

Latinx & Latin American Studies Minor

The Minor in Latinx and Latin American Studies offers students interdisciplinary knowledge and cross-cultural skills that can be applied in a range of fields including but not limited to community advocacy, business, education, public policy, health sciences, and the arts. The minor integrates theories of decolonization and liberation with the exploration of historic geopolitical, economic, and sociocultural conditions of Latin American development and how they have shaped contemporary U.S. Latinx identities. The program explores the emergence of the Spanish and Portuguese colonial and postcolonial relations in the new world, including the encounter of the indigenous/native Americans and the Europeans, which subsequently shaped Latin American societies and cultures, and the emergence of Latinx identities in the U.S. It also covers the initial encounters between indigenous peoples and the Europeans in the new world and the subsequent ethnicity, racial relations, religious conversions, and migrations of peoples from Latin America to the U.S. Core courses provide a theoretical framework to analyze issues such as immigration, transnational social movements, and restructuring under global capitalism, as well as hands-on experience in community-based research methods and activism.

The minor requires a total of 21 credits distributed as outlined below. At least 12 credits should not be duplicated with coursework taken towards the student's major and other minor(s). At least 12 of the credits must be upper-division and at least six of those must be completed in residency.

Core requirements (9 credits)

HUM 102 Introduction to Latinx & Latin American Studies 3

Introduction to Latin American and Latinx Studies This course will focus on geopolitical and political economy issues within an historical perspective that help us to understand the complex relationship between the United States and Latin America, and ways in which they shape and reshape identities, culture, and citizenship. How do these histories shape the lives of Latinx communities in the United States? What counter narratives and forms of resistance do Chicanx, Latinx, indigenous and people of African descent from Latin America engage as they challenge these geopolitical forces? This course will have a research component where macro-historical processes are understood from a place-based perspective tied to local communities.

HUM 310 Theoretical Foundations of Latinx & Latin American Studies 3

This course looks at the evolution of theories of development as they relate to the relationship between Latin America and the United States, and how these theories help us critically understand the lives of Latinx im/migrants within the United States. The analytical trajectory includes modernization, dependency, world systems and de-colonial theories, transnational and global capitalism. Emphasis will be on structural processes such as trade, the military industrial complex and the narco-terror and border patrol industrial complex, and how these shape institutions (political, legal, educational, religious, economic, etc.) within the United States. The class will include social movement theories that can be applied to resistance efforts at local, national, and international levels. Within the Southwest United States, we look at the struggle and resistance of three significant communities, Chicanos/Mexicanos, Spanish speaking Caribbeans, and Central Americans, drawing out implication for education projects and movements, such as ethnic studies and bilingual education.

HUM 313 Community Based Research Methods in Latinx Studies 3

This course introduces students to qualitative and quantitative data analysis methods and strategies that nurture community-based research projects. Students engage in problem identification, research design, and implementation. The course has a service-learning component, which allows for the development of community-university research tied to community projects in Santa Ana and Anaheim.

Four of the following (12 credits)

ANTH 230	Indigenous Rights: Peace and Justice in the Americas	3	As needed.	None.
ANTH 330	Indigenous Rights: Peace and Justice in the Americas	3	As needed.	None.
ANTH 360	North and Middle American Indians	3	As needed.	None.
FS 342K	Mexican Cinema	3	Every other year.	None.
HIST 180	Modern Latin American History	3	Every year.	None.
HIST 230	Chicano/a History and Culture to 1865	3	Every year.	None.
HIST 231	Chicano/a History and Culture, 1848–Present	3	Every year.	None.
HIST 258	Latin American History Through Film	3	Every year.	None.

HIST 392	Pre-Columbian and Colonial Latin America	3	As needed.	None.
HIST 396	Mexican History	3	Every year.	None.
MUS 326	Musical Cultures of the Caribbean and Latin America	3	As needed.	None.
POSC 327	Latin American Politics	3	Every year.	None.
SOC 316	Immigration in Southern California	3	Every year.	None.
SOC 346	Solving Problems in Costa Rica: Globalization and Americanization in a Developing Country	3	Interterm.	One year of college Spanish or equivalent
SOC 370	Race and Ethnicity	3	Fall semester.	SOC 101 or consent of instructor.
SPAN 202	Intermediate Spanish 202	3	Every semester.	SPAN 201.
SPAN 345	Spanish Conversation	3	As needed.	SPAN 202 or consent of instructor.
SPAN 377	Literature and Culture of Latin America I	3	Alternate years.	SPAN 326 or consent of instructor.
SPAN 378	Literature and Culture of Latin America II	3	Alternate years.	SPAN 326 or consent of instructor.
SPAN 396	Introduction to Hispanic Linguistics	3	Every year.	Successful completion of any 300-level course in Spanish or consent of instructor.
SPAN 397	United States Latino Literatures and Cultures	3	Alternate years.	SPAN 326 or consent of instructor.
SPAN 398	20th Century Latin American Fiction: Journeys Across Memory	3	Alternate years.	SPAN 326 or consent of instructor.
SPAN 440	A Multidisciplinary Approach to Spanish Bilingualism	3	As needed.	Any SPAN 300 level course or consent of instructor.
SPAN 441	Spanish Phonetics and Phonetics	3	Alternate years.	SPAN 202 or consent of instructor.

Total credits 21