



University of Miami
Latin American
& Caribbean Studies
Course Booklet
Fall 2019

UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI
LATIN AMERICAN
STUDIES PROGRAM



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Undergraduate Courses

LAS 101: Introduction to Latin American Studies

Section S, TuTh 3:30-4:45PM

Instructor: Tsang

This course will focus inter-disciplinarily on culture, economy, geography, history, politics, and society of Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as on the ways in which scholars have studied the region. The course objectives are to provide a contextual and theoretical understanding of the region's issues and peoples so that you can build a program of future study, critically assess information that you receive from mass media and elsewhere, dismantle common stereotypes and generalizations, and engage in self-directed inquiry about the region.

LAS 301: Contemporary Luso-Brazilian Film

Section R, TuTh 2:00-3:15PM

Instructor: Butterman

Portuguese, Brazilian, and Lusophone African cinema from the 1950s to the present. POR minors must complete all written assignments in Portuguese; others may opt to write in English, Portuguese, or Spanish. **Conducted in Portuguese.** Fulfills Humanities literature requirement.

LAS 301: Undocumented in America

Section R, TuTh 2:00-3:15PM

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.

LAS 340: Economics of Development and the Environment

Section TU, Th 5:00-7:40PM

Instructor: Weisskoff

Structural changes that accompany economic growth that impact the environment and sustainable development

LAS 350: Introduction to Literary Themes: Media, Technology and Gender: Revisiting Latin American Culture

Section Q, TuTh 12:30-1:45pm

Instructor: Grau-Lleveria and Lugo Herrera

This course proposes to analyze the influence of media and technology on Latin American and Caribbean literature, cinema and theater. With a historical perspective, the class will critically analyze how cultural products incorporate new media (such as photography, film, internet, email, social media, among others), and will pay attention to how technology affects gender and sexuality in these works. The class will include some theoretical texts to complement the readings and audiovisual materials. This class will provide students with a historical perspective on the relationships between technology and culture during the nineteenth, twentieth and twenty-first centuries, and will help them to analyze cultural texts in Spanish from other critical perspectives.

In addition to that, it will offer them the opportunity to understand the context and some of the most important debates in Latin America and the Caribbean. The students will be able to close-read, think, write, and talk critically about the subject. **The class will be conducted in Spanish.**

LAS 350: Introduction to Cultural Topics: García Márquez y los Beatles: El Boom y la Beatlemania

Section: D, MWF 11:00AM-12:05PM

Instructor: Vargas

Apart from the almost simultaneous release in 1967 of the novel *Cien años de soledad*, by Gabriel García Márquez, and the album *Sergeant Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band* by The Beatles, few have pondered the ways in which these productions and the artists themselves seem to be entangled with one another. This course reflects on some of the parallels and intersections in the life and work of García Márquez and the Beatles (John Lennon in particular), and delves into the connections between their seemingly non related composition of literary, visual, and sound artifacts during the 1960s. Thus, specific, and at times unexpected, correspondences are unfolded: fiction and reality, psychedelia and magic realism, Beatlemania and Latin American literary Boom, writing and songwriting, Aracataca and Liverpool, and Pepperland and Macondo. Through the exam of Beatles songs and Lennon's literary work, Beatles movies and documentaries, and through the analysis of excerpts from novels, movies, short stories and opinion columns written by García Márquez, the roundtrip between the two expressions of popular culture represented by the Colombian and the Englishmen is achieved. **The course will be taught in Spanish.**

LAS 360: Politics and Society in Latin America

Section: P, TuTh 11:00AM-12:15PM

Instructor: Blofield

Introduction to the politics of Latin American countries focusing on 20th century history, the impact of the Cold War and home-grown social struggles, economic development models, the difficulties of democratic consolidation, U.S- Latin America relations, the emergence of new political actors such as women's and indigenous movements, and current political constellations. The course combines a study of thematic issues with case studies.

LAS 494: Independent Study in Latin American and Caribbean Studies.

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 520: Seminar on Public Health: Latin America and the Caribbean

Section: JK, M 5:00-7:40PM

Instructor: Porcelain

A variety of contemporary global public health issues and policy challenges confronting Latin America and the Caribbean, considering large and small states. We will explore the broader relationship of global public health topics to the political, economic, social, cultural, ethical, ecological, environmental, and technological factors.

LAS 540: Latin American Media and Communications

Section: 33, MW 11:15AM-12:30PM

Instructor: Porcelain

This semester we will explore current issues, policies, and ethical considerations challenging planetary health. Students will learn to effectively communicate key issues and develop their own research through oral, written, and short film assignments. No film experience necessary. No prerequisites to enroll in this course.

LAS 560: European Union, Comparative Regionalism and Latin American Relations

Section: Q, TuTh 12:30-1:45PM

Instructor: Roy

This course will review first the fundamental dimensions of the European Union, its essence and its theoretical framework, and its potential as a model and point of reference for regional integration around the world in a comparative approach. After a summary consideration of comparing the EU's nature with other cases of regionalism, the course will deal with EU's linkages with the Americas, with a consideration of the North American Free Trade Area (NAFTA), as an example of the influence of the US-led model of regional integration and cooperation, and the planned Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) between the EU and the US, and its implications in Latin America. Discussions will also deal with the EU's practice of North-South development aid and cooperation in the Caribbean and Central America. The course will then review the links between the EU in the wide South American region, studying the development of regional cases such as the Andean Community and MERCOSUR, and newcomers such as UNASUR and the Community of Latin America and Caribbean States

(CELAC). The last part of the course will be dedicated to the special case of Spain's relations with Latin America.

LAS 580: The Beach: The Beach as Place, Space, and Event in World Historical Context

Section: O, TuTh 9:30-10:45am

Instructor: Nesvig

History of the beach as a particular geographic place and space in human history in comparative world context. Themes and issues include tourism, socio-economic factors in beach access, beach-related industries, immigration, cultural contact, exploration, "beach life," surfing, ethnicity, segregation, and politics of real estate.

Graduate Courses

LAS 601: Politics, Society, and Culture in Latin America

Section: S, TuTh 3:30-4:45PM

Instructor: Hughes

This seminar will provide an overview of some of the major topics central to understanding politics, society, and cultural production across Latin America. These topics include: colonial legacies and the imperatives of development and modernization; authoritarianism, civil war, and transitions to democracy; patterns of poverty, inequality, and class difference; social movements, civil society, and citizenship; cultural politics and the politics of culture; the ideals and shortcomings of democratic governance; neo-liberalism, globalization, and social media; and U.S. - Latin American relations.

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 640: Latin American Media and Communications

Section: 33, MW 11:15AM-12:30PM

Instructor: Porcelain

This semester we will explore current issues, policies, and ethical considerations challenging planetary health. Students will learn to effectively communicate key issues and develop their own research through oral, written, and short film assignments. No film experience necessary. No prerequisites to enroll in this course.

LAS 640: Contemporary Luso-Brazilian Film

Section R, TuTh 2:00-3:15PM

Instructor: Butterman

Portuguese, Brazilian, and Lusophone African cinema from the 1950s to the present. POR minors must complete all written assignments in Portuguese; others may opt to write in English, Portuguese, or Spanish. **Conducted in Portuguese.**

LAS 660: Theories of International Development

Section: P, TuTh 11:00AM-12:15PM

Instructor: Yaffe

This course introduces graduate students to the theoretical, methodological and empirical debates of international development. It takes an interdisciplinary approach to address some of the most relevant questions in the field: What are the ends and means of poverty alleviation? Why are some countries so rich while others remain so poor – and why are there so often huge development gaps within countries themselves? In what ways are poverty, human development, and quality of life best measured? How do different political actors wield influence over

development decisions? This course offers a foundation for uncovering and assessing how development theories influence institutions and also development policies. You will analytically examine some of the propositions that emerge from these theories, focusing on the merits and trade-offs of development strategies and programs. Particular attention will be paid to the impacts of development strategies on the most vulnerable members of society.

LAS 660: European Union, Comparative Regionalism and Latin American Relations

Section: Q, TuTh 12:30-1:45PM

Instructor: Roy

This course will review first the fundamental dimensions of the European Union, its essence and its theoretical framework, and its potential as a model and point of reference for regional integration around the world in a comparative approach. After a summary consideration of comparing the EU's nature with other cases of regionalism, the course will deal with EU's linkages with the Americas, with a consideration of the North American Free Trade Area (NAFTA), as an example of the influence of the US-led model of regional integration and cooperation, and the planned Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) between the EU and the US, and its implications in Latin America. Discussions will also deal with the EU's practice of North-South development aid and cooperation in the Caribbean and Central America. The course will then review the links between the EU in the wide South American region, studying the development of regional cases such as the Andean Community and MERCOSUR, and newcomers such as UNASUR and the Community of Latin America and Caribbean States (CELAC). The last part of the course will be dedicated to the special case of Spain's relations with Latin America.

LAS 681: Seminar on Public Health: Latin America and the Caribbean

Section: JK, M 5:00-7:40PM

Instructor: Porcelain

A variety of contemporary global public health issues and policy challenges confronting Latin America and the Caribbean, considering large and small states. We will explore the broader relationship of global public health topics to the political, economic, social, cultural, ethical, ecological, environmental, and technological factors.

LAS 694: Directed Readings in Latin America and Caribbean

Section: TBA

Instructor: Pestle or Knaul

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.

For any questions regarding the Latin American Studies Program, please contact, please contact the Program's Director:

Dr. William J. Pestle
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University of Miami
Coral Gables, FL 33124-2005
Email: w.pestle@miami.edu

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, Law and Public Policy, Public Health, or History.

<i>FILAS Curriculum</i>	
English Composition ¹	6
ENG 105 English Composition I	
ENG 106 English Composition II	
Mathematics, Computing & Statistics ²	3
Second Language ³	
Writing Across the Curriculum ⁴	
Cognates ⁵	9
Advanced Language Proficiency in Spanish, French, Portuguese, or Haitian Creole	3
Select one of the following:	
FRE 203 Advanced French	
HAI 201 Intermediate Haitian Creole I	
POR 202 Intermediate Portuguese II	
SPA 203 Advanced Spanish	
Secondary Language Competence in another Latin American or Caribbean Language	3
Select one of the following:	
FRE 105 Accelerated Elementary French	
HAI 102 Elementary Haitian Creole II ((or equivalent))	
POR 105 Beginning Portuguese for Spanish Speakers	
SPA 105 Accelerated Elementary Spanish	
FILAS Specific Requirements	
Select one gateway seminar in Latin American Studies	3
Select two History courses	6
Select two International Studies courses	6
Select two Economics courses	6
Select two advanced Languages and Literatures courses (SPA, POR, FRE, or HAI)	6
Select seven courses in Study Abroad	21
Select one course as Internship in Latin America	3
Select five courses above the 300-level (third-year) in a range of disciplines	15
Select ten courses in one focus track	30
MA Phase Requirements	
GRE Exam in Semester 7 or 8	
LAS 601 Interdisciplinary In Latin American And Caribbean	3

LAS 602 Research Design in Latin American Studies	3
Select two Regional Fundamentals courses	6
Select four electives from approved LAS or combined courses	12
LAS 810 Pre-candidacy thesis credits (students must enroll in two semesters of this 3-credit course to fulfill this requirement.)	6
Total Credit Hours	150

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.

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.