



Bachelor of Arts in Latin American Studies

College of Humanities and Social Sciences

Why should I major in Latin American studies at Cal State Fullerton?

Southern California is strongly linked, both culturally and economically, with the countries of Latin America. By offering an in-depth, interdisciplinary approach to this fascinating region, the major in Latin American studies provides an excellent foundation for the ever-increasing number of career possibilities. Students take courses from various departments including Anthropology, Economics, Geography, Political Science, Modern Languages and Literatures, History and Chicana and Chicano studies. Whether your long-term objective is international employment in Latin America, working within one of California's Hispanic communities, or preparation for graduate school, the Latin American studies major provides a solid academic foundation.

The Latin American studies major at Cal State Fullerton offers:

Excellent Credentials – Our program is one of the highest-ranked, most diverse Latin American studies programs in California.

Outstanding Faculty – Our award-winning faculty hold advanced degrees from some of the country's most prestigious universities such as Princeton, Tulane, Berkeley and the University of Texas.

Great Students – Our students report a high level of satisfaction with their major. They also engage in a wide variety of extracurricular social and cultural-oriented activities.

Course Variety – Our elective courses are drawn from a wide array of departments. This allows students the flexibility to pursue the Latin American topics that most interest them.

What is a Latin American studies major?

Latin American studies majors come from diverse backgrounds. Many already have cultural ties to one or another country in Latin America, perhaps because their family emigrated from Mexico, Chile or Brazil. Many of our students are fluent in Spanish or Portuguese when they begin the program. Others, however, simply want a broad-based liberal arts degree in an interesting subject. In either case, our students share a profound interest in the lands and cultures of Latin America.



CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FULLERTON

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The California State University

What types of career opportunities are available?

Latin American studies majors are well suited for many fields dealing with Latin America since they possess language proficiency skills and the ability to approach Latin American issues from various perspectives offered through course work completed in the humanities, social sciences and arts. Latin American studies majors go on to pursue careers in international law, non-profit organizations, international journalism, international business and government services. Others continue their education at the graduate level or pursue careers in education with a single subject credential in the social sciences or teach language.

What courses are required for the major?

The major in Latin American studies consists of a total of 57 units drawn from various departments. These include:

Foundation Courses (24 units)

All Latin American studies students must develop or have a reasonable proficiency equivalent to Spanish 204 and Portuguese 102. Those with no prior knowledge of either language will complete the 24 units of language foundation classes. These include:

Spanish 101 Fundamental Spanish - A (5 units)

Spanish 102 Fundamental Spanish - B (5 units)

Spanish 203 Intermediate Spanish - A (3 units)

Spanish 204 Intermediate Spanish - B (3 units)

Portuguese 101 Fundamental Portuguese - A (4 units)

Portuguese 102 Fundamental Portuguese - B (4 units)

Students who are proficient in Spanish or Portuguese when they enter the program may be able to have some or all of the foundation courses waived. This is done by taking a test administered by the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures.

Required Fields of Study (21 units)

In addition to the language courses and meeting the writing requirement, English 301, Advanced Composition, (3 units), students select from an array of courses in the following departments. Please consult the university catalog for details.

Language (3 units)

Spanish 301 Advanced Conversation and Composition

OR Portuguese 317 Advanced Conversation and Composition

History and Culture (9 units)

Spanish 316 Introduction to Spanish American Civilization

OR Portuguese 325 Contemporary Brazilian Civilization

Latin American Studies 300 Topics in Latin America

and three additional units in upper-division Latin American history

Social Science (6 units) selected from two departments

Anthro 325 Peoples of South America (3 units)

Anthro 423 The Ancient Maya (3 units)

Anthro 424 The Aztecs and Their Predecessors (3 units)
Economics 333 Economic Development: Analysis and Case Studies (3 units)
Economics 334 Economics of Latin America and the Caribbean (3 units)
Geography 333 Latin America (3 units)
Upper-Division Latin American Political Science courses when offered.

Elective Fields of Study (12 units)

Select from three or more of the following groupings chosen in consultation with the program coordinator.

Culture

Anthro 325 Peoples of South America (3 units)
Anthro 423 The Ancient Maya (3 units)
Anthro 424 The Aztecs and Their Predecessors (3 units)
Chicano 302 Ancient Mexican Culture (3 units)
Chicano 353 Mexico Since 1906 (3 units)
Chicano 403 Cultural Differences in Mexico and the Southwest (3 units)
Portuguese 317 Advanced Conversation and Composition (3 units)
OR Spanish 301 Advanced Conversation and Composition (3 units)
Portuguese 320 Introduction to Luso-Brazilian Culture and Civilization (3 units)
Portuguese 325 Contemporary Brazilian Civilization (3 units)
OR Spanish 316 Introduction to Spanish-American Civilization (3 units)
Spanish 416 Contemporary Spanish-American Culture (3 units)

Fine Arts and Literature

Art 460 Pre-Columbian Art (3 units)
Art 462 Latin American Art from 1800 to the 1950s (3 units)
Art 480T Selected Topics in Art History (3 units)
Chicano 304 Music of Mexico (3 units)
Chicano 336 Main Trends in Spanish-American Literature (3 units)
Chicano 430 Evolution of Mexican Literature (3 units)
Chicano 433 Mexican Literature Since 1940 (3 units)
Spanish 440 Spanish-American Literature to Modernismo (3 units)
Spanish 441 Spanish-American Since Modernismo (3 units)
Spanish 466 Spanish Phonology and Dialectology (3 units)
Spanish 485T Senior Seminar: Topics in Spanish-American Literature (3 units)

History and Politics

History 350 History of Latin American Civilization (3 units)
History 451 Colonial Period of Latin America (3 units)
History 452 20th-Century Brazil (3 units)
History 453 History of Mexico (3 units)
History 454 19th-Century Latin America: Era of Nation Building (3 units)
History 455 Latin America since 1945 (3 units)
Upper-division Latin American Political Science courses when offered.

Geography and Economics

Economics 333 Economic Development: Analysis and Case Studies (3 units)

Economics 334 Economics of Latin America and the Caribbean (3 units)

Geography 333 Latin America (3 units)

Latin American Studies

Latin American Studies 399 Directed Studies (1-3 units)

Minor in Latin American studies.

The minor in Latin American studies is designed to complement other majors for which a focus in Latin America can be beneficial. Prospective secondary teachers often find this minor particularly appealing. The minor requires proficiency in either Spanish or Portuguese and 12 units of approved electives in various departments. Please consult the university catalog for details.

What activities can I join?

All students with an interest in Latin America are welcome to join the Latin American Studies Student Association (LASSA). To learn more, visit the website at <http://hss.fullerton.edu/latinamerican/CAL.html> or e-mail the officers at lassa_csuf@yahoo.com.

How do I get advisement?

Advisement is offered by the coordinator of the Latin American studies program, Sandra M. Perez-Linggi at (714) 278-5347 or splinggi@fullerton.edu. To make an appointment, call the programs office at (714) 278-2594. The department address is Latin American Studies Program, P.O. Box 6846, Humanities 810C, California State University, Fullerton, Fullerton, CA 92834-6846.

How do I get additional information?

The easiest way to find out more about the Latin American studies program is to stop in and visit with the coordinator. We are happy to serve you. Additional information can be found on the program's bulletin board, located in front of the programs office, as well as on the program's home page: (<http://hss.fullerton.edu/LatinAmerican/index.htm>). The department staff looks forward to meeting you and introducing you to the program.