Latin American Studies (BA)

Students who complete the major in Latin American Studies will explore the region through three main avenues of study: (1) history; (2) economics, political science, and business; and (3) literature, language, and culture. Students are encouraged to specialize in one of these pillars while incorporating the program’s multidisciplinary perspective. Since the following catalog course descriptions are very general, students are urged to consult the detailed course descriptions available on the web site for the School of Arts and Humanities. At least one-half of the semester credit hours for a major must be taken at UT Dallas. Courses in Latin American Studies are open to all students in the University.

Bachelor of Arts in Latin American Studies

Degree Requirements (120 semester credit hours)

View an Example of Degree Requirements by Semester

Faculty

I. Core Curriculum Requirements: 42 semester credit hours

Communication: 6 semester credit hours

COMM 1311 Survey of Oral and Technology-based Communication
RHET 1302 Rhetoric

Mathematics: 3 semester credit hours

Choose one course from the following:
MATH 1306 College Algebra for the Non-Scientist
MATH 1314 College Algebra
Or select any 3 semester credit hours from Mathematics core courses

Life and Physical Sciences: 6 semester credit hours

Select any 6 semester credit hours from Life and Physical Sciences core courses (see advisor and degree requirements)

Language, Philosophy and Culture: 3 semester credit hours

HUMA 1301 Exploration of the Humanities
Creative Arts: 3 semester credit hours
Select any 3 semester credit hours from Creative Arts core courses (see advisor)

American History: 6 semester credit hours
Choose two courses from the following: (see advisor)
  - HIST 1301 U.S. History Survey to Civil War
  - HIST 1302 U.S. History Survey from Civil War
  - HIST 2301 History of Texas
  - HIST 2330 Themes and Ideas in American History

Government / Political Science: 6 semester credit hours
  - GOVT 2305 American National Government
  - GOVT 2306 State and Local Government

Social and Behavioral Sciences: 3 semester credit hours
Select any 6 semester credit hours from Social and Behavioral Sciences core courses (see advisor)

Component Area Option: 6 semester credit hours
Select any 6 semester credit hours from Component Area option courses (see advisor)

II. Major Requirements: 60 semester credit hours

Introduction to Latin America Preparatory Requirement: 3 semester Credit Hours
  - HIST 2350 Latin American Civilizations

Foreign Language Requirement: 12 semester credit hours of Approved Language
The language requirement is 12 semester credit hours, or equivalent, of the same language, usually Spanish, or another approved language of relevance to Latin American Studies. Students can petition the Program Head for exceptions. If the language credit is obtained without taking classes, twelve additional semester credit hours of Free Electives (upper-division or lower-division) can be taken by student.

Latin American Studies Major Core Courses: 18 semester credit hours
  - HIST 3398 Colonial Latin American History
  - HIST 3399 Modern Latin American History
  - IPEC 4304 Political Economy of Latin America
    or PSCI 4332 Latin American Politics
LATS 3301  Latin American Literature
SPAN 4315  Study Abroad in Spanish (or approved equivalent)³
HIST 3397  Study Abroad in Latin America (or approved equivalent)³

Latin American Studies Major Electives: 27 credit hours
All students are required to take at least six credit hours from each of the three thematic pillars in Latin American Studies, plus nine additional free electives.

History Electives
All students are required to take at least six semester credit hours of approved courses. May not overlap with major core requirements.
   HIST 3391  Modern Mexico
   HIST 4369  Topics in Borderlands History
   HIST 4359  Topics in Latin American History
   HIST 3397  Study Abroad in Latin America (may be repeated as topics vary)³

Politics and Economics Electives
All students are required to take at least six semester credit hours of approved courses. May not overlap with major core requirements.
   CRIM 3319  Comparative Justice Systems⁴
   GEOG 2302  The Global Environment⁴
   GEOG 3304  Principles of Geospatial Information Sciences⁴
   GEOG 3359  Human Migration and Mobility: Global Patterns⁴
   GEOS 2321  Geology, Resources, and Environment of Latin America
   IMS 3091  Regional Management Area Studies: Latin America
   or IMS 3V91  Regional Management Area Studies: Latin America
   IPEC 4304  Political Economy of Latin America
   PSCI 4331  Mexican Politics
   PSCI 4332  Latin American Politics
   PSCI 4347  The War on Drugs
   PSCI 4348  Terrorism⁴
   SOC 3336  Culture Regions⁴

Cultural Studies Electives
All students are required to take at least six semester credit hours of approved courses. May not overlap with major core requirements.
LANG 4348  Advanced Topics in Language
LIT 3329  Ethnic American Literature
SPAN 3340  Advanced Medical Spanish
SPAN 3363  Spanish Composition and Style
SPAN 3365  Advanced Spanish I
SPAN 3366  Advanced Spanish II
SPAN 4301  Advanced Spanish Conversation
SPAN 4302  Spanish Conversation and Community
SPAN 4364  Advanced Spanish Culture
SPAN 4315  Study Abroad in Spanish (may be repeated as topics vary)

Latin American Studies Free Electives

Select any 9 semester credit hours from the History Electives, Political and Economics Electives, and Cultural Studies Electives. May not overlap with major core requirements.

III. Elective Requirements: 18 semester credit hours

Free Electives: 18 semester credit hours

Both upper- and lower-division courses may be used as electives, but students must complete at least 51 semester credit hours of upper-division courses to qualify for graduation.

Incoming freshmen must enroll and complete requirements of ARHM 1100.

1. Incoming freshmen must enroll and complete requirements of UNIV 1010 and the corresponding school-related freshman seminar course. Students, including transfer students, who complete their core curriculum at UT Dallas must take UNIV 2020.
2. Curriculum Requirements can be fulfilled by other approved courses from institutions of higher education. The courses listed are recommended as the most efficient way to satisfy both Core Curriculum and Major Requirements at UT Dallas.
3. A total of six semester credit hours of immersion study abroad in Latin America are required for the major. Study abroad courses, including those offered by other UT Dallas schools/programs, such as the Naveen Jindal School of Management, must be approved by program director.
4. Topics courses, CRIM 3319, GEOG 2302, GEOG 3304, GEOG 3359, PSCI 4348, and SOC 3336 must be approved by the School of Arts and Humanities before enrolling to ensure that the course subject matter is predominantly Latin American.

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