

BACHELOR OF ARTS (BA) DEGREE WITH A MAJOR IN LATIN AMERICAN AND LATINX STUDIES

Program Learning Outcomes for the BA Degree with a Major in Latin American and Latinx Studies

Upon completing the BA degree, students majoring in Latin American and Latinx Studies will be able to:

1. Demonstrate the ability to speak and read fluently, and conduct research in a foreign language.
2. Interpret the historic, cultural, and political dynamics that comprise a specific region selected by the student for in-depth study.
3. Apply critical perspectives on legacies and ongoing forces that are local and global in scope from the field of Latin American Studies.
4. Define a research problem and analyze it from several different disciplinary fields, including appropriate theory, methodology, and concepts for the topic.

Requirements for the BA Degree with a Major in Latin American and Latinx Studies

For general university requirements, see [Graduation Requirements \(https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/graduation-requirements/\)](https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/graduation-requirements/). Students pursuing the BA degree with a major in Latin American and Latinx Studies must complete:

- A minimum of 10 courses (30 credit hours) to satisfy major requirements.
- A minimum of 120 credit hours to satisfy degree requirements.
- A minimum of 6 courses (18 credit hours) taken at the 300-level or above.
- A maximum of 4 courses (12 credit hours) from study abroad or transfer credit. For additional departmental guidelines regarding transfer credit, see the [Policies](#) (p. 3) tab.
- Demonstration of advanced language proficiency in Spanish, Portuguese, French, or an indigenous language spoken in Latin America.

The courses listed below satisfy the requirements for this major. In certain instances, courses not on this official list may be substituted upon approval of the major's academic advisor, or where applicable, the department's Director of Undergraduate Studies. (Course substitutions must be formally applied and entered into Degree Works by the major's [Official Certifier \(https://registrar.rice.edu/facstaff/degreeworks/officialcertifier/\)](https://registrar.rice.edu/facstaff/degreeworks/officialcertifier/).) Students and their academic advisors should identify and clearly document the courses to be taken.

Summary

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Total Credit Hours Required for the Major in Latin American and Latinx Studies		30
Total Credit Hours Required for the BA Degree with a Major in Latin American and Latinx Studies		120

Degree Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Core Requirement		
LALX 158 / SPAN 158	INTRODUCTION TO LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES ¹	3
<i>Select 9 courses as Electives from department approved electives (see course list below) ²</i>		27
Select at least 2 courses from course offerings in the School of Humanities		
Select at least 2 courses from course offerings in the School of Social Sciences		
Advanced Language Proficiency		
<i>Students must demonstrate advanced language proficiency in Spanish, Portuguese, French, or an indigenous language spoken in Latin America. ³</i>		
Total Credit Hours Required for the Major in Latin American and Latinx Studies		30
Additional Credit Hours to Complete Degree Requirements * ³		59
University Graduation Requirements (https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/graduation-requirements/) * ³		31
Total Credit Hours		120

Footnotes and Additional Information

* **Note:** [University Graduation Requirements](#) include 31 credit hours, comprised of Distribution Requirements (Groups I, II, and III), FWIS, and LPAP coursework. In some instances, courses satisfying FWIS or distribution requirements may additionally meet other requirements, such as the Analyzing Diversity (AD) requirement, or some of the student's declared major, minor, or certificate requirements. [Additional Credit Hours to Complete Degree Requirements](#) include general electives, coursework completed as upper-level, residency (hours taken at Rice), and/or any other additional academic program requirements.

¹ This course both introduces and structures the major. This course is taught in English, with discussion sections available in Spanish or Portuguese pending student interest.

² At least 2 courses (6 credit hours) must be in the humanities and at least 2 courses (6 credit hours) must be in the social sciences.

³ Students must demonstrate advanced language proficiency in Spanish, Portuguese, French, or an indigenous language spoken in Latin America. This proficiency requirement may be demonstrated by coursework taken at the upper-level (300-level or above) or other means. Students are encouraged to consult with a major advisor regarding this point.

Course List to Satisfy Requirements

Elective Requirements

Students must complete a total of 9 courses (27 credit hours) from the following department approved electives, which will focus on a specific region, area, or country in Latin America. This area focus will shape each student's proposed course of study. Each course of study and an area focus must be approved by the advisor to the major. At least 2 courses (6 credit hours) must be in the humanities and at least 2 courses (6 credit hours) must be in the social sciences. EDUC 304 may be substituted for either 1 of the Department Approved Electives - School of Humanities courses or 1 of the Department Approved Electives - School of Social Sciences courses.

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Department Approved Electives - School of Humanities		
ARTS 240	BLACK LATINX IN REGGAETON & HIP-HOP. BLACKNESS, FEMINISMS, AND PERFORMANCE	3
EDUC 304	RACE, CLASS, GENDER IN EDUCATION	3
ENGL 369 / SWGS 329	THE AMERICAN WEST AND ITS OTHERS	3
ENGL 371 / SPAN 396 / SWGS 354	CHICANO/A LITERATURE	3
ENST 301	ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE	3
ENST 311	TOPICS IN ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE	3
FREN 313	MAJOR LITERARY WORKS AND ARTIFACTS OF THE FRANCOPHONE WORLD	3
FREN 433	FRENCH CARIBBEAN ECOCRITICISM	3
FREN 478 / ARCR 478	THE FRENCH CARRIBEAN	3
HART 265	A VISUAL CULTURE TRAVELOGUE: ART AND POLITICS IN MODERN LATIN AMERICA	3
HART 302	FROM THE SUBLIME TO THE SUSTAINABLE: ART, ARCHITECTURE AND NATURE	3
HART 315	ART AND ACTIVISM: CREATIVE PROTESTS IN THE 20TH CENTURY AMERICAS	3
HART 375 / ARCH 375	LATIN-EUROPE/LATIN-AMERICA: THE AESTHETICS AND POLITICS OF MODERN CITIES	3
HART 465	LATIN AMERICAN BODIES: ON MODERNISM	3
HIST 176	MEXICO: AN INTRODUCTION	3
HIST 188	THE ATLANTIC WORLD: ORIGINS TO THE AGE OF REVOLUTION	3
HIST 215	BLACKS IN THE AMERICAS	3
HIST 220	MEXICO: 1910 TO PRESENT	3
HIST 221	UNITED STATES AND LATIN AMERICAN RELATIONS	3
HIST 227	LATIN AMERICAN CULTURAL TRADITIONS	3
HIST 228	MODERN LATIN AMERICA	3
HIST 239	NATIVE AMERICAN HISTORY: FROM EUROPEAN CONTACT TO THE ERA OF REMOVAL	3
HIST 312	ENVIRONMENT, MEDICINE AND PUBLIC HEALTH IN LATIN AMERICA	3
HIST 328	POVERTY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE IN LATIN AMERICA	3
HIST 330	ATLANTIC SLAVE TRADE AND THE ORIGINS OF AFRO AMERICA	3
HIST 331	THE HISTORICAL CONTEXT OF THE CUBAN REVOLUTION	3
HIST 366 / ARCH 366	RIO DE JANEIRO: A SOCIAL AND ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY	3
HIST 420	MEXICAN HISTORY	3
HIST 421	RACE, EDUCATION AND SOCIETY IN THE URBAN SOUTH	3
HIST 429	BORDERLANDS HISTORY	3
HIST 478	TOPICS IN LATIN AMERICAN HISTORY	3
LALX 238	SPECIAL TOPICS	1-4
LALX 251 / HIST 251	CONTINUITIES AND CHANGES IN BRAZILIAN HISTORY	3
LALX 330	SUBVERSIVE STORYTELLING IN LATINX TV & FILM	3
LALX 332	WRITING TO HEAL: U.S. LATINE NARRATIVES ON MENTAL HEALTH	3
LALX 350	PIRATES, REBELS, NARCOS: LATIN AMERICAN OUTLAWS IN THE POLITICAL-CULTURAL IMAGINATION	3
LALX 360	LATINX POETICS: SENSING & (MIS)REPRESENTING LATINX STUDIES	3
LALX 378	LATIN AMERICAN POLITICAL THOUGHT: IDENTITY, LIBERATION, MODERNITY	3
LALX 492	DIRECTED RESEARCH	3
PLST 306	THE RIVER AND THE WALL: LAW OF BORDERS AND MIGRATION	3
PORT 303	BRAZIL: LITERATURE E CULTURA	3
PORT 331	BRASIL ATUAL	3
SPAN 328	GAZING AT DISASTER: VISUAL CULTURE AND CATASTROPHE IN LATIN AMERICA	3
SPAN 333	CURRENT HEALTHCARE ISSUES IN LATINE COMMUNITIES	3
SPAN 343	ART IN LATIN AMERICAN LITERATURE	3
SPAN 344	MAPPING LATIN AMERICAN CULTURE	3
SPAN 356	RACE, GENDER, CLASS, & ENVIRONMENT IN CENTRAL AMERICAN CULTURES	3
SPAN 368	LATIN AMERICAN SHORT FICTION	3
SPAN 370	DISABLED BODIES: ILLNESS AND LITERATURE IN LATIN AMERICA	3
SPAN 373	TWENTIETH CENTURY MEXICAN NOVEL	3
SPAN 376	THE MEXICAN REVOLUTION IN LITERATURE, MUSIC AND VISUAL ARTS	3
SPAN 383	SPANISH CREATIVE WRITING	3
SPAN 384	LITERATURES FROM THE SOUTHERN CONE	3
SPAN 390 / SWGS 390	HISPANIC CINEMA	3

SPAN 391	CARIBBEAN LITERATURE	3
SPAN 392 / FILM 339 / HART 304	A REVOLUTION FROM WITHIN: TRENDS IN CONTEMPORARY CUBAN CULTURE	3
SPAN 402	THE CITY IN LATIN AMERICA	3
SPAN 403	LITERATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT IN LATIN AMERICA	3
SPAN 405	LATIN AMERICAN LITERATURE IN THE MOVIES	3
SPAN 406	LATIN AMERICAN CINEMA	3
SPAN 436	LINGUISTIC AND COGNITIVE CONCEPTUALIZATIONS: TENSE AND ASPECT	3
SPAN 451	WITNESSING, TRUTH & TRAUMA: TESTIMONIAL WRITING IN MEXICO & CENTRAL AMERICA	3
SPAN 453	BORDER NARRATIVES	3
SPAN 456 / SWGS 466	LATIN AMERICAN WOMEN'S CULTURE	3
SPAN 462	BOOM-BOOM-CRACK: LATIN AMERICAN NOVEL	3
SPAN 491	DIRECTED RESEARCH	3

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Department Approved Electives - School of Social Sciences		
ANTH 290	HISTORY AND ETHNOGRAPHY	3
ANTH 361	LATIN AMERICAN TOPICS	3
ANTH 392	KINGS, QUEENS, AND COMMONERS: THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF ANCIENT MESOAMERICA	3
ANTH 394	THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF SLAVERY AND THE AFRICAN DIASPORA	3
EDUC 304	RACE, CLASS, GENDER IN EDUCATION	3
LING 419	MULTILINGUALISM	3
POLI 328	LATINO POLITICS IN THE UNITED STATES	3
POLI 330	MINORITY POLITICS	3
POLI 352	THE POLITICS AND CULTURE OF MEXICO	3
POLI 354	LATIN AMERICAN POLITICS	3
POLI 450	ELECTIONS IN THE AMERICAS	3
POLI 459	SEX, GENDER, AND POLITICAL REPRESENTATION IN LATIN AMERICA	3
SOCI 301	SOCIAL INEQUALITY	3
SOCI 309	RACE AND ETHNIC RELATIONS	3
SOCI 340	SOCIOLOGY OF IMMIGRATION	3

Policies for the BA Degree with a Major in Latin American and Latinx Studies

Transfer Credit

For Rice University's policy regarding transfer credit, see [Transfer Credit \(https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/transfer-credit/\)](https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/transfer-credit/). Some departments and programs have additional restrictions on transfer credit. The Office of Academic Advising maintains the university's official list of [transfer credit advisors \(https://oaa.rice.edu/advising-network/transfer-credit-advisors/\)](https://oaa.rice.edu/advising-network/transfer-credit-advisors/) on their

website: <https://oaa.rice.edu>. Students are encouraged to meet with their academic program's transfer credit advisor when considering transfer credit possibilities.

Program Transfer Credit Guidelines

Students pursuing the major in Latin American and Latinx Studies should be aware of the following program-specific transfer credit guidelines:

- No more than 4 courses (12 credit hours) of transfer credit from U.S. or international universities of similar standing as Rice may apply towards the major.
- Requests for transfer credit will be considered by the program director (and/or the program's official transfer credit advisor) on an individual case-by-case basis.

Distribution Credit Information

The determination of distribution credit eligibility is done initially as part of the [new course creation process \(https://registrar.rice.edu/facstaff/courseprocess/\)](https://registrar.rice.edu/facstaff/courseprocess/). Additionally, as part of an [annual roll call \(https://registrar.rice.edu/facstaff/distribution_credit/\)](https://registrar.rice.edu/facstaff/distribution_credit/) coordinated each Spring by the Office of the Registrar, course distribution credit eligibility is routinely reviewed and reaffirmed by the Dean's Offices of each of the academic schools.

Faculty and leadership in the academic schools are responsible for ensuring that the courses identified as distribution-credit-eligible meet the criteria as set in the [General Announcements \(https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/graduation-requirements/#text\)](https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/graduation-requirements/#text). Students are responsible for ensuring that they meet [graduation requirements \(https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/graduation-requirements/#text\)](https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/graduation-requirements/#text) by completing coursework designated as distribution-credit-eligible at the time of course registration.

Distribution courses from the Department of Modern and Classical Literatures and Cultures are broad in theme and scope and provide students with a substantial inquiry into literature, art, media, history, thought, and/or politics, including specific national traditions, linguistic contexts, and historical periods. Such courses involve a broad and often interdisciplinary spectrum of knowledge, providing students with the tools for thinking critically about the formation of modern culture, its colonial past, and its national and linguistic traditions from antiquity to the present.

Additional Information

For additional information, please see the Modern and Classical Literatures and Cultures website: <https://cultures.rice.edu/>

Opportunities for the BA Degree with a Major in Latin American and Latinx Studies

Academic Honors

The university recognizes academic excellence achieved over an undergraduate's academic history at Rice. For information on university honors, please see [Latin Honors \(https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/honors-distinctions/university/\)](https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/honors-distinctions/university/) (*summa cum laude*, *magna cum laude*, and *cum laude*) and [Distinction in Research and Creative Work \(https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/honors-distinctions/\)](https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/honors-distinctions/)

university/). Some departments have department-specific Honors awards or designations.

Additional Information

For additional information, please see the Modern and Classical Literatures and Cultures website: <https://cultures.rice.edu/>

See <https://humanities.rice.edu/student-life> (<https://humanities.rice.edu/student-life/>) for tables of fellowships, prizes, and internships/practica that may be relevant to this major.