

2014 Fall Course Offerings

Latin American Studies

Director: Professor Matt Bush

Minor declaration forms available in Maginnes 490, Office of Interdisciplinary Programs



SPAN 012 Intermediate Spanish II (HU) 4 credits LAS attribute

Continuation of Spanish I.

Section 10 – CRN 41274; M, W, F / 12:10 – 1:00 p.m.

Section 11 – CRN 45441; M, W, F / 1:10 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

HIST 050-10 History of Latin America (SS) 4 credits CRN 48578 LAS attribute

Continuation of HIST 49. The development of the Latin American nations in the 19th and 20th centuries. Professor Zepeda Cortes

M, W, F / 10:10 - 11:00 a.m.

HIST 090-10 Latin American Breaking Bad: A History of the Global Drug Wars (SS) 4 credits CRN 45091 LAS attribute

Contemporary drug trafficking in Latin America is part of a long history of this region's participation in lucrative world markets. The illicit nature of drug production and distribution, however, has followed a singular historical path with extremely violent turns, a process heavily influenced by the United States. Through readings, discussion, and films, we will examine the history of drug production, traffic, and the so-called "war on drugs" in Latin America. We will also explore manifestations of this violent conflict in popular culture in both Latin America and the United States. Professor Zepeda Cortes

M, W / 2:35 - 3:50 p.m. - Freshman Seminar, Dean's Permission Required

LAS, SPAN 152-10 The Cultural Evolution of Latin America (HU) 4 credits CRN 46365

The historical and cultural evolution of Latin America. Discussion of representative literary works in their cultural and historical contexts. Prerequisite: SPAN 141 or consent of instructor. Professor Bush

M, W / 7:45 - 9:00 a.m. - Department Permission Required

ANTH 178-10 Mesoamerican Archeology (SS) 4 credits CRN 48626 LAS attribute

Ancient civilizations of Mesoamerica: Olmec, Zapotec, Maya, Toltec, and Aztec. Reconstructions of urban centers, political and economic organizations, and theories of the Mayan collapse. Professor Kurnick

M, W / 12:45 – 2:00 p.m.

LAS, SPAN 211-10 Business Spanish (HU) 4 credits CRN 49495

An introduction to business concepts and vocabulary in Spanish. Letter writing, specialized professional vocabulary, and review of grammar. Prerequisites: SPAN 141. Professor Prieto

M, W / 12:45 - 2:00 p.m. - Department Permission Required

LAS, ART 227-10 Latino Visual Arts and Culture in the USA (HU) 4 credits CRN 49209

The thrust of the course is to explore the phenomenon of contemporary Latino and Latin American art from several angles. Because art has no country, but the artist does, is contemporary art a product of globalization? Is Latino and Latin American art, culture and art criticism a nationalistic platform of cultures, or just a contemporary enterprise of sorts? Who's who in the current Latino and Latin American art world? Students will utilize works from the university (LUAG) collection and/or research and interview a contemporary artist at his or her studio (if possible) for essays or media projects. Professor Viera

T, R / 9:20 - 12:00 p.m.

SPAN 297-10 Contemporary Short Mexican Narrative (HU) 4 credits CRN 49581 LAS attribute

This course is designed to familiarize students with the sociocultural panorama of contemporary Mexico through some of its most prominent present-day authors: Mario Bellatín, Cristina Rivera Garza, Luis Humberto Crosthwaite, and Elmer Mendoza, among others. Our selected body of readings includes short stories, novellas, articles, testimonial narratives and digital literature. Particular attention will be paid to issues such as gender and sexuality, migration, national borders and national identity, as well as drug trafficking and Mexico's current Drug War. Professor Pillado

M, W / 2:35 - 3:50 p.m. - Department Permission Required

LAS, HIST 395-10 Insurrection and Revolution in Latin America (SS) 4 credits CRN 49419

A survey class to the problem of social and political upheaval in Latin America from colonial to contemporary times. Topics covered include the Túpac Amaru rebellion, the Wars of Independence, the struggles over decolonization, the Mexican Revolution, the Cuban revolution, and the Shining Path armed struggle, among others. The class focuses on the role of economics, state policies, and global forces in shaping each of these events, aiming to historically contextualize the question of violence in Latin America. Professor Puente

T, R / 9:20 – 10:35 a.m.

LAS, SPAN 397-10 The Boom and Beyond (HU) 4 credits CRN 49497

This class will examine works from the so-called Boom of Spanish American literature in the 1960s alongside texts produced following this crucial moment of artistic and social change throughout Latin America. Moving from the Boom toward the postmodern, we will consider works by Gabriel García Márquez, Manuel Puig, and Mario Levrero, among others. Professor Bush

M, W / 11:10 -12:25 p.m. - Department Permission Required