The Latin American Studies Program provides a framework for studying the diverse societies of Latin America. With its cultural mosaic shaped by the meeting of Native American, European, African, and Asian peoples, and its profound geographic, social, and economic variations, Latin America presents rich opportunities for interdisciplinary and cross-cultural study. By drawing upon the perspectives and methodologies of several disciplines, students are challenged to pursue a deeper understanding of the cultures, institutions, and experiences of Latin Americans. The program provides a forum for examining the intersection of issues of politics, economic development, ethnicity, gender, religion, and cultural expression.

Students interested in exploring Latin American Studies as a possible major/minor are strongly encouraged to enroll in at least one or several gateway courses, that is any 200-level course from our course list. We encourage you to take HIST 170 (Modern Latin America), POSC 221 (Latin American Politics), Latin America), and SPAN 242 (Introduction to Latin American Literature) early in your career at Carleton.
Latin American Studies Courses

Courses in Bold Offered in 2022-2023

LTAM 100: Politics of Memory in Latin American Literature
LTAM 110: Portuguese for Spanish Speakers
LTAM 270: Chile’s 9/11: History and Memory Since the Coup
LTAM 300: Issues in Latin American Studies
LTAM 370: Brazil Culture and Politics
LTAM 371: Brazil Research Seminar LTAM 382: Conflict Development: Peru 1980-Present
LTAM 398: Latin American Forum
AMST 130: Latinx Social Movements
AMST 220: Producing Latinidad
AMST 396: Producing Latinidad
ARCN 111: Archaeology of the Americas
ARCN 211: Material Histories of Labor
CAMS 295: Cinema in Chile and Argentina – FLAC
CAMS 296: Cinema and Cultural Change in Chile and Argentina
ECON 240: Microeconomics of Development
ECON 241: Growth and Development
ECON 242: Economy of Latin America
ECON 244: Gender, Race and Ethnicity in Latin American Economic Development
ENGL 119: Introduction to U.S. Latino/a Literature
ENGL 227: Imagining the Borderlands
ENGL 241: Latinx Voices in the Age of Trump
HIST 100: Unknown Latin America
HIST 170: Modern Latin America 1810-Present
HIST 179: Modern Latin America through Music
HIST 275: Latin American Immigration to the US

Héctor Melo Ruiz, Assistant Professor of Spanish teaches contemporary Latin American film and literature.

Al Montero, Frank B. Kellogg Professor of Political Science, teaches courses on Latin American politics and political economy, European and international political economy, and comparative democratization, authoritarianism and corruption.

Constanza Ocampo-Raeder, Associate Professor of Anthropology, teaches a series of courses in environmental anthropology, conservation and development, food and culture, as well as ecological anthropology.

Yansi Pérez, Professor of Spanish, Associate Provost and Director of Advising, offers courses about the detective novel in Latin America, Myth and History in Central America, Postwar Central American Literature and Culture, and Race and Nation in the Caribbean. (Not teaching 2022-2025)


Pedro Quijada, Visiting Assistant Professor of History, teaches courses in modern Latin America, including Migration and Memory Studies, History & Literature, and History & Music.
Victor Almeida, Assistant Professor of Economics, teaches courses on the economy of development and Latin America.

Jorge Brioso, Professor of Spanish, teaches twentieth century Peninsular Literature and Film at Carleton as well as Latin American Literature.

Adriana Estill, Professor of English and American Studies, teaches courses on U.S. Latino/a literature and twentieth century American literature, especially poetry.

Andrew Fisher, Professor of History, offers surveys of Latin American colonial and post-colonial history, as well as seminars on Mesoamerican and Andean society and culture, Mexican nationalism, the Inquisition, and the African Diaspora in Latin America. (On sabbatical 2022-2023)

Sarah Kennedy, Robert A. Oden, Jr. Postdoctoral Fellow for Innovation in the Humanities and Archaeology, teaches courses on archaeological methods, North and South American archaeology, labor and coercion, ancient urbanism and food/cuisine.

Silvia L. López, Maxine H. and Winston R. Wallin Professor of Spanish and Latin American Studies, teaches XIX and XX century Latin American literature and culture at Carleton, and the LTAM 300 Advanced Seminar.

Ingrid Luna, Visiting Research Assistant Professor of Spanish, currently teaching in the Spanish language program.

HIST 279: Central American Revolutions
POSC 120: Democracy and Dictatorship
POSC 221: Latin American Politics
POSC 322: Neoliberalism and the New Left in Latin America
POSC 323: Revolutionary Latin America
POSC 325: Corruption, Clientelism, and Political Machines
POSC 227 Contemporary Capitalisms
RELG 227: Liberation Theologies
SOAN 203: Anthropology of Good Intentions
SOAN 233: Anthropology of Food
SOAN 234: Ecology, Economy, and Culture
SOAN 250: Ethnography of Latin America
SOAN 313: Woke Nature: Towards an Anthropology of Non-Human Beings
SOAN 323: Mother Earth: Women, Development and the Environment
SOAN 333: Environmental Anthropology
SOAN 343: Advanced Ethnographic Workshop
SOAN 353: Ethnography of Latin America
SPAN 218: Intro to Latin American Cinema
SPAN 220: Racism, Immigration, and Gender in Contemporary Latin American Narrative
SPAN 242: Introduction to Latin American Literature
SPAN 262: Myth and History in Central American Literature
SPAN 263: History of Human Rights
SPAN 266: Postwar Central American Literature
SPAN 277: The Poem as Artifact
SPAN 319: Works on Work: Films and Literature on Labor in Latin America
SPAN 321: Murder as a Fine Art: The Detective Novel in Latin America
SPAN 323: The Other American Revolutions
SPAN 330: Cervantes’ Don Quijote
SPAN 356: Political and Cultural History of the Cuban Revolution
SPAN 358: The Spanish Civil War
SPAN 360: Race and Nation in Caribbean Literature
SPAN 366: Jorge Luis Borges
SPAN 371: Yours Truly: The Body of the Letter
SPAN 376: Mexico City: The City as Protagonist
SPAN 380: Dispossession, Gentrification, and Reoccupation in Latin America
Requirements for Major

Students complete a minimum of 66 credits in approved courses for the major. Majors must also demonstrate competence in Spanish by completing Spanish 205 or the equivalent.

The following core courses are required of all majors
HIST 170: Modern Latin America, 1810-present
LTAM 300: Issues in Latin American Studies
LTAM 400: Integrative Exercise

In addition, majors are required to complete: Two 300-level Latin American literature courses, one 300-level History or Social Science course focused on Latin America, and 30 additional credits of electives.

*Up to 27 credits from work in approved off-campus programs may be counted as electives for the major. Up to twelve credits may be comparative or Latino in focus. No more than 24 credits in any one discipline may apply to the major.

The following table outlines the required courses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HIST 170</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LTAM 300</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LTAM 400</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>300-level Literature</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>300-level History</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>300-level Science</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional Electives</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students are strongly encouraged to complete the 300-level history or social science course prior to writing their integrative exercise, and to select a 300-level course in a discipline appropriate to the focus of their anticipated comps topic. Students who complete this requirement with a 300-level history course must take at least one approved social science course as an elective.

Requirements for Minor

The Latin American Studies Minor provides students with a framework for developing a deeper understanding of Latin American history, society, and culture from an interdisciplinary perspective, and is intended to complement a disciplinary major. Students pursue a program of study combining language training with courses in the humanities and social sciences,

HIST 170: Modern Latin America, 1810-present
LTAM 300: Issues in Latin American Studies
LTAM 398: Latin American Forum

- 6 credits in Latin American Literature (above SPAN 219 and not in translation)
- 6 credits from the list below in an advanced course in the Social Sciences (200-300 level in Economics, Political Science, or Sociology and Anthropology)
- An additional 12 elective credits focusing on Latin America (and/or U.S. Latino Literature) from the list below or relevant off-campus studies programs (Carleton or non-Carleton affiliated).
- Students who minor must also complete Spanish 204 or equivalent.

Career Corner

What can I do with a LTAM major/concentration?

Latin American Studies helps students cultivate skills in critical thinking, writing, and research. As demonstrated in the graph below, the program’s alumni pursue a wide variety of careers, attesting to the breadth of these skills.

120 majors and concentrators since 1990 hold jobs in the following areas:

- Business/Finance/Sales
- Education (Pre K-12)
- Legal Professions
- Healthcare
- Higher Education
- Social Service/Advocacy
- Science/Lab Research
- Communications/Media
- Other Careers
- Peace Corps/AmeriCorps/Teach for America
- Government/Public Service
- Arts/Museums
- Environment/Agriculture
- Info Systems/Technology/Library