Latin American Studies

Students who have particular interest in the cultures and societies of Latin America and would like to study them from a comparative, interdisciplinary perspective, may major or minor in Latin American Studies. This program offers a wide range of courses, covering different aspects of pre-Hispanic, colonial and modern cultures, and connecting the study of ancient traditions with contemporary debates. Survey courses and seminars incorporate approaches from cultural theory; historical, political and anthropological analysis; and cultural studies. Washington University, with its Latin American Studies program, was one of the 10 founding institutions funded by a Ford Foundation grant in 1964. Students in this track generally acquire a high level of competency in Spanish and/or Portuguese, depending on the field of specialization. Our overseas programs in Chile, Ecuador and Mexico would be especially appropriate for students of Spanish as well as for those interested in conducting fieldwork in these regions.

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PhD, Stanford University  
(History)

The Major in Latin American Studies

Total units required: 33 graded units plus four semesters of a Latin American language.

Required courses:

• LatAm 165C Survey of Latin American Culture (3 units)
• Latin American history course: either LatAm 321C Introduction to Colonial Latin America or LatAm 322C Modern Latin America (3 units)
• Latin American political science course: either LatAm 326B Latin American Politics or LatAm 4231 Contemporary Issues in Latin America (3 units)
• Latin American anthropology course at the 300- or 400-level (3 units)
• Latin American Pre-Columbian Cultures course at the 300- or 400-level (3 units)
• Three elective courses at the 300- or 400-level (9 units total)
• A capstone experience is required for students whose prime major is LAS. The capstone may be fulfilled by any of the following three options: an honor’s thesis, a direct research project or the completion of the LAS seminar (3 units) with a grade of B or better. Students using the LAS seminar as their capstone option must take two additional 400-level courses home-based in or cross-listed with LAS.
• Advanced Latin American Studies course work (6 units). May be fulfilled by 400-level courses cross-listed with LatAm or by a combination of one such course and thesis work.

Regulations/requirements:

• Completion of all course work with a grade of C+ or higher; all courses for the major must be taken for a letter grade.
• No more than 6 units may be from a semester of study abroad (9 units from a year of study abroad, or a semester plus a summer of study abroad) (400-level units must be earned on campus or in Washington University courses taught abroad).
• For those who do not study abroad, an additional 3 units at the 300- or 400-level are required.
• Students must fulfill the language requirement by taking four consecutive semesters of Spanish or Portuguese, regardless of the level of placement, ideally consistent with their study abroad location.
• No more than 3 units may be from directed readings, research or internships excluding the honors thesis.

Additional Information

Language Requirement for the Major in Latin American Studies: All majors in Latin American Studies are required to complete four consecutive semesters of course work in Spanish or Portuguese, regardless of their placement when arriving at the university. LAS majors are encouraged to consider a minor or a double major in Spanish.

Study Abroad: Majors are strongly encouraged to study abroad in one of Washington University’s overseas programs during junior year or the summer. Some credit for courses taken abroad may be applied to the major. For those who do not study abroad, an additional 3-unit course at the 300- or 400-level is required.

Senior Honors: Students who have maintained a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.65 or above may apply to work toward Latin honors by writing an honors thesis during senior year.

The Minor in Latin American Studies

Total units required: 18 graded units plus four semesters of a Latin American language.

Requirements:

• LatAm 165C Survey of Latin American Culture (3 units)
• Latin American history survey course: either LatAm 321C Introduction to Colonial Latin America or LatAm 322C Modern Latin America (3 units)
• Latin American politics survey course: either LatAm 326B Latin American Politics or LatAm 4231 Contemporary Issues in Latin America (3 units)
• Two upper-level elective courses at the 300- or 400-level (6 units total)
• Latin American Seminar: a 400-level course home-based in LAS (3 units)

Regulations:

• Completion of all minor course work with a grade of C+ or higher; all courses for the minor must be taken for a letter grade.
• No more than 3 units may be from independent study or research.
• No more than 3 units may be from a semester or summer of study abroad (6 units from a year of study abroad, or a semester plus a summer).
• All advanced units must be unique to the Latin American Studies minor (i.e. not counted toward any other major or minor).

Additional Information

Language Requirement for the Minor in Latin American Studies: All minors in Latin American Studies are required to complete four consecutive semesters of course work in Spanish or Portuguese, regardless of their placement when arriving at Washington University. LAS minors are encouraged to consider a minor or a major in Spanish.

Study Abroad: Students are strongly encouraged to study abroad in one of Washington University’s overseas programs during junior year or the summer. Some credit for courses taken abroad may be applied to the minor.

L45 LatAm 165C Survey of Latin American Culture
This class is an introduction to Latin American Studies. At the end of the semester, students will be able to recognize some of the main issues in Latin American politics, history and culture, both in the region at large and in the specific regions and sub-regions within it. Students develop research tools to approach the study of Latin America. The class begins a discussion on the concept of Latin America and then proceeds to case studies regarding the cultures of different regions. Prerequisite: none. This class is required of majors and minors in Latin American Studies and fulfills some requirements of IAS majors.

Same as IAS 165C
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH, CD A&S: IQ, LCD BU: IS FA: SSP

L45 LatAm 301L Historical Methods: Latin American History
This is a small-group reading course in which students are introduced to the skills essential to the historian’s craft. Emphasis is on acquiring research skills, learning to read historical works critically, and learning to use primary and secondary sources to make a persuasive and original argument. See Course Listings for current topics. Required for history majors. Preference given to history majors; other interested students welcome.

Same as History 301L
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, LCD BU: IS FA: SSP

L45 LatAm 3092 Indigenous Peoples and Movements in Latin America
An overview of Amerindian peoples, cultures, and contemporary socio-political movements in core indigenous regions of Latin America (the Maya highlands of Mexico and Guatemala, and the Andes, Chaco, and Amazon of South America). Expressions of indigenous cultural, linguistic, and social difference are considered in relation to histories of European colonialism and modern Latin American nation-building. Emphasis is placed on current dimensions of indigenous demands for territorial, political, and cultural rights in the context of global economic development, natural resource exploitation, military violence, and legal recognition of ethnic pluralism in some Latin American nation-states.

Same as Anthro 3092
Credit 3 units. A&S: SS, CD, SD A&S: IQ, SSC, LCD BU: ETH FA: SSP

L45 LatAm 3093 Anthropology of Modern Latin America
Same as Anthro 3093
Credit 3 units. A&S: SS A&S: IQ, SSC BU: IS EN: S FA: SSP

L45 LatAm 310C Ancient Civilizations of the New World
An examination of the Inca empire in Peru, and the Maya and Aztec empires in Mexico, through the inquiry into the roots, development, form, and evolutionary history of pre-Colombian civilization in each region from its earliest times to the rise of the classic kingdoms. Examples of respective artistic accomplishments are presented and discussed.

Same as Anthro 310C
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH, CD A&S: IQ, LCD BU: HUM FA: AH

L45 LatAm 312 Hispanic Culture and Civilization II
Same as Span 312
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH, CD BU: BA FA: SSP

L45 LatAm 321C Introduction to Colonial Latin America
This course surveys the history of Latin America from the pre-Columbian civilizations through the Iberian exploration and conquest of the Americas until the Wars of Independence (roughly 1400–1815). Stressing the experiences and cultural contributions of Americans, Europeans and Africans, we consider the following topics through primary written documents, firsthand accounts and excellent secondary scholarship, as well as through art, music and architecture: Aztec, Maya, Inca and Iberian civilizations; models of conquest in comparative perspective (Spanish, Portuguese and Amerindian); environmental histories; consolidation of colonialism in labor, tributary and judicial systems; the “Empire of Towns”; race, ethnicity, slavery, caste and class; religion and the Catholic Church and Inquisition; sugar and mining industries, trade and global economies; urban and rural life; the roles of women, gender and sexuality in the colonies. Geographically, we cover Mexico, the Andes and, to a lesser extent, Brazil, the Southwest, Cuba, Haiti and the Southern Cone.

Same as History 321C
L45 LatAm 322C Modern Latin America
Latin American history from Independence to the present. Topics covered include the Wars of Independence; slavery and indigenous people in new Latin American nations; postcolonial Latin American state and society; ideas of race and ethnicity in Latin America and the Caribbean; U.S.–Latin American relations; Peron, Vargas and Populism; the Mexican and Cuban Revolutions; the Cold War in Latin America; Latin American arts and popular culture; terror and violence under military dictatorships and popular resistance movements; and the left-turn in recent Latin American politics.
Same as History 322C
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH, CD, A&S: IQ, HUM, LCD BU: IS FA: SSP

L45 LatAm 326B Latin American Politics
This course is an introduction to the politics in Latin America, focusing on the trend toward the establishment of democracy. We examine the impact of political culture, economic development, and the legacy of authoritarian regimes on contemporary politics. The course also reviews many of the most pressing challenges confronting governments Latin American governments: the role of the military in politics, the reform of political institutions, threats from radical guerrillas and drug traffickers, debt and economic restructuring, and relations with the United States. Country studies focus on Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Peru, Mexico, and Nicaragua. Prerequisites: 100-level introductory course in Political Science or its equivalent in History or IAS.
Same as Pol Sci 326B
Credit 3 units. A&S: SS, CD A&S: IQ, SSC BU: S FA: SSP

L45 LatAm 331 Hispanic Art/Arte Hispano
This course focuses on the most important movements, artistic expressions and its representatives of the art history of Latin America and Spain. From the pre-Columbian art of the Mayas, Aztecs and Incas, to the syncretism of Postcolonial Latin American art, the Mexican Muralism and the self-reconstruction portraits of Mexican artist Frida Kahlo to the Chicano Art in the United States. From the Medieval paintings of religious Spain, to the criticism of the Spanish nobility by Diego Velazquez, the Spanish Civil War of Guernica by Pablo Picasso, to the Surrealism of Salvador Dali and Antonio Gaudi. The students visit the St. Louis and the Kemper Art Museums. Prerequisite: Span 308E. May be used for elective credit in the Spanish major or minor. In Spanish.
Same as Span 331

L45 LatAm 3351 The Ancient Maya: Archaeology and History
This course focuses on the ancient Maya civilization because there are many exciting new breakthroughs in the study of the Maya. The Olmec civilization and the civilization of Teotihuacan in the Valley of Mexico are considered as they related to the rise and development of the Maya civilization. The ancient Maya were the only Pre-Columbian civilization to leave us a written record that we can use to understand their politics, religion and history. This course is about Maya ancient history and Maya glyphic texts, combined with the images of Maya life from their many forms of art. The combination of glyphic texts, art and archaeology now can provide a uniquely detailed reconstruction of ancient history in a New World civilization.
Same as Anthro 3351
Credit 3 units. A&S: SS, CD A&S: IQ, SSC, LCD BU: S FA: SSP

L45 LatAm 3352 Spanish-American Literature of the Long 19th Century
This survey examines the changing roles of literature and its creators during the period that saw the end of the powerful Spanish empire and the emergence of the political framework of independent nations we are familiar with today. Students are introduced to prominent themes such as independence writing, the experience of race in literature, romanticism, civilization vs. barbarism, the appeal of literature to popular classes, modernism, the place of literature in nation building and in shaping national identity, and the idea of the past as present. Prerequisite: Span 307D or permission of instructor; concurrent enrollment in Span 308E is allowed; completion of Span 308E is recommended. In Spanish.
Same as Span 3352
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, HUM, LCD, LS EN: H FA: AH

L45 LatAm 335C Spanish-American Literature I
A survey of major figures and literary trends in Spanish America from 1492 to Modernismo (1880). Emphasis on the writings of either Colón or Columbus, Cortés, Bernal Díaz, Las Casas, Inca Garcilaso de la Vega and Aztec reactions to the Conquest in the early period and on Sor Juana in colonial times. After the period of independence from Spain (1810–24), the focus is on the literary representation of the making of the new nations, and cultural autonomy. Readings include chapters of a picaresque novel, the representation of dictatorship, civilization vs. barbarism, the gaucho epic, and 19th-century fiction. Lectures and class discussions of the readings; exams, papers, and short reports. Prerequisites: Span 307D; concurrent enrollment in Span 308E is allowed; completion of Span 308E is recommended. In Spanish.
L45 LatAm 336C Spanish-American Literature II
A survey of major Latin American literary works focusing on canonical works of the 20th and 21st centuries in their cultural and historical contexts. The course includes discussions of major literary movements such as the avant-gardes, the Boom, and the post-Boom. Other topics may include the literary and cultural responses to revolution, dictatorship and the evolving definitions of Latin America. Authors may include Quiroga, Neruda, Guillén, Vallejo, Borges, Cortázar, Rufio, Carpentier, García Márquez, Poniatowska, Fuentes, Ferré and others. Prerequisites: Span 307D; concurrent enrollment in Span 308E is allowed; completion of Span 308E is recommended. Same as Span 336C
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH, CD A&S: IQ, HUM, LCD, LS BU: IS FA: Lit

L45 LatAm 343 Latin American Literatures and Cultures
Same as Span 343
Credit 3 units.

L45 LatAm 3520 Conquest and Colony: Cultural Encounters in the New World
Same as History 3520
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH, CD A&S: IQ, HUM, LCD EN: H

L45 LatAm 356 Andean History: Culture and Politics
Since pre-Columbian times, the central Andean mountain system, combining highlands, coastal and jungle areas, has been the locus of multietnic politics. Within this highly variegated geographical and cultural-historical space, emerged the Inca Empire, the Viceroyalty of Peru — Spain’s core South American colony, and the central Andean republics of Ecuador, Peru and Bolivia. Taking a chronological and thematic approach, this course examines pre-Columbian Andean societies, Inca rule, Andean transformations under Spanish colonialism, post-independence nation-state formation, state-Indian relations, reform and revolutionary movements, and neo-liberal policies and the rise of new social movements and ethnic politics. This course focuses primarily on the development of popular and elite political cultures, and the nature and complexity of local, regional and national power relations.
Same as IAS 356
Credit 3 units. A&S: SS, CD A&S: IQ, SSC, LCD EN: S

L45 LatAm 3800 Surveys of Hispanic Cultures
This course surveys cultures in specific contexts (Latin America and Spain) and in different historical periods, from the Middle Ages to the present. The course provides students with critical and methodological tools in order to carry out an articulate and informed cultural analysis. Prerequisites: Span 307D; concurrent registration in Span 308E is recommended. In Spanish. Topics vary from semester to semester. See section description for current offering.
Same as Span 380
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH, CD A&S: IQ, HUM, LCD BU: ETH EN: H

L45 LatAm 381 Mexican Visual Culture
Same as IAS 381
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, HUM EN: H

L45 LatAm 382 Latin American DissemiNations: Migrations and Identities in the 20th and 21st Centuries
Same as IAS 382
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH, SD A&S: IQ, HUM, SD BU: IS EN: H

L45 LatAm 3824 Film and Revolution in Latin America
This class is a Writing Intensive course focused on the study of the way in which four landmark Latin American revolutions (The Independence Wars, The Mexican Revolution, The Cuban Revolution and The Bolivarian Revolution) are represented in cinema. Each one of these revolutions constitutes a unit of study, and students are expected to work with historical texts, films and works of film theory and criticism for each one of them. The course engages in subjects such as the difference between fiction and nonfiction films when representing history; the politics that underlie specific representations; the way in which cinema questions and revises ideas developed by historians; and the uses of film in creating popular views of history in Latin America. Students develop a research project comparing two revolutionary processes over the semester. Prerequisite: L97 IAS 165C (Survey of Latin American Cultures) for LAS majors. Otherwise none.
Same as IAS 3824
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH, WI A&S: IQ, WI EN: H

L45 LatAm 383 Reading the Scores: Understanding Brazilian Music through Social Categories
Same as IAS 383
Credit 3 units. A&S: SS, WI A&S: IQ, SSC, WI BU: IS EN: S

L45 LatAm 38YM Imagining the African Diaspora: Slavery, Black Radicalism and Globalization (WI)
Same as History 38YM
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH, CD, SD, WI A&S: IQ, HUM, LCD EN: H

L45 LatAm 3951 Blacks, Latinos and Afro-Latinos: Constructing Difference and Identity: WI History Seminar
Same as History 395L
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH, CD, SD, WI A&S: IQ, HUM, LCD EN: H

L45 LatAm 4107 Latin America and the Rise of the Global South
The rise of the global south — and the reordering of global geopolitics, economics and cultural imaginaries — is characterized by progressive change and intense conflict. Economic growth coincides with the impacts of global warming, the assault on natural resources, the rise of new consumers and the entrenchment of deep inequalities. We also see the emergence of cultural and political formations that range from the horrific to the inspiring. Latin America is a central node of the new global south. Here history takes unpredictable turns in the face of declining U.S. hegemony, the economic growth of Brazil, legacies of militarism and political violence, a feverish attack on nature, resurgent economic nationalism, and defiant “anti-globalization” movements. Through close reading of contemporary ethnographies of Latin America we explore emergent cultural and political-economic processes in the region, we consider south-south articulations (theoretical, cultural, political-economic) between Latin America, China, Africa and India, and we reflect on the changing role, meaning and relationships of the United States in the region.
Same as Anthro 4102
Credit 3 units. A&S: SS, CD A&S: IQ, SSC, LCD EN: S

L45 LatAm 416 Latin American Theater
Survey of dramatic and theatrical currents from the late 19th century to the present. The course focuses on tracing the themes of nationalism, cultural identity, immigration, class displacement and the effects of consumerism in representative plays from the Rio de la Plata, Chile, Colombia and Mexico. The course studies manifestations of the sainete, the grotesco criollo, theater of the absurd, as well as the popular independent theater movements of the ’60s and ’70s. Theoretical works studied include those of Brecht, Piscator, Esslin. Authors studied: Dragún, Payró, Cossa, Wolff, Sánchez, Diaz, Carballido, Gambaro, Buenaventura. Prerequisites: Span 307D and Span 308E and at least two 300-level literature courses taught in Spanish. One-hour preceptorial for undergraduates only; in Spanish.
Same as Span 426
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH, SD FA: AH

L45 LatAm 4231 Contemporary Issues in Latin America
How do the institutional designs of contemporary democratic governments help us understand the nature and quality of representation? We concentrate on variations in the powers granted presidents by constitutions as well as the institutional determinants of whether executives are likely to find support for their policies in the legislature. In addition, we explore how incentives established by electoral laws influence the priorities of members of congress. Given all these variations in democratic institutional design, can voters go to the polls with the confidence that politicians will implement the economic policies for which their parties have long stood or which they promised in their campaigns?
Same as Pol Sci 4231
Credit 3 units. A&S: SS A&S: IQ, SSC BU: IS FA: SSP

L45 LatAm 4240 Latin American Literature and Theory: Reading the State, Culture and Desire
In this course, we pair literary and theoretical texts in order to hone a way of reading in which theory and literature are mutually informative, provocative and inspiring. The idea of these loose groupings is not to prescribe a particular relationship between given literary and theoretical texts but rather is a way to begin negotiating the necessarily multiple relationships of theory and literature. These pairings come to seem more artificial over the course of the semester as we trace a network of relations that begins to look more and more like the Borgesian map that covered up the entire territory it described. The object of the course is, thus, not to define or prioritize a particular set of relations but rather to practice a way of reading literature theoretically and theory literarily, by which the strengths of both are allowed to come to the forefront in their complexity. Thematically, the course has several nuclei: the triangulation of State, culture and art (Piglia/Foucault, Burman/Agamben); a psychoanalytic approach to art as desire (Lispector/Lacan/ Cixous); and finally, a third nucleus about which the first two commingle completely: ”post-State,” proliferating desire, libidinal economies wherein the State is anachronism and failure (Arlt/ Deleuze; Sorín/Virilio/Sitrin, Sassen; Bolaño/Zizek). Readings may include: Piglia, Foucault, Agamben, Arlt, Deleuze, Virilio, Sassen, Borges, Benjamin, Bolaño, Zizek, Lispector, Lacan, Cixous, as well as the films Garaje Olimpo and Historias mínimas. Prerequisites: Span 307D, Span 308E and at least two 300-level literature courses taught in Spanish. One-hour preceptorial for undergraduates only; in Spanish.
Same as Span 424
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, HUM, LCD EN: H

L45 LatAm 425 Latin American Studies Capstone Project
For LAS majors who are completing a research project as their capstone.
Credit 3 units.
L45 LatAm 4263 The Erotics of Violence in Latin America
Same as Span 4261
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, HUM, LCD EN: H

L45 LatAm 428 Spanish-American “Traditional” Novel
This class focuses on a selection of aesthetically and socially representative 19th- and early 20th-century Spanish-American novels. Integrating a wide range of sources (critical essays, paintings, film), we explore abolitionist issues in *Sabel* (Cuba), the reinvention of Amerindian legacies in *Aves sin nido* (Peru), and the different facets of modernization and nation-building in *Los de abajo* (Mexico) and *La vorágine* (Colombia). Students should finish the course with a broader knowledge of Spanish-American literary history, a deeper understanding of textual representations of gender, class and multiethnic identities, and a sharper awareness of your potential as a reader and critic. Significant selections of pertinent criticism and theory are required of graduate students. Prerequisites: Span 307D, Span 308E and at least two 300-level literature courses taught in Spanish. One-hour preceptorial for undergraduates; in Spanish. Same as Span 4281
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH, SD FA: Lit

L45 LatAm 430 Latin American Essay
Study of the principal movements and outstanding figures in the Spanish-American essay from the colonial period to the present. Sor Juana, Sarmiento, Alberdi, Marti, Rodo, Paz, Freire, Ortiz, Sabato, H.A. Murena. Prerequisites: Span 307D, Span 308E and at least two 300-level literature courses taught in Spanish. One-hour preceptorial for undergraduates only. In Spanish.
Same as Span 430
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, HUM, LCD FA: Lit

L45 LatAm 4301 Print and Power in 19th-Century Latin America
Open to advanced undergraduate and graduate students, this seminar covers one of the most fascinating periods in Latin America history and cultural production, spanning from the eve of the wars for independence to eve of the Mexican Revolution (1800–1910). Several reasons make this period and the connections between print media or print culture and power worthwhile. This long century was the most war-torn in the region’s history. Not only did writers engage issues of war on what was almost a daily basis, but war generated a wealth of new modes of literature. Debates on the slave trade and abolition also occurred during the 1800s, and largely in writing. And while places such as Lima, Peru and Mexico City were established printing centers during the Iberian occupation of the Americas, true printing revolutions were not widespread until during and after the wars for independence. One of the results to emerge during the first third of the century was that writing and print media gave legitimacy to incipient republican states, wedding print to power in new ways. And by the end of the century, educators and state bureaucrats teamed up to push for public primary education and literacy as components of progressive, “civilized” nations. Add to this the visual technologies and an overall surge in new forms of symbolic communication through print, and it is easy to see why this period offers such a rich backdrop for observing how print and power fit into the landscape we now know as Latin America. We pay special attention to themes including writing as a legitimizing force, writing and nation building, and the intersection of print with war, race, identity formation, modernity and ideologies. Readings include archival materials, wartime and popular poetry, novels by authors such as Jorge Isaacs and Ignacio Altamirano, writings by Simon Bolivar and Domingo Sarmiento, and modernista poetry and prose. Historical and theoretical selections guide our analysis of primary sources. Prerequisites: Span 307D, Span 308E and at least two 300-level literature courses taught in Spanish. One-hour preceptorial for undergraduates.
Same as Span 4301
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, HUM, LCD EN: H

L45 LatAm 431 Latin American Poetry I
Survey of the major figures of Latin American poetry from the colonial period to modernism. Poets studied include Sor Juana, Caviedes, Avellaneda, Marti, Dario, Silva, Najera. Prerequisites: Span 307D, Span 308E and at least two 300-level literature courses taught in Spanish. One-hour preceptorial for undergraduates only. In Spanish.
Same as Span 431
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH FA: Lit

L45 LatAm 432 Latin American Poetry II
Survey of contemporary Latin American poetry, “postmodernismo” to the present. Poets studied include González Martínez, Vallejo, Neruda, Huidobro, Paz, Parra, Orozco, Pizarnik, Cardenal, Belli. Prerequisites: Span 307D, Span 308E and at least two 300-level literature courses taught in Spanish. One-hour preceptorial for undergraduates only. In Spanish.
Same as Span 432
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, HUM, LCD FA: Lit

L45 LatAm 433 The Inconvenient Indio: Imagining Indigenous Cultures in Peru and Bolivia
In the cultural history of the Andean nations, the Indio has always been a powerful yet perpetually unstable signifier, whose meaning is constantly redefined by non-Indians. An archaic residue for some, the bedrock of a new society for others, the Indio conjures contradictory imaginaries of articulation, combination, disjunction and metamorphosis that have shaped
a wide range of debates: from assimilation and mestizaje in the context of nation-building and modernity, to the politicizing of ethnic identities in the context of immigration and globalization. Focusing on Peru and Bolivia, this course examines these cultural imaginaries and the debates in which they appear, as well as the models of community and identity they suggest. In doing so, we discuss topics such as the discourse of illness, indigenismo, transculturation, heterogeneity, violence and memory. Materials analyzed include poetry by César Vallejo and Carlos Oquendo de Amat; essays by José Carlos Mariátegui and Ángel Rama; José María Arguedas's novel Los ríos profundos; Jorge Sanjinés's film El Coraje del pueblo; and theatrical performances by Grupo Yuyachkani. Prerequisites: Span 307D and Span 308E and at least two 300-level literature courses taught in Spanish. One-hour preceptorial for undergraduates; in Spanish.

L45 LatAm 4517 Anthropology and Development
Same as Anthro 4517
Credit 3 units. A&S: SS, WI A&S: IQ, SSC, WI EN: S FA: SSP

L45 LatAm 4533 Narratives of Fear: Violence in Latin American Literature
Same as Span 4533
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH FA: Lit

L45 LatAm 457 Gender and Modernity in Latin America
The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the particular forms modernity assumes in Latin American countries and to the ways in which national cultures, identity politics and gender issues intertwine during the 20th century. The course discusses three particular articulation of this topic: (1) Gender and the national question in Argentina: Eva Peron; (2) Gender and Visual Arts: Frida Kahlo; and (3) Gender and Ethnicity: Rigoberta Menchu. Through these iconic figures students are introduced to the specific features that characterized three very different but representative cultural scenarios in Latin America. In each case, the context for the emergence of these highly influential public figures is studied from historical, social and cultural perspectives. In order to explore the cultural and political significance of Eva Peron, Frida Kahlo and Rigoberta Menchu, the course utilizes literary texts (speeches, letters, diaries, etc.), visual materials (photography, films and paintings) and critical bibliography.
Same as IAS 457
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, HUM EN: H

L45 LatAm 4572 Primitivism and Modernity in Latin America
Same as IAS 4572
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, HUM EN: H

L45 LatAm 4581 Bubblegum, Baseball and Boom: Latin American Cities Go Pop
Same as IAS 4581
Credit 3 units. A&S: SS, WI A&S: IQ, SSC, WI EN: S

L45 LatAm 460 Postmodern Narratives in Latin America
Same as IAS 460
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, HUM EN: H

L45 LatAm 461 Latin American Cultural Studies: Critical and Theoretical Approaches
Same as IAS 461
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, HUM EN: H

L45 LatAm 4611 Latin American Populism and Neo-Populism
A salient feature of Latin America in the 20th and early 21st centuries has been the recurrence of populism. Mass-based political and social movements animated by nationalist and reformist impulses dominated Latin American politics in the 1920s, 1930s–60s, and 1980s to the present. This course provides a general historical and theoretically informed analysis of the origins, internal dynamics, and outcomes of classical populist and neo-populist governments and parties. Among the notable populist and neo-populist cases examined include: Peronism in Argentina, Velasquismo in Ecuador, Cardenismo in Mexico, APRA in Peru, Varguismo in Brazil, Garcia/Fujimori in Peru, Menen/Kirchners in Argentina, and Hugo Chávez in Venezuela. Issues pertaining to leader-follower relations, populist discourses, citizenship rights, populist gender and racial policies, labor and social reforms, and mass mobilization politics also are explored.
Same as IAS 4611
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH, CD A&S: IQ, HUM, LCD EN: H

L45 LatAm 462 Latin America and the West
From the perspective of postcolonial theory, the course covers different aspects related to Latin America’s cultural history, from the Discovery to the present. Some of the issues discussed in class are: the colonial encounter; Baroque culture and the emergence of Creole societies in the “New World,” the connections between Enlightenment and nationalism, as well as the interweaving of “coloniality” and modernity. Prerequisite: Survey of Latin American Culture or an advanced-level course on Latin America.
Same as IAS 462
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, HUM EN: H

L45 LatAm 463 Seminar on Urban Cultures in Latin America
The course focuses on the key role urban development and urban cultures have had in Latin America, with particular emphasis on contemporary times. The goal of the course is to discuss the connections between the formation and expansion of cities, the definitions of citizenship, and the role of modernity in the development of “high” and “popular” cultures within different historical and geocultural contexts. Particular attention is paid to the issues of race, class and gender. The course, which uses an interdisciplinary and comparative approach, also focuses on the phenomena of marginality, cultural resistance, nationalism and consumerism as well as on the role played by the media in contemporary Latin American societies. Some of the cultural expressions analyzed in the course are music (rock, pop, rap), sports, film and video. Prerequisite: IAS 165C Survey of Latin American Culture.
Same as IAS 463
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, HUM EN: H

L45 LatAm 464 Nation and Desire in Latin America
The purpose of this course is to analyze the process of nation formation in Latin America from the imaginaries of the “Creole nation” to the first half of the 20th century. Class discussion encompasses the study of theories on nation formation and nationalism as well as textual representations of national projects, such as Simon Bolivar’s letters and discourses, selections from Facundo, Civilization and Barbarism by Domingo F. Sarmiento; selected texts by Andres Bello, Alfonso Reyes, et al; Ariel, by J.E. Rodro; Pedro Henriquez Urena’s Seis ensayos en busca de nuestra expresión; Jose Vasconcelos’ La raza cosnica; José Carlos Mariategui’s Siete ensayos de interpretacion de la realidad peruana; and José Marti’s “Nuestra América” and other essays. Some of the main topics discussed are the leading role of Creole elites in the consolidation of national cultures, the marginalization of women as well as indigenous and Afro-Hispanic populations, and the role of nationalism in the shaping of modern societies. Colonialism, Occidentalism, liberalism, positivism, nationalism and modernity are some of the concepts that are explored both theoretically and in their particular discursive usages. Finally, the concept of nation(alism) is studied as a political/rhetorical device and as the resulting expression of agency, interest and desire, in peripheral societies.
Same as IAS 464
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, HUM EN: H

L45 LatAm 4660 Geographies of Development in Latin America: Critical Perspectives and Contemporary Challenges
This course provides an overview to the geographies of development throughout Latin America. We begin by examining a variety of theoretical perspectives, definitions and critiques of “development.” We highlight the uneven processes of development at multiple, overlapping scales and the power imbalances inherent in much of development discourse. In the second half of the course we focus our considerations toward specific contemporary trends and development issues, utilizing case studies drawn primarily from Latin America. These themes include sustainability, NGOs, social movements, social capital, security and conflict, identity, ethnicity and gender issues, participatory development, and micro-credit and conditional cash transfers. Students acquire the critical theoretical tools to develop their own perspectives on how development geographies play out in Latin America.
Same as IAS 4660
Credit 3 units. A&S: SS, SD A&S: IQ, SSC, SD EN: S

L45 LatAm 4710 Development Economics
Same as Econ 471
Credit 3 units. A&S: SS A&S: IQ, SSC EN: S

L45 LatAm 474 Mexican Film in the Age of NAFTA (1990–2010)
Starting in the 1990s, as NAFTA came into effect, Mexico revitalized its film industry and managed to produce not only a somewhat sustainable market within the country, but also a set of recognized figures in acting (Salma Hayek, Gael García, Diego Luna), directing (Guillermo del Toro, Alfonso Cuarón, Alejandro González Iñarritu), and moviemaking in general (Emanuel Lubezki, Rodrigo Prieto, and others). This course explores the underlying processes that allowed for such a rebirth. The main focus of the course is to understand the contradictory impact of neoliberalism in film, understanding neoliberalism as the economic doctrine of unbridled free markets, and its social and cultural consequences. Paradoxically, neoliberalism allowed the industry to become financially and aesthetically viable, while becoming inaccessible to the lower classes in Mexico. The course mostly develops four of these processes: the undermining of nationalism as the main topic; the displacement of the target audience from the working classes, both rural and urban, to the urban middle class; the transformation of political cinema from the leftist films of the ’70s to the conservative ideologies of neoliberal politics; and the intersection of Mexican film to the global market of so-called “art house cinema.” Students compare films that have reached an international market with those viewed only within Mexico. In addition, students are introduced to critical approaches that allow them to appreciate these movies in the context of film aesthetics, social identities, and the relationship between film
and economic development. Movies are shown outside of class in Spanish with English subtitles. The class is conducted in English. Written course work may be pursued in English or Spanish. No prerequisites.

Same as Span 474
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, HUM, LCD EN: H

L45 LatAm 483 Bodily Injuries: Violence, Fear and Representation in Latin America
Same as IAS 483
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, HUM EN: H

L45 LatAm 488 Narrating Mexico City
The city has been one of the central topics of modern Mexican literature. Ever since the emergence of the megalopolis and the new centrality of questions of violence, modernity and urban experience, Mexican literature and film have contributed, in the past 20 years, new ways to approach, discuss and narrate the city. This class seeks to tackle different meanings of Mexico City in the cultural discourse of Mexico, by exploring novels (Carlos Fuentes, José Emilio Pacheco, Juan Villoro), poems (Manuel Mapes Arce, Vicente Quirarte, Fabio Morábito), urban chronicles (Carlos Monsiváis, Elena Poniatowska, José Joaquín Blanco) and films (Amores perros, Todo el poder, Vivir mata). Prerequisites: Span 307D, Span 308E and at least two 300-level literature courses taught in Spanish. One-hour preceptorial for undergraduates only. In Spanish.
Same as Span 489
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, HUM, LCD EN: H

L45 LatAm 49RJ Advanced Seminar in History: Gender, Sexuality and the Body in Latin America
This course offers students an immersion in the relevant debates on gender, sexuality and the body as lenses through which Latin America can be understood. Through a variety of methodologies, perspectives, and document types, students engage such diverse topics as: colonial gender systems; state violence; homosexuality; love and relationship; work; emotive culture; social discourse; citizenship; revolution; and identity. Through memoirs, primary archival sources, and secondary treatments of the past and present, as well as film, we explore how gender, sexuality and the body are not only important in understanding Latin America, but vital.
Same as History 49RJ
Credit 4 units. EN: H

L45 LatAm 49YM Advanced Seminar in History: Blacks and Indians in Latin America
Same as History 49YM
Credit 4 units. A&S: TH, CD, SD A&S: IQ, HUM, LCD EN: H

“antropohagia” created an articulation of the avant-garde with debates of cultural identity and transculturation. Finally, we go to the Andes to understand how avant-garde phenomena dealt with the questions of “divergent modernities.” Authors discussed include Árquelles Vela, Manuel Maples Arce, Jorge Cuesta, Xavier Villaurrutia, Jorge Luis Borges, Oliverio Girondo, Roberto Arlt, Mario de Andrade, Oswaldo de Andrade, Manuel Bandeira, César Vallejo, Pablo Palacio, César Moro and José Carlos Mariátegui. Scholarship includes Peter Bürger, Matei Calinescu, Renato Poggioli, Rubén Gallo, Pedro Angel Palou, Beatriz Sarlo, Fernando Rosenberg, Haroldo de Campos, William Rowe and Roland Forques. Prerequisites: Span 307D, Span 308E and at least two 300-level literature courses taught in Spanish. One-hour preceptorial for undergraduates. In Spanish.
Same as Span 489
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, HUM, LCD EN: H

L45 LatAm 49YM Advanced Seminar in History: Blacks and Indians in Latin America
Same as History 49YM
Credit 4 units. A&S: TH, CD, SD A&S: IQ, HUM, LCD EN: H