luis Borges, among others. Emphasis on historical context and on literary analysis. Conducted in Spanish. Not for seniors or for students returning from programs abroad. Prerequisite: Spanish 21 or equivalent. Text: Bound packet available at Gnomon Copy, 348 Boston Avenue, Medford

SPN 35D  Survey of Latin American Literature II
Professor Juan Mateo-Silva
Block: K+mw

Latin American literature from the nineteenth-century Modernist poetry and prose through the groundbreaking trends of the twentieth century, such as Regionalist and Indigenist narrative, Magical Realism, and the "boom" in the Latin American letters of the sixties and seventies. Writers include Rubén Dario, Pablo Neruda, Gabriel García Márquez, and Jorge Luis Borges. Historical context as well as literary analysis. Conducted in Spanish. Not for seniors or for students returning from programs abroad. Prerequisite: Spanish 21 or equivalent

SPN 92  U.S. Mexico Borderlands (in English)
Professor Mark Hernández
Block: G+

The U.S.-Mexico borderlands—the territory running about 30 miles along either side of the 2,000-miles stretching from Tijuana, Baja California / San Diego, California on the Pacific coast to Matamoros, Tamaulipas / Brownsville, Texas on the Gulf of Mexico—runs through four U.S. states (California, Arizona, New Mexico and Texas) and six Mexican states (Baja California Norte, Sonora, Chihuahua, Coahuila, Nuevo León and Tamaulipas), areas of forbidding desert and urban sprawl, a wide variety of unique cultural landscapes and the fastest-growing industrial belt in Mexico. At their center is the border itself, which as the political scientist Peter Andreas reminds us, is both "the busiest land crossing in the world and one of the most heavily fortified." The borderlands are at the core of the deepening contradictions of economic integration of the United States and Mexico. Some observers—Mexican cultural critic Carlos Monsiváis among them—claim that they belong more to the domain of global “savage” capitalism than to either country. In this interdisciplinary seminar, we will explore the genesis of this region and its salient issues, from the mid-19th century through the late 20th century, as represented in historical narratives and documents, literature, film, music and visual art. Essays, oral presentations and exams; class participation is essential. Conducted in English. A reading knowledge of Spanish will be helpful, as some of the texts under study will include Spanish and Spanglish. Prerequisite: a course in literary, textual or cultural analysis.

Texts: Gloria Anzaldúa, Borderlands/La Frontera: The New Mestiza, 2nd Ed. (1999)
Borderlands: From Conjunto to Chicken Scratch, Music of the Río Grande Valley of South Texas and Southern Arizona (1993)
Ted Conover, Coyotes (1987)
Américo Paredes, With His Pistol in His Hand: A Border Ballad & Its Hero. 11th ed. (1958)
Bound packet of readings available at Gnomon Copy, 348 Boston Ave., Medford

Films:
Alfonso Arau, Like Water for Chocolate (Mexico 1991)
José Martinez, Sin fronteras / Without Borders (United States 1991)
María Novaro, El jardín del Edén / Garden of Eden (Mexico 1995)
Robert Rodríguez, El mariachi (United States 1995)
John Sayles, Lone Star (United States 1996)
Orson Wells, A Touch of Evil (United States 1958)
Robert Young, The Ballad of Gregorio Cortez (United States 1982)

SPN106 Literature and Revolution: Mexico and Cuba
Professor Juan Silva
Block: G+

This course will examine canonical literature of 20th century revolutions (the Mexican Revolution and the Cuban Revolution, foremost) and will go beyond it to consider a variety of social and political concerns: relations with the United States, interventions, guerrillas, repression, the Cold War, globalization, and the discourse of liberation. Among the authors studied will be Mariano Azuela, Martín Luis Guzmán, Nelly Campobello, Miguel Angel Asturias, Pablo Neruda, Ernesto Che Guevara, Gabriel García Márquez, Mario Vargas Llosa, Eduardo Galeano, Leopoldo Zea, Luisa Valenzuela, and Jean Franco.

SPN 150 Special Topics in Latin American Civilization
Professor Claudia Kaiser-Lenoir
Block: K+mw

This course will examine the main patterns shaping Latin American civilization and culture at the start of the new millennium. Particular emphasis will be placed on issues of ethnicity and hegemony as definers not only of all major historical processes of the Latin American past, but also of the main challenges of its present and future. Readings will encompass both canonical works as well as cultural production generated from the margins. Prerequisites: Spanish 31 or 34 and 32 or 35, or consent.
Texts: Eduardo Galeano, Memoria del fuego (3 volumes)
Bound packet of readings available at Gnomon Copy, 348 Boston Ave., Medford

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