Latin American & Caribbean Studies Courses Autumn 2018

Courses numbered 10000-19000 are general education and introductory courses. Courses numbered 20000-29900 are intermediate, advanced, or upper-level courses and are open only to undergraduates. Courses numbered 30000 and above are graduate or professional school courses and are available to undergraduate students only with the consent of the instructor. Undergraduates registered for 30000-level courses will be held to the graduate-level requirements. To register for courses that are cross listed as both undergraduate and graduate (20000/30000), undergraduates must use the undergraduate number (20000).

Courses that begin with the LACS code are hosted by the Center and include descriptions. All other courses (ANTH, HIST, SPAN, etc) are cross-listed with Latin American and Caribbean Studies but are hosted by other departments. To view course times and locations for a specific quarter, please visit classes.uchicago.edu.

Undergraduate Courses

SOCI 20282
Immigrant America
Rene Flores

Nearly 60 million immigrants have arrived in the U.S. in the past 50 years, mostly from Latin America and Asia, but also from Africa and the Middle-East. Today, a near-record 14% of the country’s population is foreign born compared with just 5% in 1965. These profound demographic changes raise critical questions: Why do immigrants come to the U.S.? What impact do they have on U.S. society? Are today’s immigrants fundamentally different from previous waves of immigrants? Are these immigrants assimilating to the U.S. or retaining their culture? Why do some immigrant groups appear to fare better than others? This course will expose students to the latest social science research on contemporary immigration to the United States. We will explore its origins, adaptation patterns, and long-term effects on American society.

PQ: Though this course does not have a LACS course number, it will count towards the requirements for the major and minor.

SPAN 21903 (LACS 21903; CRES 21903)
Introducción a las literaturas hispánicas: textos hispanoamericanos desde la colonia a la independencia
Larissa Brewer-García

This course examines an array of representative texts written in Spanish America from the colonial period to the late nineteenth century, underscoring not only their aesthetic qualities but also the historical conditions that made their production possible. Among authors studied are Christopher Columbus, Hernán Cortés, Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz, Simón Bolívar, and José Martí.

PQ: SPAN 20300 or consent of instructor. Course taught in Spanish.
LACS 29700  
Reading/Research: Latin American Studies  
ARR.

Students and instructors can arrange a Reading and Research course in Latin American Studies when the material being studied goes beyond the scope of a particular course, when students are working on material not covered in an existing course or when students would like to receive academic credit for independent research.  
PQ: Consent of faculty adviser required.

LACS 29801  
BA Colloquium: Latin American Studies  
W 3:00-5:50 PM  
This colloquium, which is led by the preceptor and BA adviser, assists students in formulating approaches to the BA essay and developing their research and writing skills, while providing a forum for group discussion and critiques. Graduating students present their BA essays in a public session of the colloquium during the Spring Quarter.  
PQ: Must be a 4th year major in Latin American Studies to enroll

LACS 29900  
Prep BA Essay: Latin American Studies  
ARR.

Independent BA thesis course.  
PQ: Consent of undergraduate thesis/project adviser required

UNDERGRADUATE/GRADUATE COURSES

LACS 16100/34600 (ANTH 23101; HIST 16101/36101; SOSC 26100; CRES 16101)  
Introduction to Latin American Civilizations I  
Alan Kolata  
MWF 1:30 – 2:20PM

May be taken in sequence or individually. This sequence meets the general education requirement in civilization studies. This course is offered every year. Autumn Quarter examines the origins of civilizations in Latin America with a focus on the political, social, and cultural features of the major pre-Columbian civilizations of the Maya, Inca, and Aztec. The quarter concludes with an analysis of the Spanish and Portuguese conquest, and the construction of colonial societies in Latin America.

MUSI 23619/33619 (SPAN 23619/33619)  
Music and Ethnic Authenticity in Mexico and Cuba, 1900-1950  
Bob Kendrick  
TR 11:30 – 11:50 AM

This course uses literary, artistic, and musical materials to compare visions of Afro-Cuban and Native Mexican cultures as imagined by artists in this time period. Some of the issues in the political and cultural changes behind the remarkable new repertoires created in these two countries include nationalism, nativism, modernism, and relations with France and the U.S. We look at representations of these non-European cultures in paintings, “high-culture” music, anthropological research, and literature. Graduate students will have longer papers and more intense readings. Students will prepare one (oral) reading report, take two short ID/listening quizzes, and prepare a final paper due on Tuesday of Week 11.
PQ: ONE of the following: (a) a Music Core course (101, 102, 104, 122); OR (b) a LACS Core Civ course (LACS 161 or 163); OR (c) a RLL Latin American literature course (e.g. SPAN 219 or 220, or the equivalent). Music-reading NOT necessary; Spanish at a 103 level will help.

LACS 24512/34512
Intermediate Haitian Kreyol I
William Balan-Gaubert
TR 11:00 AM - 12:20 PM
The first course in a three-course sequence designed to enhance students’ understanding of Haitian Kreyol with continued study of the language in its modern context. Emphasis on developing proficiency in speaking, writing, listening, and reading comprehension at an intermediate level.

LACS 25117/35117 (ARTH XXXXX, DOVA XXXXX)
The Audience, The Archaeologist, and the Art Historian
Mariana Castillo Deball (Tinker Visiting Professor)
TR 12:30 - 1:50 PM
This course will address archaeological objects as well as the techniques that have been developed in order to capture them in a broader sense: to capture their meaning, to capture their form, to capture their trajectories. Archaeological objects change depending on the place where they are and the people who manipulate them.

LACS 25121/35121 (CHSS 35121; HIPS 25121)
The Brazil-Argentina Nuclear Cooperation Agreement and the Hydroelectric to Thermoelectric Transition in Brazil
Alexandre Ramos (Tinker Visiting Professor)
TR 9:30 - 10:50 AM
In this course we present a history of Brazil-Argentina nuclear cooperation and how Brazil is planning the transition of its electric matrix from predominantly hydraulic towards a mix with increased share of nuclear power. Proliferation risks are a main concern of international community when nuclear programs expansion is considered. The Brazilian-Argentine Agency for Accounting and Control of Nuclear Materials, created in 1991, has been fundamental in assuring the international community (via the International Atomic Energy Agency) that the nuclear materials and facilities of both countries are being used for peaceful purposes. Domestically, the debate has been environmental in nature, and concerns topics ranging from mining to power generation, and from radioactive materials disposal to radiation effects in living organisms and major accidents. These diplomatic, environmental, social and political issues are in turn dependent on technical details of the thermoelectric generating process, and this nexus of issues provides the topics for the course.

GRADUATE COURSES

SPAN 32810 (LACS 32810)
Traducción y piratería en el mundo colonial
Larissa Brewer-García
Translation and piracy can both involve the strategic appropriation of language, knowledge, or property. This course analyzes the relationship between translation and piracy in the creation of foundational works of colonial Latin American literature. As students read texts about colonial encounters, conquests, piracy, and conversion, they
will become familiar with early histories of translation in Latin America and a variety of early modern, modern, and post-colonial translation theories.

Note: Taught in Spanish.

SPAN 35500 (TAPS 34880; LACS 35505)

New Directions in Afro-Latin Performance
Danielle Roper

This class engages contemporary conversations in the study of Afro-Latin performance and explores the work of emerging black performance artists across the hemisphere. Tracing performances of blackness from the Southern cone to the Caribbean, we will examine the ways blackness is wielded by the State and by black communities themselves in performance and visual art across the region. We ask: what is the relationship between race and theatricality? What work is blackness made to do in states organized around discourses of racial democracy and mestizaje? How are notions of diaspora constructed through performances of blackness? We take up these questions in our study of reggaetón, hip hop, samba, el baile de los negritos and examine the works of noted and upcoming black artists such as Victoria Medes Santa-Cruz, Carlos Martiel, Las Nietas de Nonó, and others.

Note: While the course will be taught in English, many of the performances and at least four of the readings will be in Spanish.

LACS 40100

Reading/Research: Latin American Studies
ARR.

Students and instructors can arrange a Reading and Research course in Latin American Studies when the material being studied goes beyond the scope of a particular course, when students are working on material not covered in an existing course or when students would like to receive academic credit for independent research.

PQ: Consent of faculty adviser required

LACS 40300

MA Paper Prep: Latin American Studies
ARR.

Independent MA thesis course

PQ: Consent of faculty adviser required.

LACS 40501

MA Proseminar
Stefanie Graeter
M 3:00 – 5:50 PM

Required course for the Master’s in Latin American Studies degree program. Students will gain an introduction to the variety of disciplinary approaches, discourses, and foci that fall under the large rubric of Latin American Studies. The proseminar introduces students to specialists in the field at the University of Chicago and to the research and investigation in which they are involved. Open only to Latin American Studies MA students.

LACS 47813

Advanced Seminar on Mesoamerican Linguistics
John Lucy

Advanced course for the study of Mesoamerican Languages and Linguistics topics. Students must work with John Lucy to establish the language to be studied.
PQ: Students must make arrangements directly with John Lucy to enroll in this course.

ANTH 58200

Advanced Readings: Andean Ethnohistory
Alan Kolata

This course critically examines the early Colonial Period literatures related to the social and institutional arrangements of the indigenous peoples of the Andes. The course will analyze the conditions of production and modes of interpretation of these literatures and examine the extent to which they are useful for understanding Pre-Hispanic and early Colonial period social formations.