

*University of Miami*

*Latin American Studies*

*Fall 2018 Course*

*Booklet*

UNIVERSITY  
OF MIAMI

LATIN AMERICAN  
STUDIES PROGRAMS



<http://www.as.miami.edu/LAS/>

## 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.

### 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, Public Health, or History.

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

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

<sup>1</sup> **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).**

<sup>2</sup> 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.

<sup>3</sup> 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.**

<sup>4</sup> Degree candidates must complete at least four writing courses, and at least one such course must be in the student's major discipline.

<sup>5</sup> 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 College 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.

## **LAS graduate programs**

The interdisciplinary graduate programs in LAS offer excellent preparation for careers in international business, law, banking, work in philanthropy, economic development, the environment, government service, education, health care, journalism. At the graduate level, the Latin American Studies program offers a stand-alone Master of Arts, and three joint graduate programs. Below, you will find links to relevant information for these courses of study.

### **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 Kreyol. 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.

## **Fall 2018 course catalog**

### **Undergraduate Courses**

#### **LAS 101: Introduction to Latin American Studies**

TuTh 9:30AM - 10:45AM                      Instructor(s): Douglas Fuller

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: Colonial Spanish American Topics**

Time: TBA    Instructor: TBA

Historical survey of the arts, letters, science, and political and social institutions in Spanish-speaking Americas. Topics within Latin American literatures and cultures from the colonial centuries. May be repeated for credit if topics vary.

\*Cross-listed with SPA 303: The Cultures of Spanish America

#### **LAS 301: Spain and the Globalization of the Amerindian**

MWF 1:25pm-2:15pm                      Instructor: Diaz Balsera

The momentous year of 1492 inaugurated one of the most dramatic chapters of the early modern period as the world became ever more bounded and interconnected. With an emphasis in Mexico and Peru, students in this course will learn about Mesoamerican and Andean ways of thinking, representing and relating to the world. As part of this learning experience we will have at least one visit to Special Collections in the Richter Library in order to see unique facsimile editions of pre-Hispanic and colonial indigenous codices recording traditional knowledge. In class, students will examine visual cultural productions and primary texts throughout the three Spanish-American colonial centuries in which the Amerindians were memorialized, narrated, contested and disputed in their pre-Hispanic past and colonial modernity by Spanish, criollo, mestizo, and indigenous authors. Students will then consider how indigenous worldviews were both transformed and retained as Amerindian peoples responded to the modern/colonial discourses of Spanish Christianity, and how mixed forms of historical consciousness and cultural identities emerged as a result. The course will close with the autobiography and documentary about the Mazatec(-Mexican) shaman and healer Maria Sabina, as a case study of how Christianity was negotiated and adapted in the twentieth century from within a living indigenous worldview. The class is conducted in Spanish but students who are not Spanish majors or minors may write their papers in English and may consult translations of readings whenever available.

\*Cross-listed with SPA 353 Colonial Spanish American Topics. Prerequisite: SPA 301 or 302 or 303 or 307

### **LAS 301: History of Mexico: Guns and Tortillas, or, How Mexico Became Mexican**

TuTh 9:30-10:45am

Instructor: Nesvig

This class examines the development of Mexican identity and exceptionalism. The focus of the course is on the cultural ideology of modern Mexico and on the political upheavals associated with the 1910 Revolution. Topics will include: the emergence of Mexican cuisine; ethnicity and politics; social movements; Zapatismo; and radicalism of the Mexican Revolution. Additionally the course attempts to understand how and why Mexico not only became unique culturally but how that cultural uniqueness was developed and promoted in cinema, television, muralists and artists, and an aggressive exportation of the image of Mexican uniqueness to an international market.

\*Cross-listed with HIS 253 Modern Mexico

### **LAS 301: Modern Latin American History**

TuTh 12:30-1:45pm

Instructor: Elena

This course offers an introduction to the history of Latin America from the early nineteenth century to the present. No prior knowledge of Latin America is required. Course members will consider the following questions: What do the diverse countries of the vast area that we now call “Latin America” have in common? How have different ideas of progress and modernization been applied over time in these countries? How did Latin America become a region celebrated for its enormous material resources and cultural riches, yet also one that contains some of the most unequal societies in the world? In seeking answers to these complex questions, the course also provides a deeper understanding of relations between the United States and its southern neighbors, including by considering shared issues such as migration, the drug trade, and democracy. Through the course assignments, students will hone their talents for historical interpretation, including critical thinking and writing skills that are essential for success at UM (the “hemispheric university”) and after graduation.

\*Cross-listed with HIS 162 Modern Latin America.

### **LAS 301: Modern Caribbean History**

TuTh 2:00pm-3:15pm

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, images, and objects will be a particular emphasis of our work throughout the semester, and on 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. From the Haitian Revolution and its far-reaching effects across the Atlantic world and beyond, to the expansion of the sugarcane economy and slavery in Cuba, we will examine large-scale social movements of the formerly enslaved and their descendants over land, labor, and political representation, and consider the experiences of Indian, Chinese, and African indentured workers in post-emancipation Caribbean societies. We will then study decolonization and political independence in the Caribbean. Our study of Puerto Rican “transnationalism” will open to larger discussions about Caribbean diaspora. Throughout the course students will be challenged to recognize the diversity of the region, while thinking comparatively and synthetically about its political, economic, social, and cultural histories.

\*Cross-listed with HIS 318 Modern Caribbean History

**LAS 350: Interpreting Literary and Cultural Texts in Portuguese**

MWF 3:35pm-4:50pm

Instructor: Butterman

Portuguese 301 (Introduction to Literary Genres) surveys selected materials from various genres of Luso-Afro-Brazilian literatures. One of the central aims of the course is to further develop critical writing and reading skills for non-native and heritage speakers.

Note: POR minors must complete all written assignments in Portuguese. Other enrolled students may opt to write in English, Spanish, or Portuguese.

\*Cross-listed with POR 301 Interpreting Literary and Cultural Texts in Portuguese

**LAS 350: The Caribbean through Literary and Cultural Studies**

Time: TBA

Instructor: TBA

The study of the Spanish Caribbean through literary and cultural studies. May be repeated if topics vary.

\*Cross-listed with SPA 360 The Caribbean through Literary and Cultural Studies

**LAS 360: Politics and Society in Latin America**

TuTh 11:00-12:15pm

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.

\*Cross-listed with POL 385 Politics and Society in Latin America

**LAS 370: Comparative Media Systems**

Tu 5-740pm

Instructor: Hughes

This course deals with issues in international news gathering and distribution, giving special attention to Latin America and the Caribbean. The class takes a comparative approach, looking at media systems in the United States and other nations.

\*Cross-listed with JMM 510 Comparative Media Systems.

**LAS 370: Cinema from the Spanish Speaking World in Translation**

TTh 2:00pm-3:15pm

Instructor: Schifani

Speculative Futures: Sci-Fi and Fantastic Cinema in the Spanish Speaking World: This course will explore a broad range of films produced from a wide range of geographical and cultural contexts. Focused specifically on the speculative and the fantastic, this course will look at cinema that imagines an as yet unknowable future or remakes the present or the past in ways that refuse adherence to the laws (sometimes physical, sometimes social) governing the real world. These films will be paired with literary and theoretical texts such that students will be able to appropriately ground each specific film in historical and cultural terms, develop the ability to engage in close analysis of a cinematic object, and also understand cinema more broadly as a technology that shaped social and political life globally. The films will include works by directors such as Guillermo del Toro, Alex Rivera, Alejandro Jodorowsky, Alejandro González Iñárritu, and others.

\*Cross-listed with SPA 318 Cinema from the Spanish-Speaking World in Translation

\* Satisfies requirements for the Spanish major or minor, Prerequisite: English 106 or equivalent.

**LAS 494: Independent Study in LAS**

Time: TBA Instructor: Pestle

Independent study leading to a thesis, original piece of research, or creative project on a Latin American or Caribbean subject.

**LAS 495: Senior Honors Thesis I**

Time: 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**

Time: 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**

Time: TBA Instructor: Pestle

On-site experience in business, governmental organization, or non-profit organization dealing with Latin America and/or the Caribbean.

**LAS 506: Civic Engagement In Latin America**

Time: TBA Instructor: Pestle

On site experience in a civic engagement project in Latin America or the Caribbean.

**LAS 550/650: Afro-Caribbean Religion: Healing and Power**

Fr 2-430pm Instructor: Ramsey

This seminar studies Afro-Caribbean religious histories and cultures with a particular interest in questions of healing and power. Focused in these ways, the course will illuminate how Afro-Caribbean spirituality has been subject to multiple regimes of law and has also empowered practitioners over the course of Caribbean history. Topics will include the repression of Afro-Caribbean ritual under slavery and colonialism, and how spiritual practices have been a key locus and resource for popular political struggle. In reflecting on the central place of healing in Afro-Caribbean religion we will study medical knowledge among enslaved people and free people of color as part of the intellectual history of the Atlantic world. We will also examine how nineteenth and twentieth century medical institutions sought both to discredit and also to draw from Afro-Caribbean “folk” medicine. Throughout the semester we will consider the complex interconnections among Caribbean religious communities, and in so doing interrogate the concept of “religion” itself. We will work on case studies from across the Caribbean, as well as from Brazil and the United States, and our texts will include historical studies, ethnographies, legal documents, films, and a novel.

\*Cross-listed with HIS 554/564 Afro-Caribbean Religion: Healing and Power

**LAS 560/660: European Union, Comparative Regionalism, and Latin American Relations**

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, then 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 then will deal with the EU's practice of North-South development aid and cooperation in the Caribbean and Central America.

\*Cross-listed with INS 594

## **Graduate Courses**

**\*LAS 550/650: Combined with undergraduate course. See above for course description.**

**\*LAS 560/660: Combined with undergraduate course. See above for course description.**

**LAS 601: Politics & Society in Contemporary Latin America**

TuTh 12:30-1:45pm

Instructor: Devine Guzman

This seminar's objective is to provide a broad overview of the major topics central to understanding contemporary Latin American politics and society. These topics include: (1) development models, market restructuring, and globalization; (2) military regimes, authoritarian legacies, and transitions to democracy; (3) patterns of poverty, inequality and class cleavages; (4) democratization and its discontents; (5) the emergence of new social movements and more autonomous civil societies; (6) the role of political culture; (7) debates about the quality of democratic governance; and (8) possible future scenarios for alternative political and economic trajectories.

**LAS 605: Internship in Latin American and Caribbean Studies**

Time: 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**

Time: 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 660: Special Topics in Comparative Politics**

TuTh 2:00pm-3:15pm

Instructor: Yaffe

This seminar is designed to introduce graduate students to the broad and diverse field of Comparative Politics. It proceeds from the assumption that the best way to learn about Comparative Politics is to look at some of the leading scholars and the “Big Books” that have shaped the field. We will first examine the historical development and trends of comparative politics, including the epistemological issues in comparative political inquiry. We will also focus on the logic and process of comparison and methodologies in comparative political studies. We will then turn to comparative analysis done within and across nations and a discussion of debates on comparative historical analysis, state formation, democracy and development, democratization, and the role of ideas, interests, and institutions. These debates will entail the examination of several major books, each exemplifying one (or more) of the principal contending theoretical frameworks in contemporary Comparative Politics.

\*Cross-listed with INS 630

**LAS 694: Directed Readings in Latin America and Caribbean**

Time: TBA

Instructor: Pestle

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**

Time: TBA

Instructor: Pestle

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

**LAS 810: Pre Candidacy Thesis Credits**

Time: 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**

Time: 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**

Time: 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.