



LATIN AMERICAN AND LATINO STUDIES

The Latin American and Latino Studies Program at Lehigh University recognizes the fundamental necessity of understanding the social, political, economic, and artistic connections that traverse the Americas. Our mission is to provide Lehigh students with the cultural competency to dialogue with the United States' neighbors to the south, as well as with Latino communities in the United States, understanding the historical and contemporary complexities that shape our hemisphere. Lehigh's Latin American and Latino Studies Program uniquely equips students to compete in our increasingly globalized society.

THE PROGRAM

Given the cultural diversity that shapes our hemisphere, both Latin America and Latino cultures in the United States present dynamic options for critical inquiry. Our internationally recognized faculty teaches courses in Anthropology, Art, Architecture, and Design, English, History, International Relations, Political Science, Sociology, and Spanish. Drawing from this wide range of disciplines, the Latin American and Latino Studies (LALS) Program offers students an interdisciplinary approach to the study of Latin America and Latino populations in the United States. With outstanding access to the vast holdings of Latin American and Latino art in the Lehigh University Art Gallery's teaching collection, LALS also features prominent international speakers and cultural events throughout the academic year.

THE MAJOR AND MINOR

Both the major and minor in LALS consist of credits completed in language and historical/cultural studies, as well as elective credits that can be taken throughout our curriculum. Students are strongly encouraged to take elective courses in study abroad programs in Latin America and to complete research among Latino communities.

CAREER PATHS

Students completing the major and minor in LALS find careers in business, education, government, public service, and non-governmental organizations, both in Latin America and working with Latino populations in the United States. Our students combine their studies in LALS with a wide range of disciplines including Civil Engineering, Earth and Environmental Sciences, Economics, Finance, Global Studies, Journalism, Marketing, Political Science, Psychology, and Spanish. Studies in LALS equip students to compete in the job market and for admittance to graduate school. Where could LALS take you?

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT:

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For more information
on Latin American Studies,
go to
las.cas2.lehigh.edu

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In my Master's of Environmental Science at Yale and Ph.D. work at the University of Kansas, I study microbial contributions to the astounding plant diversity found in tropical ecosystems in Ecuador. While at Lehigh, pairing my science degrees with culture and language focused studies –as well as studying abroad several times–changed how I view the world. In order to conduct meaningful research, both professionally and personally, understanding the perspectives, history, and culture of those with whom I work is necessary and fulfilling. LALS at Lehigh provided me with an excellent opportunity to connect my interests!

— Camille S. Delavaux, Class of 2014

As an intern at a not-for-profit organization, my LALS minor allowed me to have intelligent conversations with my coworkers about potentially expanding the organization into Latin America. I used what I had learned in class to offer my opinion about whether or not the expansion would be successful. The LALS minor has been one of my favorite parts of my Lehigh degree – the professors are passionate, the courses are interesting, and the material is extremely relevant. Definitely recommend!

—Elif Anda, Class of 2016

I interned at a self-regulation advertising agency in Brussels, which collected statistics from several regions of the world, including South America, to further understand audience habits. My LALS minor enabled me to explain to coworkers that different Latin American cultures and governments can influence the way in which advertising is conducted by both domestic and international firms. Overall, my Latin American and Latino Studies minor has been one of the most influential parts of my academic career at Lehigh; the courses are highly interesting and the professors empower students.

—Silvia Zhagui, Class of 2016

My interest in the LALS Program at Lehigh was natural because of my personal relationship with the concept of Latinidad and the Latin American Diaspora. A daughter of immigrants from the Dominican Republic, I have realized that the experiences our families face in the United States are also deeply political. In Fall 2017, I began pursuing a M.A. in Latin American Studies with a concentration in International Migration at the University of California, San Diego. I'm doing research on the racialization of afro-descendant, migrant women from the Hispanic Caribbean and its implications on their day to day life in the United States. Anyone with enough creative curiosity to take a LALS course at Lehigh is on his or her way to learning how to become a better global citizen.

—Karen Valerio, Class of 2016



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