

OFFICE OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS PROGRAM APPROVAL FORM



Undergraduate Graduate New Program Program Change

College: Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences Department: World Languages and Cultures

Program Title: Latin American Studies

Program Type: Major Minor Concentration Certificate

Total Credit Hours: 21-24 Effective Date: Spring/Fall 2017

Is the new program or change in existing program part of an accreditation requirement? *If so, please explain.* Yes No

Does this course involve academic units external to the originating college? *If so, deans of all colleges involved must sign this form.* Yes No

Attach a detailed description of proposed program to include the following: background information, academic justification, student need and demand, listing of courses with credit hour requirements or deletions, facility requirements, and any other pertinent information.

Department Chair:  Grad. Council: _____

College Dean:  Graduate Dean: _____

College Curriculum Committee: 

Undergrad Curriculum Cmte: _____ Provost: _____

Acknowledgements from other units:

Department Chair: _____ College Dean: _____

Proposed Program: Latin American Studies Minor

What is Latin American Studies?

Latin American Studies is an interdisciplinary program that includes Spanish language study as well as coursework examining the history, culture, politics, and literature of Latin Americans and U.S. Hispanics.

Background

Currently, the avenue for UAH students interested in a deeper study of Latin America is to pursue a Global Studies minor with an area studies concentration in Latin America, which includes 24 credit hours (6 credit hours of Spanish language, 6 credit hours of Global Studies courses, and 12 credit hours of courses related to Latin America, which are selected on an ad hoc basis). While this format provides flexibility, a well-defined Latin American Studies minor program would offer a clear blueprint for students to follow as well as a stronger focus on Latin America.

The proposed Latin American Studies minor would contain two tracks: 1) the basic track, for students not completing a B.A. in Spanish, and 2) the advanced track, for students simultaneously working on a B.A. in Spanish. The basic track includes 24 credit hours: 12 hours of Spanish language (introductory and intermediate levels), 6 credit hours of Latin American history, and 6 credit hours to be selected from various disciplines relevant to Latin America (English, Earth System Science, history, political science, and sociology) or 6 credit hours of advanced Spanish language, and study abroad. Spanish majors wishing to add a Latin American Studies minor to their program of study (which automatically includes Spanish language) would be required to take 6 credit hours of Latin American history and 15 credit hours from various disciplines relevant to Latin America or pursue study abroad in a Spanish-speaking country for a total of 21 credit hours.

This model has the potential to increase introductory and intermediate-level Spanish language course enrollments, attract Hispanic students who may not wish to pursue upper-level Spanish study but who do want to deepen their knowledge of their Hispanic heritage, and promote study abroad. This program should also enhance UAH's recruitment of Hispanic students as its presence in the curriculum will provide not only an opportunity for academic coursework, but also serve as an emblem of welcome to a campus that embraces diversity.

Most of the courses included in the following course listing require no explanation, but a few may call for clarification. ARH 103 (Non-Western Traditions) includes the study of art in the Americas. EH 439 (Ethnic American Novel) includes literature by U. S. Latino/Latina writers. ESS 210 (Collapse of Civilizations) and ESS 307 (Environmental Archeology) cover ancient indigenous civilizations of the Americas, such as the Mayas and Incas. SOC 415 (Sociology of Globalization) includes case studies of developing countries in Latin America, among other regions. The proposed Latin American Studies minor will follow the longstanding model of the UAH Women's and Gender Studies minor in determining appropriate program content.

Outline of the proposed minor program with course listing:

Course Requirements	Basic Track (for non-Spanish majors)	Advanced Track (for Spanish majors)
Required Spanish language	<p>24 credits</p> <p>WLC 101S Introductory Spanish I WLC 102S Introductory Spanish II WLC 201S Intermediate Spanish I WLC 202S Intermediate Spanish II</p>	<p>21 credits</p> <p>Included in major</p>
Required History Courses	<p>12 credits</p> <p>HY 381 Colonial Latin America HY 382 Modern Latin America</p>	<p>HY 381 Colonial Latin America HY 382 Modern Latin America</p>
Electives	<p>6 credits</p> <p>CHOOSE TWO:</p> <p>AHS 103 Non-Western Traditions EH 439 Ethnic American Novel ESS 210 Collapse of Civilizations ESS 307 Environmental Archeology HY 483 Women and Gender in Latin America HY 484 Latin American History Through Film PSC 440 Regional Studies/Latin America SOC 415 Sociology of Globalization</p> <p>OR CHOOSE BOTH: WLC 301S Spanish Conversation WLC 499S Advanced Spanish Conversation/Study Abroad</p>	<p>6 credits</p> <p>CHOOSE FIVE:</p> <p>AHS 103 Non-Western Traditions EH 439 Ethnic American Novel ESS 210 Collapse of Civilizations ESS 307 Environmental Archeology HY 483 Women and Gender in Latin America HY 484 Latin American History Through Film PSC 440 Regional Studies/Latin America SOC 415 Sociology of Globalization</p> <p>WLC 499S Advanced Spanish Conversation/Study Abroad</p>
Total Credits	<p>6 credits</p> <p>24 credits</p>	<p>15 credits</p> <p>21 credits</p>

Student need and demand

According to U.S. Census estimates, by the year 2050, 25% of the U.S. population is expected to be of Hispanic descent. Consequently, the Latin American Studies minor will likely be in some demand by Latino students interested in a program that addresses their Hispanic heritage but are not interested in a Spanish language major or minor. Furthermore, this program would provide an excellent complement to majors in Nursing, Business, and Engineering whose professions may bring them in contact with the growing Hispanic population in either the U.S. or abroad.

Facility requirements

No new facilities would be required for this program.

Faculty and staff position requirements

This program would require **no new faculty or staff positions**. All courses are already available for students to take in order to complete the program in a timely manner.

Sample four-year pathway for Latin American Studies Minor Student (non-Spanish major)

Fall

Year 1

WLC 101S (Introductory Spanish I)

Spring

WLC 102S (Introductory Spanish II)

Year 2

WLC 201S (Intermediate Spanish I)

WLC 202S (Intermediate Spanish II)

Year 3

HY 381 (Colonial Latin America)

HY 382 (Modern Latin America)

Year 4

One of the following:

ESS 210 (Collapse of Civilizations)

ESS 307 (Environmental Archeology)

HY 484 (Latin American History Through Film)

PSC 440 (Regional Studies: Latin America)

SOC 415 (Sociology of Globalization)

One of the following:

HY 483 (Women and Gender in Latin America)

EH 439 (Ethnic American Novel)

SOC 415 (Sociology of Globalization)

ARH 103 (Non-Western Traditions)

OR

WLC 301S (Spanish Conversation)

WLC 499 (Advanced Spanish Conversation)
in summer

**Sample four-year pathway for Latin American Studies Minor Student
(Spanish major)**

Fall

Year 1

WLC 101S (Introductory Spanish I)

Spring

WLC 102S (Introductory Spanish II)

Year 2

WLC 201S (Intermediate Spanish I)

WLC 202S (Intermediate Spanish II)

WLC 204 (International Cinema)

Year 3

WLC 301S (Spanish Conversation)

WLC 302S (Spanish Composition)

HY 381 (Colonial Latin America)

WLC 303S (Spanish for Life & Professions)

WLC 304S (Hispanic Culture)

HY 382 (Modern Latin America)

Year 4

WLC 305S (Introduction to Hispanic Literature)

WLC 404S (Seminar in Hispanic Literature)

WLC 410 (International Internship)

Five of the following in either fall or spring:

ESS 210 (Collapse of Civilizations)

HY 483 (Women and Gender in Latin
America)

ESS 307 (Environmental Archeology)

EH 439 (Ethnic American Novel)

HY 484 (Latin American History Through Film)

SOC 415 (Sociology of Globalization)

PSC 440 (Regional Studies: Latin America)

ARH 103 (Non-Western Traditions)

SOC 415 (Sociology of Globalization)