



University of Miami
Latin American
& Caribbean Studies
Course Booklet
Fall 2021

UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI
LATIN AMERICAN
STUDIES PROGRAM



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Greetings all!

As we look forward to Fall 2021, and a return to a more “normal”, post-COVID campus life, I wanted to offer a couple of reminders and course suggestions.

As many of you know, two years ago, Latin American Studies moved to a new model for course offerings. In addition to a small number of standard LAS core courses (LAS101, LAS601, etc.), we now list **all** the various courses that will count towards the major/minor or MA **by their originating department’s number**. Thus, in the catalog below, you will see very few LAS course numbers (e.g. LAS350, 360, etc.), and instead you will find courses listed by their home department’s numbers (e.g. INS362, POL697). This course booklet provides written proof that all these courses will still count towards your programs of study. Obviously, I am happy to answer any questions you all might have as you think about courses for the coming year!

For Fall of 2021, there are a few special/new courses that I would like to highlight:

- POR310: LGBTQ Brazil: Queering & Querying the Paradise of Paradox
- SPA322 and POR322: Social Justice and Cultural Production in Latin America
- SPA360: Global Caribbean Crossings in the Archives (Cuban Heritage Collection)
- GEG383: Geography and Development in South America
- ENG388: Caribbean Popular Culture
- HIS 551: Travels through Latin America
- HIS553: Studies in Colonial Latin American History: Culture Contact and Conquest in Latin America

All best,



Dr. P
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Undergraduate Latin American Studies Courses

LAS 101: Introduction to Latin American Studies

Section Q, Tu/Th 1:00pm-2:15pm

Instructor: Twichell

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.

INS 102: Global Economics

Sections O, Tu/Th 9:40am-10:55am

Instructor: Yaffe

or P, Tu/Th 11:20am-12:35pm

The international economy. This course develops the analytical tools underlying "the economic way of thinking" and applies them to two main topics: the environment and international trade.

INS 202: INS Methodologies

Section P, Tu/Th 11:20am-12:35pm

Instructor: Twichell

The approaches, methods and techniques used for designing and conducting international studies research.

HIS 254: History of the Cold War in the Americas

Section P, Tu/Th 11:20am-12:35pm

Instructor: Elena

Although the Cold War is commonly thought of as a bloodless standoff between the United States and the Soviet Union, this era in Latin America was one of enormous upheaval and violently "hot" conflict. This course will examine the causes and lasting consequences of political turmoil during the Cold War era (late 1940s to late 1980s). The readings and lectures will explore key issues such as the emergence of new political currents on the Left and Right, the impact of U.S. intervention on the domestic affairs of Latin American nations, armed struggle between advocates of revolution and counter-revolution, and the provocative cultural movements of the era.

FRE 302: The French Empire and its Other

Section P, Tu/Th 11:20am-12:35pm

Instructor: Perisic

This course examines key moments in French colonial history from the seventeenth century to the early twentieth century. Constructed in an interdisciplinary fashion, it draws from literary, political, philosophical and anthropological texts to introduce students to the history and culture of France and the French-speaking world. Readings bear on the nature of nation and citizenship, the tension between republic and empire, the dynamics of universalism and particularism, changing discourses of race and ethnicity. We will discuss major historical events that marked French colonial history including French expansion into the Caribbean, the French and Haitian revolutions, the colonization of Algeria and the beginnings of the anti-colonial movement. One of the goals of this class is to foster proficiency in the reading, writing, and speaking French. **The course and class discussions will be conducted in French. All readings are primary sources in French.**

FRE 303: Introduction to Contemporary Intellectual Movements of the Francophone Caribbean and its Diaspora

Section S, Tu/Th 4:20pm-5:35pm

Instructor: Joseph-Massena

This course is a survey of Francophone Caribbean Intellectual Movements of the 20th and 21st century. Drawing from literature as well as cinema, music and visual cultures from the French-speaking Caribbean and its diaspora, students will learn about several influential Caribbean intellectual movements and become familiar with key concepts associated with Caribbean thinkers and artists such as indigénisme, négritude, noirisme, antillanité, sprialisme, créolité and créolization. **The course and discussions will be conducted entirely in French.**

SPA 303: The Cultures of Spanish America: Encounters, Identities, and Cultural Expressions

Section D, Mo/We/Fr 11:45am-12:35pm

Instructor: Civantos

In this course we will explore the cultural history of Hispano-America, from pre-Columbian times to the present. Through a variety of texts, ranging from histories, literary works, and critical essays to music, art, and film, the course provides an overview of Hispano-America's foundational social and political structures and the artistic forms that these have produced. The course will cover topics such as indigenous belief systems and the encounter between indigenous cultures and Europeans, slavery and its legacy, the transition from colonial rule to nationhood, immigration from Europe and Asia, and emigration to North America and Europe. Throughout, an overarching theme will be coloniality, or the enduring traces of the ideologies behind the colonial enterprise. How do enduring colonial mindsets affect indigenous, mestizo, and Afro-descended peoples, as well as all those who identify in some way as "Latin American"? Intertwined with this, one of our goals will be to understand the construction of individual, community, national, and transnational identities connected to the term "Latin America"—and the ways in which different social actors contest these constructions. In this way, students will gain an understanding of the main historical processes, political trends, social dynamics, and artistic phenomena of Hispano-America and establish a base for more in-depth study in the future. **Most readings will be in Spanish and the class will be conducted entirely in Spanish.**

HIS 310: Africa in Cuba/Cuba in Africa

Section P, Tu/Th 11:20am-12:35pm

Instructor: Abaka

This course examines the relationship between Cuba and Africa from the period of the slave trade to the 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 examines the African contribution to the wars of independence and the period of the Republics down to the time of Cuban revolution. It will analyze the contribution of Cuba's Black population to the revolution and the impact of the revolution on race relations in Cuba.

POR 310: LGBTQ Brazil: Queering & Querying the Paradise of Paradox

Section T, T/Th 6:00pm-7:15pm

Instructor: Butterman

This interdisciplinary cultural studies seminar, conducted in English with optional break-out sessions in Portuguese, examines the relationship between burgeoning critical socio-political

movements and institutions and the language discourses used to configure and conceptualize them. More specifically, we will study characteristic that make life unique for sexual minorities in today's Brazil while also viewing Brazil in relation to global LGBTQ sociopolitical movements, critically assess the complex relationship(s) between the visual arts and political activism, carefully analyzing artistic representations of LGBTQ identities through photography, film, literature, visual arts, music, and other sources. Our journey together will also embark on interrogating the usefulness and the challenges of Brazil as a case study for understanding the cultivation of ambiguity in contemporary (re)constructions of queer life. As such, we will conduct a discourse analysis of the dynamics and features of the largest LGBT Pride Parade in the world (São Paulo, Brazil), while examining the limits and the potential of creating theoretical frameworks invested in promoting linkages between political activism and academic scholarship. Finally, we will analyze the intricacies of terminology Brazilian sexual and gender minorities have adopted and adapted, illustrating the development of LGBTQ identities through performative language use.

POL 316 and INS 310: Politics of Globalism

Section R, Tu/Th 2:40pm-3:55pm

Instructor: Gonzalez

Global politics, including the political and normative values that shape global politics: nationalism, internationalism, neoliberalism, empire, socialism. The format will include a focus on energy, as energy is arguably the basis of the global polity.

HIS 318: Modern Caribbean History

Section S, T/Th 4:20pm-5:35pm

Instructor: Ramsey

This course will introduce students to major topics, debates, and themes in Caribbean history from the late eighteenth century to the present day. Analyzing primary source documents and images will be a particular emphasis of our work throughout the semester, and on at least two occasions the class will meet in the UM Libraries Cuban Heritage Collection and Special Collections to examine and discuss archival resources connected to our studies.

SPA 321: ¿Qué Hacer con el Pasado?: La (re)construcción de la historia personal y política

Section E, Mo/We/Fr 1:00pm-1:50pm

Instructor: Civantos

This course will consider humans' relationship with the past and manifestations of this relationship in the Spanish-speaking world: what are the factors involved in constructing and transmitting individual and collective memory, how is history crafted to serve specific needs in the present, and how do individuals and communities creatively and productively address traumatic pasts? Examining how earlier historical periods are portrayed and invoked in literature, film, visual arts, and political campaigns will allow us to understand the relationships between historiography, ideology, and identity. Considering how individuals and communities respond to constructions of the past, or seek to reconstruct a silenced past, will provide insight into the relationships between narrative, creativity, justice, reconciliation, and resilience. We will explore how history is used (and possibly abused) to inform, critique, or heal experience in the present through specific case studies primarily taken from the literature and film of Spain, Cuba, and Argentina. **Although a few secondary readings will be in English, the course will be conducted entirely in Spanish.**

AMS 322 and AAS 290: Black Miami Studies

Section F1/F, Mo/We/Fr 2:15pm-3:05pm

Instructor: Francis & Allen

INS 322: Economics of Development and the Environment

Section AB, Mo 8:00am-10:45am

Instructor: Weisskoff

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

SPA 322 and POR 322: Social Justice and Cultural Production in Latin America

Section G, Mo/We 3:30pm-4:45pm

Instructors: Devine Guzmán
and de Moraes dos Santos

What is the role of cultural production in historical and ongoing struggles for social justice across Latin America? In this multi-lingual and transnational seminar, we seek to answer this question by examining the creation, reception, and use of literature, film, journalism, photography, and popular music in the Spanish- and Portuguese-speaking Americas, beginning in the early-twentieth century. Grounded in an understanding of social power that stems from the legacies of colonialism and the persistence of a colonialist order, students will examine a variety of individual and collective perspectives on “justice” as they relate specifically to categories of work, class, race, ethnicity, gender, sexual identity, national origin, political affiliation, and intersections thereof. Moving into the twenty- first century, we will also consider how recent debates over environmental justice and speciesism complicate longstanding efforts to theorize and realize more equitable societies. Over the course of the semester, students will develop a greater understanding of how diverse efforts to foster social justice have transformed over time; how those efforts relate to a variety of ongoing national projects; and how cultural production has served to reflect, advance, and sometimes hinder democratic ideas, institutions, and governance. **Prerequisite: SPA 301 or POR 212. While students will have an opportunity to engage cultural production from the Spanish-speaking Americas and Brazil, they need not be proficient in both language traditions to take this course.** SPA students will do their work in Spanish, and POR students will do their work in Portuguese. Students with the ability to work in both languages will develop a specialized plan in consultation with the instructors but should register for the section in which they seek language credit.

SPA 322: García Márquez and The Beatles

Section O, Tu/Th 9:40-10:55am

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 Marquez 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 class will be conducted in Spanish.**

REL 330: Caribbean Religion

Section Y: TBD

Instructor: Tsang

Caribbean Religion with an emphasis on African Diaspora and Creole religions. The religious traditions we will cover include: Rastafarianism, Regla de Ocha (Santeria), Voodoo, Espiritismo, Regla de Palo, and Obeah.

GEG 331: Sustainable Development

Section S, Tu/Th 4:20pm-5:35pm

Instructor: Cardoso de Silva

The concepts of sustainable development, its origins, and the global conventions associated with it. We use indicators of human well-being, governance, environmental conservation, social inclusion, and economic prosperity to evaluate how countries are making their development trajectories more sustainable. Although most of our discussion adopts a global perspective, the research conducted by students is focused on the challenges for implementing sustainable development policies in tropical and sub-tropical countries.

GEG 334: Biogeography and Conservation

Section G, Mo/We 3:30pm-4:45pm

Instructor: Cardoso de Silva

Explores the modern science of biogeography and its implications for the design of spatial strategies to conserve biodiversity and ecosystem services. Examines the history of biogeography and its geographical and ecological foundations. Discusses the fundamental biogeographical processes and uses them to investigate the evolution of biotas and explain the current biogeographic patterns. Explores the emerging field of conservation biogeography and its applications.

POL 340: Civil Wars

Section J, Mo/We 6:00pm-7:15pm

Instructor: Pishedda

Theories and empirical findings on the causes of civil wars, their termination and conduct. Questions addressed in the course include: Why do civil wars occur? Are economic or political causes more important? How do civil wars end? Are ethnic civil wars different from wars fought for political ideology or material gains? What role do natural resources play in civil wars? Why are civilians especially likely to be victimized in some civil wars but not in others? Why do warring parties resort to terrorism? How do civil wars end? What factors are more conducive to long-lasting peace?

POL 341: Nationalism, Ethnicity, and Political Conflict

Section K, Mo/We 7:40pm-8:55pm

Instructor: Pishedda

Examines theories of ethnic and national conflict focusing on contemporary issues throughout the world.

GEG 345: Global Water Security & Sustainability

Section Q, Tu/Th 1:00pm-2:15pm

Instructor: Stoler

Explores the physical, social, economic, and political dimensions of global water insecurity and the management of global drinking water supplies through an interdisciplinary social science lens.

GEG 346: Immigrant and Refugee Health

Section O, Tu/Th 9:40am-10:55am

Instructor: Moise

A theoretical background essential for understanding the complex interaction of migration and health. Students will gain a basic understanding of the theories surrounding the movement of people within and across political boundaries. Emphasis will be placed on the health issues experienced by displaced populations including refugees, migrants, and internally displaced persons. We will explore some of the difficulties that receiving communities face in addressing the health needs of migrants, the roles of actors involved in working with displaced populations and how emigration of a large segment of the population, either abruptly or over time, affects sending communities as well. Much of the class will consist of guest speakers and case studies presented by different healthcare professionals working with migrant communities, with examples of the problems faced and solutions achieved in addressing issues of immigrant and refugee health drawn for both national and international experience.

GEG 348: Climate Change and Public Health

Section JK, Mo 6:00pm-8:45pm

Instructor: Stoler

The mechanisms by which climate change adversely affects human health, and the policy options for mitigating our exposure.

INS 357: Global Food Policy: A Hands-on Approach

Section AB, Fr 8:00am-10:45am

Instructor: Weisskoff

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

REL 358: The Color of God: Race and Religion

Section Y, TBD

Instructor: Callender

This course will examine the role of race and ethnicity within the discipline of religious studies. We will emphasize the manner in which racial and ethnic identity have contributed to religious identity, and the way in which religion has functioned within the struggles of racially and ethnically marginalized peoples. This course will focus on the Americas and draw from diverse racial, ethnic, and religious traditions.

SPA 360: Global Caribbean Crossings in the Archives (Cuban Heritage Collection)

Section P, Tu/Th 11:20am-12:35pm

Instructor: Manzor

This course will focus on contemporary Caribbean culture, including the Caribbean diaspora in the US, and how that culture is archived. Focusing on theater, performance, and new media we will look at the following questions: How are national/regional identities constructed through theater? What role do archives play in constructing that identity? How does contemporary culture intervene in contemporary political processes? This course will be conducted seminar style and it involves an archive project requiring 20 hours at the Cuban Heritage Collection or at

an online/digital archive working on film outtakes in Cuba, Miami, and New York.

Prerequisites: SPA 301, SPA 302, SPA 303, SPA 307.

GEG 383: Geography and Development in South America

Section Q, Tu/Th 1:00pm-2:15pm

Instructor: Yaffe

An introduction to the geography of South America. Explores the interface between societies and nature in this diverse and complex world region. Covers the major challenges that the countries of the continent are facing to improve their socio-economic indicators as well as protect their unique natural ecosystems.

ENG 388: Caribbean Popular Culture

Section R, Tu/Th 2:40pm-3:55pm

Instructor: Saunders

This course introduces students to a wide range of texts that represent the complex relationships between politics, aesthetics, popular culture, performance and literature in the Caribbean region and its diaspora locations. Understanding cultural production in a “glocal” context (global and local simultaneously) is essential for reading and interpreting modes of representation produced and consumed in Caribbean contexts. We will consider the following questions: When culture travels, what are some of the values that accompany it, and what do these values tell you about the way an artist sees his/her society? Because a cultural form is “popular,” does this mean that its political power is lessened? In other words, can “popular culture” be a vehicle for social change? Does “popular culture” hold the same social and cultural value as the works we usually see in museums, art galleries, and other “high art” locations? How do we make these kinds of value judgments? Finally, can understanding popular culture make us better readers, writers, interpreters and citizens? We will consider texts from an array of disciplinary, cultural and historical perspectives to respond to these questions.

APY418: North American Native and Global Indigenous Perspectives: Stories of Resistance and Resilience

Section T, Tu/Th 6:00-7:15pm

Instructor: LaPorte (Anishinaabe)

Rooted in an Indigenous perspective, this course is intended to provide students with a critical overview of the experiences of Native and Indigenous Peoples within the United States and globally. Students will have the opportunity to learn about historical injustices and contemporary issues Indigenous people face and about the impact that Native-led social justice movements have in regards to these issues. Students will contrast Native and Global Indigenous worldviews, frameworks for approaching community issues (legal, spiritual, land-based, political, and cultural), and accompanying creation stories with those of the West. Students will be immersed in Indigenous teachings around kinship and language, and will have the opportunity to examine common historical, political, and modern impacts of colonization on Native and Indigenous ways of being and knowing. Participants in this course will be able to identify the different eras of federal Indian law and policy (pre-contact, contact, genocide and colonization, removal, allocation and assimilation, recognition, termination and self-determination) and be able to dive deeper into their own assumptions, which may or may not be based on inaccurate historical narratives. To this end, students will have gained a more accurate portrayal of the history of Native and Indigenous peoples and will develop an appreciation for the ongoing and historical experiences in these communities, as well as the resiliency and survivance found within. Participants in this course will have a solid understanding of the value systems in which

Indigenous teachings, stories, languages, and worldviews are rooted and be able to explain how these value systems have resisted colonial oppression since colonization.

SPA 446: Cultural Debates. Immigration and Exile (Multifocal Perspectives): Latinxs in South Florida (CIVIC)

Section Q, Tu/Th 1:00pm-2:15pm (ONLINE)

Instructor: Quesada-Gómez

This course is designed to give advanced students the opportunity to focus on spoken Spanish to formulate and sustain a personal perspective on contemporary issues. Using the format and techniques of public speaking and debate, the course will focus on several controversial issues within Hispanic cultures related to concepts such as transnational migration and exile. As a Service-Learning course, besides the academic component, we will work on how to address and relate with different kinds of immigrant or exile communities. Special attention will be given to economic, legal, and cultural issues that underprivileged immigrant and exile communities face in South Florida. Through in-class debates and presentations, service-learning, films, documentaries, and readings on (1) the historical contexts that have provoked the exodus of persons of Latin American origin to the United States and Europe throughout the 20th century to the present; and (2) the diverse histories behind Latin American peoples' mobility beyond national borders, students will not only expand their vocabulary, develop their stylistic expression, improve their spoken fluency and analytic/argumentative skills, or think critically about exile, migration, and the relationship between language and identity, but also will become global citizens (from the local) with personal and civic responsibility. **The class is conducted in Spanish and has a community-based learning component (CIVIC).** According to the American Association of Community Colleges, "service learning combines community service with academic instruction, focusing on critical, reflective thinking and personal and civic responsibility. Service-learning programs involve students in activities that address community-identified needs, while developing their academic skills and commitment to their community."

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

Section By arrangement

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.

ENG 495 and AAS 390: ROUTES AND ROOTS: Migration, Identity and Politics in African Diaspora Culture

Section P, Tu/Th 11:20am-12:35pm

Instructor: Saunders

Given the increasing focus and debate on immigration and its impacts on North America, the need to understand the integral nature of immigrant communities and their contributions to what we understand and refer to as America and American culture is more important now than it has ever been. Once more, the phenomenon of migration has such large implications on a global scale as natural disasters, political corruption, civil wars, and illicit transactions (of drugs, human trafficking, weapons, etc.) account for a larger share of income than any other sector of the GDP of many of the countries. There are also waves of intra-Caribbean migration also, from the town to the city in search of work, opportunity, even fame and fortune, not unlike those who migrate to the United States. However, we should not be fooled into believing that migration is a one-way street, or that Caribbean people are the only ones looking to capitalize on the opportunities

and benefits that mobility affords them. Before tourists began to see the Caribbean region as a desirable location for vacationing, wealthy businessmen were traveling the Caribbean region to invest in cash crops such as “sugar, coffee, bauxite, bananas and, more recently, oil. Once the value in these investment areas decreased, some of these same businessmen traded in their business attire for swimming trunks and exotic foods, drinks and experiences. After the trend of the very wealthy people vacationing in the Caribbean waned, the strength of the American dollar in the Caribbean made it possible for middle and working classed people to visit these “enchanted,” “laid back,” countries where their worries would melt away amidst the sun, sand and the beach.

LAS 495: Senior Honors Thesis I

Section By arrangement

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 By arrangement

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 By arrangement

Instructor: Pestle/Twichell

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 By arrangement

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.

POL 531: Global Environmental Politics

Section JK, Mo 6:00pm-8:45pm

Instructor: Gonzalez

Examination of the environment within the context of economic globalization. Contrasts the international trading regime and those regimes designed to protect the environment, with specific attention to the issues of global warming and bio-diversity. **Prerequisite: POL 203 or INS 101.**

INS 533: Transnational Social Movements

Section O, Tu/Th 9:40am-10:55am

Instructor: Kubalkova

Focuses on global civic activism and contentious politics, with particular attention to transnational non-state actors - NGOs, social movements, environmental protection, and the emergence of a global civil society.

HIS 551: Travels through Latin America

Section 42, Tu 2:40pm-5:25pm

Instructor: Elena

The societies of Latin America have long captivated the attention of explorers seeking wealth and conquest, scientific knowledge and religious conversion, and other encounters with the region's landscape and diverse peoples. These adventurers have journeyed enormous distances to unlock the continent's mysteries, traversing its remote jungle and mountainous areas as well as its sprawling urban centers. This seminar examines the experiences of foreign and domestic travelers over the course of the last two centuries in Latin America. Seminar members will look carefully at the shared assumptions of travelers and compare their modes of social investigation. In seeking a better understanding of the genre of travel writing and its historical significance, the course draws upon a variety first-person accounts, scholarly works, and films.

HIS 553: Studies in Colonial Latin American History: Culture Contact and Conquest in Latin America

Section 43, Th 2:40pm-5:25pm

Instructor: Nesvig

This seminar examines the process of cultural, political, linguistic, biological, sexual contact between Iberians and indigenous Americans and black Africans in Latin America. Using the old rubric of "the conquest" this course will examine the newer debates about the "new conquest history," the focus on indigenous peoples, the importance of religion—indigenous, African, and Iberian Catholic—in forming what we know as Latin America. The course has an emphasis on the case of Mexico, though we will also consider the cases of other parts of Latin America. This kind of course used to be called The Spanish Conquest of Mexico, but no one uses the rubric of conquest to explain this process anymore. Instead, we think of the Spanish-Mexica War, cultural contact, negotiation of power systems, resistance, and subaltern agency. Themes and topics may include disease and demography; local politics; indigenous community resilience; the world of the Spanish colonizers; hybridized Catholicism; language; and popular religion.

POL 566 and INS 599: Activism

Section J, Mo/We 6:00pm-7:15pm

Instructor: Hummel

Explores what activism is, the history and developments of activism around the world, and which activists strategies work best. Assignments will send students into the community to participate in local politics, work with local organizations, and engage in activism.

INS 569: Global Issues and Film Making

Section 31, Tu/Th 1:00pm-2:15pm

Instructor: Habashi, Moulioukova

Global issues and filmmaking studied via a transdisciplinary approach. Topical focus varies among health, foreign aid, human security, international development, and global urbanization.

INS 570: Globalization and Health

Section GJ, Mo 3:30pm-6:15pm

Instructor: Porcelain

Globalization and its benefits and threats to public health; the relationship between global economic, political, social, cultural, environmental and technological changes and their impact on human health.

INS 571: Global Health and International Development

Section GJ, We 3:30-6:15pm

Instructor Porcelain

Health and development links; macroeconomic policies and their impact on social equity; poverty and structural inequities; and other key issues that influence human development.

POL 592 and INS 537: International Political Economy

Section U, Tu/Th 7:40pm-8:55pm

Instructor: Gómez-Mera

This course introduces students to the study of International Political Economy (IPE). It combines a focus on the main theoretical and methodological approaches used in the study of IPE with the analysis of historical and contemporary issues.

Graduate Latin American Studies Courses

LAS 601: Interdisciplinary in Latin American and Caribbean

Section S, Tu/Th 4:20pm-5:35pm

Instructor: TBD

Required graduate-level introduction to interdisciplinary methods and politics of Latin American and Caribbean area studies.

GEG 603: Research Design in Geography

Section P, Tu/Th 11:20am-12:35pm

Instructor: Sheskin

Designing and proposing geographic research projects based upon a critical reading of the geographical literature. Students will prepare a master's thesis (master's students) or dissertation (doctoral students) project proposal.

LAS 605: Internship in Latin American and Caribbean Studies

Section By arrangement

Instructor: Pestle/Twichell

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 By arrangement

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.

SOC 609: Social Statistics

Section 01, We 6:00pm-8:30pm

Instructor: Petersen

Probability theory, descriptive statistics and tests of independence.

POL 610: Statistics for Politics and Public Administration

Section JK, Mo 6:00pm-8:45pm

Instructor: Ki

This course focuses on the use of statistics to conduct quantitative research (i.e., statistics) in political science and public administration. The course emphasizes hands-on data work. Students will learn how to perform political analyses – and present findings in an appropriate manner – using SPSS statistical software.

APY 611: Methods of Anthropological Research

Section D MWF 11:45am-12:35pm

Instructor: Page

Concentration on research methods for Cultural Anthropology.

INS 613: Transnational Social Movements

Section O, Tu/Th 9:40am-10:55am

Instructor: Kubalkova

Focuses on global civic activism and contentious politics, with particular attention to transnational non-state actors - NGOs, social movements, environmental protection, and the emergence of a global civil society.

GEG 625: Sustainable Development

Section S, Tu/Th 4:20pm-5:35pm

Instructor: Cardoso de Silva

The concepts of sustainable development, its origins, and the global conventions associated with it. We use indicators of human well-being, governance, environmental conservation, social inclusion, and economic prosperity to evaluate how countries are making their development trajectories more sustainable. Although most of our discussion adopts a global perspective, the research conducted by students is focused on the challenges for implementing sustainable development policies in tropical and sub-tropical countries.

GEG 625: Biogeography and Conservation

Section G, Mo/We 3:30pm-4:45pm

Instructor: Cardoso de Silva

Explores the modern science of biogeography and its implications for the design of spatial strategies to conserve biodiversity and ecosystem services. Examines the history of biogeography and its geographical and ecological foundations. Discusses the fundamental biogeographical processes and uses them to investigate the evolution of biotas and explain the current biogeographic patterns. Explores the emerging field of conservation biogeography and its applications.

APY628: North American Native and Global Indigenous Perspectives: Stories of Resistance and Resilience

Section T, Tu/Th 6:00-7:15pm

Instructor: LaPorte (Anishinaabe)

Rooted in an Indigenous perspective, this course is intended to provide students with a critical overview of the experiences of Native and Indigenous Peoples within the United States and globally. Students will have the opportunity to learn about historical injustices and contemporary issues Indigenous people face and about the impact that Native-led social justice movements have in regards to these issues. Students will contrast Native and Global Indigenous worldviews, frameworks for approaching community issues (legal, spiritual, land-based, political, and cultural), and accompanying creation stories with those of the West. Students will be immersed in Indigenous teachings around kinship and language, and will have the opportunity to examine common historical, political, and modern impacts of colonization on Native and Indigenous ways of being and knowing. Participants in this course will be able to identify the different eras of federal Indian law and policy (pre-contact, contact, genocide and colonization, removal, allocation and assimilation, recognition, termination and self-determination) and be able to dive deeper into their own assumptions, which may or may not be based on inaccurate historical narratives. To this end, students will have gained a more accurate portrayal of the history of Native and Indigenous peoples and will develop an appreciation for the ongoing and historical experiences in these communities, as well as the resiliency and survivance found within. Participants in this course will have a solid understanding of the value systems in which Indigenous teachings, stories, languages, and worldviews are rooted and be able to explain how these value systems have resisted colonial oppression since colonization.

INS 639: Global Health and International Development

Section GJ, We 3:30pm-6:15pm

Instructor: Porcelain

Health and development links; macroeconomic policies and their impact on social equity; poverty and structural inequities; and other key issues that influence human development.

INS 640: Globalization and Health

Section GJ, Mo 3:30pm-6:15pm

Instructor: Porcelain

Globalization and its benefits and threats to public health; the relationship between global economic, political, social, cultural, environmental and technological changes and their impact on human health.

GEG 648: Climate Change and Public Health

Section JK, Mo 6:00pm-8:45pm

Instructor: Stoler

The mechanisms by which climate change adversely affects human health, and the policy options for mitigating our exposure.

HIS 652: Travels through Latin America

Section 42, Tu 2:40pm-5:25pm

Instructor: Elena

The societies of Latin America have long captivated the attention of explorers seeking wealth and conquest, scientific knowledge and religious conversion, and other encounters with the region's landscape and diverse peoples. These adventurers have journeyed enormous distances to unlock the continent's mysteries, traversing its remote jungle and mountainous areas as well as its sprawling urban centers. This seminar examines the experiences of foreign and domestic travelers over the course of the last two centuries in Latin America. Seminar members will look carefully at the shared assumptions of travelers and compare their modes of social investigation. In seeking a better understanding of the genre of travel writing and its historical significance, the course draws upon a variety first-person accounts, scholarly works, and films.

HIS 655: Studies in Colonial Latin American History: Culture Contact and Conquest in Latin America

Section 43, Th 2:40pm-5:25pm

Instructor: Nesvig

This seminar examines the process of cultural, political, linguistic, biological, sexual contact between Iberians and indigenous Americans and black Africans in Latin America. Using the old rubric of "the conquest" this course will examine the newer debates about the "new conquest history," the focus on indigenous peoples, the importance of religion—indigenous, African, and Iberian Catholic—in forming what we know as Latin America. The course has an emphasis on the case of Mexico, though we will also consider the cases of other parts of Latin America. This kind of course used to be called The Spanish Conquest of Mexico, but no one uses the rubric of conquest to explain this process anymore. Instead, we think of the Spanish-Mexica War, cultural contact, negotiation of power systems, resistance, and subaltern agency. Themes and topics may include disease and demography; local politics; indigenous community resilience; the world of the Spanish colonizers; hybridized Catholicism; language; and popular religion.

INS 669: Global Issues and Film Making

Section 31, Tu/Th 1:00pm-2:15pm

Instructor: Habashi, Moulioukova

Global issues and filmmaking studied via a transdisciplinary approach. Topical focus varies among health, foreign aid, human security, international development, and global urbanization.

POR 691: LGBTQ Brazil: Queering & Querying the Paradise of Paradox

Section T, T/Th 6:00pm-7:15pm

Instructor: Butterman

This interdisciplinary cultural studies seminar, conducted in English with optional break-out sessions in Portuguese, examines the relationship between burgeoning critical socio-political movements and institutions and the language discourses used to configure and conceptualize them. More specifically, we will study characteristic that make life unique for sexual minorities in today's Brazil while also viewing Brazil in relation to global LGBTQ sociopolitical movements, critically assess the complex relationship(s) between the visual arts and political activism, carefully analyzing artistic representations of LGBTQ identities through photography, film, literature, visual arts, music, and other sources. Our journey together will also embark on interrogating the usefulness and the challenges of Brazil as a case study for understanding the cultivation of ambiguity in contemporary (re)constructions of queer life. As such, we will conduct a discourse analysis of the dynamics and features of the largest LGBT Pride Parade in the world (São Paulo, Brazil), while examining the limits and the potential of creating theoretical frameworks invested in promoting linkages between political activism and academic scholarship. Finally, we will analyze the intricacies of terminology Brazilian sexual and gender minorities have adopted and adapted, illustrating the development of LGBTQ identities through performative language use.

POL 692 and INS 637: International Political Economy

Section U, Tu/Th 7:40pm-8:55pm

Instructor: Gómez-Mera

This course introduces students to the study of International Political Economy (IPE). It combines a focus on the main theoretical and methodological approaches used in the study of IPE with the analysis of historical and contemporary issues.

LAS 694: Directed Readings in Latin America and Caribbean

Section By arrangement

Instructor: Pestle

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

POL 695 and INS 611: International Relations Methodology

Section P, Tu/Th 11:20am-12:35pm

Instructor: Blankenship

A seminar in Political Theory and Methods; designed to give the student a greater degree of insight and knowledge of a particular subject and to develop ability in the techniques of individual research, group discussion and analysis. The senior seminars may be taken in any sequence.

POL 696: Activism

Section J, Mo/We 6:00-7:15pm

Instructor: Hummel

Explores what activism is, the history and developments of activism around the world, and which activists strategies work best. Assignments will send students into the community to participate in local politics, work with local organizations, and engage in activism.

LAS 697: Readings for the Comprehensive Exam

Section By arrangement

Instructor: Pestle

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

HIS 717: Field Preparation: Modern Caribbean History

Section 47, Fr 2:15pm-5:00pm

Instructor: Ramsey

This seminar focuses on major topics, questions, and debates in Caribbean history from the late nineteenth century to the present. Students will have the chance to discuss a wide range of historical scholarship on the circum-Caribbean, with an emphasis on influential recent directions in the field.

HIS 721: Historiography

Section 48: Tu 9:40am-12:25pm

Instructor: Heerman

The philosophy, theory, and practice of history.

LAS 810: Pre Candidacy Thesis Credits

Section By arrangement

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 By arrangement

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 By arrangement

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.

AND DON'T FORGET THE VARIOUS ZERO-CREDIT GRADUATE-LEVEL LANGUAGE CLASSES OFFERED BY MLL!

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. In addition to a number of LAS “native” courses (i.e. courses that have an explicit LAS course number), courses in the program can be taken 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
Merrick Hall 214EC
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 U-Buenos Aires or the new U-Latin America 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.