

Center for Latin American Studies The Ohio State University

Master of Arts in Latin American Studies

Major Requirements (30 credit hours)

At least 18 credits must be from courses with a minimum of 25 percent Latin American content as assessed in the syllabi. Courses with less than 25% Latin American content that have comparative, theoretical, methodological, or professional relevance to the student's program can be taken in consultation with the academic adviser and the final approval of the Graduate Studies Committee. Some courses offered at the 4500 level can be taken as independent studies with the concurrence of the course instructor, the academic adviser and the final approval of the Graduate Studies Committee. In both cases, the student must write a research paper focused on Latin America as part of the coursework.

| | |
|----------|-----------|
| Required | 6 credits |
|----------|-----------|

- International Studies 5640, Globalization and Latin America: Multi-Disciplinary Approaches (3)
- One course on research methods (3), related to the student's primary area of concentration, selected in consultation with the adviser from a number of qualitative and quantitative methodology courses offered in different departments, with the final approval of the Graduate Studies Committee.

| | |
|----------------------------|------------|
| Two areas of concentration | 21 credits |
|----------------------------|------------|

Students will choose or design, in consultation with their adviser and advisory committee, two areas of concentration, which should be approved by the Graduate Studies Committee. They will take at least 4 courses for a total of 12 credit hours in the primary area of concentration and at least 3 courses for a total of 9 credit hours in the secondary area of concentration. Students writing a thesis may use 3 of the 12 credit hours allocated to the primary concentration toward writing their thesis. The areas of concentration may be chosen from any of the following options:

Disciplinary concentrations

- Agricultural, Environmental, and Development Economics
- Anthropology
- Brazilian Literature and Cultures
- Business
- Education: Teaching and Learning
- Film Studies
- Geography
- Hispanic Linguistics
- History
- Latin American Literatures and Cultures
- Political Science
- Sociology
- Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies

Interdisciplinary concentrations. There is a great variety of possible topics for interdisciplinary concentrations, such as, for example:

- Border and Latino Studies
- Democratization and Globalization studies
- Development and the Environment
- Gender Studies
- Latin American Cultural Studies
- Postcolonial and Indigenous Studies
- Transnational Migration

Each student, in consultation with her/his advisory committee and with the approval of the Graduate Studies Committee may design additional ad-hoc interdisciplinary concentrations.

| | |
|-----------|-----------|
| Electives | 3 credits |
|-----------|-----------|

After completing their requirements students will be able to choose one elective course, which could be related to any of the two areas of concentration or not, insofar it contains a minimum of 25% Latin American content.

| |
|-----------------------|
| Language requirements |
|-----------------------|

- Applicants should demonstrate at the time of admission one of the following: a) native proficiency in Spanish or Portuguese; b) a bachelors degree in Spanish or Portuguese; c) communicative competence in Spanish or Portuguese equivalent to nine quarters (six semesters) of undergraduate work; d) successful completion of a proficiency test equivalent to the HEA Title VI Foreign Language Reference Form, or other similar examination. Written and oral proficiency exams will be administered by appropriate faculty of the Department of Spanish and Portuguese, and the results will be conveyed to the LAS Graduate Studies Committee.
- Competency in a second language, including indigenous language, is recommended.

| |
|---------------------|
| Degree requirements |
|---------------------|

- Thesis Track: Thesis followed by an oral exam
- Non-Thesis Track: Two take-home written examinations followed by an oral exam

| |
|--------------------|
| Dual degree option |
|--------------------|

Students pursuing a MA or PhD in any department or discipline (e.g. Political Science, Sociology, etc.) and who wish to complement it with further specialization in Latin American Studies can apply to the MA in LAS as a dual degree. The application process for the dual degree program is very simple, and the coursework needed significantly reduced, since up to 50 percent of the credits used for one degree can be used for the second degree. In a word, it will require only 15 credit hours (normally International Studies 5640 plus 12 credit hours in an area of concentration other than their discipline) to fulfill the requirements for the MA in LAS as a dual degree. This will be the primary concentration for the MA in LAS.