The University of Miami's Latin American Studies (LAS) program offers an interdisciplinary approach to the study of the politics, economics, cultures, and societies of Latin America and the Caribbean. Courses are offered in departments from every school and college at the University of Miami. Our students become true experts who can speak to a wide range of issues confronting Latin America, and are prepared to proactively contribute to development and cooperation, as well as to business and political analysis in the region.

Latin American and Caribbean Studies

Degree Programs

Undergraduate
- Major in LAS: 36 credits
- Minor in LAS: 15 credits
- Minor in Latin American Studies: 15 credits
- Minor in Caribbean Studies: 15 credits

Graduate
- Master of Arts in Latin American Studies: 30 credits
- Master of Arts in Caribbean Studies: 30 credits
- Master of Arts in Security Management: 30 credits

Honors Fellows in Latin American Studies (FILAS) 5-year BA/MA program
- Master of Public Affairs: 60 credits
- Master of Science in International Business: 60 credits
- Master of Science in Global Health: 60 credits

Course Topics
- Latin American History
- Caribbean Religions
- Latin American Cinema, Poetry, and Music
- Global Indigenous Studies
- Democracy, Development, and Democratization in Latin America
- Migration Studies
- Environmental Sustainability
- Afro-Latinx Cultures
- History of Latin America
- Brazilian Translations
- US-Latinx American Relations

LAS FAST FACTS

- Approximately 250 students
- Faculty: 4
- Specialize in Latin America and the Caribbean
- No GRE required
- 4 languages required for admission to the LAS graduate programs
- 45 million indigenous people in Latin America
- 14 study abroad opportunities in Latin America
- 37 language families in South America
- 55 million indigenous people in the world
- 35 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean
- There are 33 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean
- Brazil is the most populous Latin American country
- US-Latinx population is the 2nd largest ethnic group in the U.S.
- There are 14 million descents from Latin America in the U.S.
- 25% of the US population will be able to trace their lineage to Latin America
- Brazil is the 5th most populous country in the world
- There are 37 language families in South America
- Native speakers of Spanish, Portuguese, French, and Haitian Creole satisfy the LAS language prerequisite.
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Latin American Studies in Miami

Nearly half of Miami's residents were born in Latin America or the Caribbean, and many more trace their heritage and ancestry to the region. As such, Miami is unique in the United States, and indeed in the Americas as a whole, for its Latino-Americanidad. In Cuba, residents do not identify as Latino but as Cuban-American, Venezuelan-American, or Haitian-American and so on. In Miami, traditional stereotypes fall flat. Often described as the capital of Latin America, our city exists at the heart of Latin America or the Caribbean, and many more trace their heritage and ancestry to the region. As such, Miami is unique in the United States, and indeed in the Americas as a whole, for its Latino-Americanidad. In Cuba, residents do not identify as Latino but as Cuban-American, Venezuelan-American, or Haitian-American and so on. In Miami, traditional stereotypes fall flat. Often described as the capital of Latin America, our city exists at the heart of Latin America or the Caribbean; in Miami, we study the region both from a distance and from sites which are Latin American territory. There is no better place to study Latin America and the Caribbean; in Miami, citizens and residents experience the region first-hand. Traveling with a UM professor to specific areas in Latin America by field course provides students with the opportunity to become familiar with the region firsthand.

The ALAS program offers spring break travel courses that provide students with the opportunity to become familiar with specific areas in Latin America by traveling with a UM professor to experience the region firsthand.

- Chile, Bolivia Fieldwork in Coastal Management
- Havana & Cienfuegos, Cuba The Most Beautiful Latin American Locales Travel through Cuba
- Cala Rota, PortoVendos Field Experience in Archaeology
- Bocas del Toro, Panama Conservation, Tourism, and Development: Fieldwork in Coastal Management
- Arica & Chile Fieldwork in Coastal Management
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A key driver of student knowledge building and future career success is participation in internship and civic engagement projects. Our students have completed internships in Latin American, Latino, and Caribbean media, policy, advocacy, cultural, and financial institutions. Several students have gone on to earn paid positions with these organizations upon graduation.

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UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES

At the undergraduate level, the College of Arts & Sciences offers a major, a minor, and an honors BA. MA program in Latin American Studies. As well as a minor in Cuban Studies. These interdisciplinary programs offer excellent preparation for careers in international business, law, health, economic development, government service, education, healthcare, political science, emergency management, sustainability, or on to graduate study.

Major in Latin American Studies

Focuses 32 courses in two Latin American languages.

Minor in Latin American Studies

Required 5 courses including those taken as part of Cuban America.

MA in Latin American Studies

Required 5 courses with Optional internship coursework in the Cuban Heritage Collection at the Richter Library.

Followers in Latin American Studies (FLAS) Program for undergraduate and graduate students and Mediterraneum Bachelor/Masters degree in 5 years.

STUDY ABROAD

UM Latin America — Argentina, Brazil, & Chile

Students participating in this program will have the opportunity to experience a field semester in three of the most vibrant, cosmopolitan and coined cities in the world: Buenos Aires, Rio de Janeiro, and Santiago. This program offers students a unique opportunity to help them explore the dynamics of Latin American nations and their various cultures. With no language requirement, the ULatin America program is the perfect way to begin learning Spanish or Portuguese and to participate in an internship opportunity abroad.

Courses taken as part of ULatin America may be counted towards the LAS minor.

GRADUATE STUDIES

Master of Arts (MA) in Latin American Studies

For students looking to pursue careers in international business, law, health, economic development, government service, education, healthcare, political science, emergency management, sustainability, or on to graduate study.

MA in Cuban American Studies

For students interested in legal, governmental, and nonprofit positions in institutions with a Latin American/Caribbean focus.

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