

LATIN AMERICAN AND LATINX STUDIES

Contact Information

Modern and Classical Literatures and Cultures

<https://cultures.rice.edu>

207 Rayzor Hall

713-348-4868

Jacqueline Couti

Department Chair, Modern and Classical Literatures and Cultures

jacqueline.couti@rice.edu

Latin American and Latinx Studies is an interdisciplinary program offered by the Modern and Classical Literatures and Cultures (MCLC) Department, designed to further understanding of the cultures, histories, and politics of Latin America as well as Latinx communities in the U.S. as viewed from regional and global perspectives.

The Latin American and Latinx Studies program also draws from courses and faculty from a wide range of departments and programs, including Anthropology, Architecture, Art History, English, French Studies, History, Spanish and Portuguese, Political Science, and Sociology. This program provides a challenging context for students to develop core skills in interdisciplinarity, language, communication (written and oral), theory, research methodologies, and geography. The department also offers a minor in Latin American and Latinx Studies.

Bachelor's Program

- [Bachelor of Arts \(BA\) Degree with a Major in Latin American and Latinx Studies](https://ga.rice.edu/programs-study/departments-programs/humanities/latin-american-latinx-studies/latin-american-latinx-studies-ba/) (<https://ga.rice.edu/programs-study/departments-programs/humanities/latin-american-latinx-studies/latin-american-latinx-studies-ba/>)

Minor

- [Minor in Latin American and Latinx Studies](https://ga.rice.edu/programs-study/departments-programs/humanities/latin-american-latinx-studies/latin-american-latinx-studies-minor/) (<https://ga.rice.edu/programs-study/departments-programs/humanities/latin-american-latinx-studies/latin-american-latinx-studies-minor/>)

Latin American and Latinx Studies does not currently offer an academic program at the graduate level.

Chair, Department of Modern and Classical Literatures and Cultures

Jacqueline Couti

Program Advisor

Sophie Esch

Professors

José F. Aranda, Jr.

Krista Comer

Jacqueline Couti

Luis Duno-Gottberg

Gisela Heffes

Rosemary Hennessy

Cymene Howe

Carlos Jiménez

Mark P. Jones

Alida C. Metcalf

Alexander T. Regier

M. Rafael Salaberry

Leslie A. Schwindt-Bayer

Associate Professors

Alexander X. Byrd

Sophie Esch

Moramay López-Alonso

Fabiola López-Durán

William Suárez-Potts

Assistant Professors

Margarita Castromán

Laura Correa-Ochoa

Amarilys Estrella

For Rice University degree-granting programs:

To view the list of official course offerings, please see [Rice's Course Catalog](https://courses.rice.edu/admweb!/SWKSCAT.cat?p_action=cata) (https://courses.rice.edu/admweb!/SWKSCAT.cat?p_action=cata).

To view the most recent semester's course schedule, please see [Rice's Course Schedule](https://courses.rice.edu/admweb!/SWKSCAT.cat) (<https://courses.rice.edu/admweb!/SWKSCAT.cat>).

Latin American and Latinx Studies (LALX)

LALX 158 - INTRODUCTION TO LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES

Short Title: INTRO LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES

Department: Modrn & Classicl Lit & Culture

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Lecture

Distribution Group: Distribution Group I

Credit Hours: 3

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level

Description: This course immerses students into Caribbean and Latin American studies by introducing them to the history, society, politics, and culture of the region, through a cross-disciplinary and a multi-national approach. Taught in English. Open to all students. Previously offered as SPAN 158 and LASR 158. Credit cannot be earned for LALX 158 if a student has previously taken SPAN 158 or LASR 158. Cross-list: SPAN 158.

LALX 230 - INTRODUCTION TO LATINX LITERATURE

Short Title: INTRO TO LATINX LITERATURE

Department: Modrn & Classicl Lit & Culture

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Lecture

Distribution Group: Distribution Group I

Credit Hours: 3

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level

Description: This multi-genre course works to define the contours of Latinx literature by surveying texts drawn primarily from Mexican, Puerto Rican, Dominican, and Cuban migrations to the US. In addition to addressing the historical and socio-political conditions that frame the Latinx experience, the course broadly outlines the development of Latinx studies and the formation of its literary canon.

Course URL: www.english.rice.edu (<http://www.english.rice.edu>)

LALX 238 - SPECIAL TOPICS

Short Title: SPECIAL TOPICS

Department: Modrn & Classicl Lit & Culture

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Activity Course, Intensive Learning Experience, Independent Study, Internship/Practicum, Laboratory, Lecture, Lecture/Laboratory, Research, Seminar, Studio

Credit Hours: 1-4

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level

Description: Topics and credit hours vary each semester. Contact department for current semester's topic(s). Repeatable for Credit.

LALX 251 - CONTINUITIES AND CHANGES IN BRAZILIAN HISTORY

Short Title: BRAZIL: CONTINUITY & CHANGE

Department: Modrn & Classicl Lit & Culture

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Lecture

Distribution Group: Distribution Group I

Credit Hours: 3

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level

Description: An exploration of themes essential to understanding modern Brazil, such as the origins of a multi-racial society, the transition from monoculture to industry, authoritarian and democratic trends, the emergence of a uniquely Brazilian culture, and the conflicts - environmental, political, and economic - over the development of the Amazon. Cross-list: HIST 251.

LALX 330 - SUBVERSIVE STORYTELLING IN LATINX TV & FILM

Short Title: LATINX STORYTELLING TV & FILM

Department: Modrn & Classicl Lit & Culture

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Lecture

Credit Hours: 3

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level

Description: Students will probe Latinx TV and film to identify subversive storytelling and stereotypes through characters and directors. We will examine how a century old discourse of criminality continues to dictate media representations of Latinxs. We will watch "The Mandalorian," "Andor," "Into the Spider-Verse," "Culture Shock," and many more. Taught in English.

LALX 332 - WRITING TO HEAL: U.S. LATINE NARRATIVES ON MENTAL HEALTH

Short Title: U.S. LATINE MENTAL HEALTH

Department: Modrn & Classicl Lit & Culture

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Lecture

Distribution Group: Distribution Group I

Credit Hours: 3

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level

Description: Examines literary depictions of mental health issues in the U.S. Latine community through critical close-reading of current fiction and non-fiction by modern-day authors of the genre. The course guides students in literary interpretation, reflection, analysis, and critique, focusing on themes connected to mental health and the U.S. Latine community.

LALX 350 - PIRATES, REBELS, NARCOS: LATIN AMERICAN OUTLAWS IN THE POLITICAL-CULTURAL IMAGINATION

Short Title: PIRATES, REBELS, NARCOS

Department: Modrn & Classicl Lit & Culture

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Lecture

Distribution Group: Distribution Group I

Credit Hours: 3

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level

Description: The outlaw is a central figure in the political-cultural imagination on Latin America. Through a study of popular culture and literature, this course provides a critical exploration of this figure: from pirates and runaway slaves in colonial times, to nineteenth century bandits, and more recently guerrillas and narcos. Taught in English. Formerly offered as LASR 350.

LALX 360 - LATINX POETICS: SENSING & (MIS)REPRESENTING LATINX STUDIES**Short Title:** LATINX POETICS THROUGH SENSES**Department:** Modrn & Classicl Lit & Culture**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** Centering on timely discussions and representations in Latinx Studies students will interact with fiction, poetry, photography, music, dance, and cooking to gain a better understanding of Latinx life as it is lived – through the senses. Specific texts, videos, and assignments will pay particular attention to taste, smell, touch/feeling, and sound. Not only will students be learning the curvatures of the themes being presented to them, but by an intentional emphasis on their senses and the ways that lived experiences appear in their scholarship students can then imagine different ways of “learning” and “doing research.” Taught in English.**LALX 378 - LATIN AMERICAN POLITICAL THOUGHT: IDENTITY, LIBERATION, MODERNITY****Short Title:** LATIN AM. POLITICAL THOUGHT**Department:** Modrn & Classicl Lit & Culture**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Distribution Group:** Distribution Group I**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** This course gives students an overview of the main thinkers, currents, concepts, and topics in Latin American and Latinx political thought. It is organized around three modules that address central topics: identity & transculturation; liberation; and modernity. Taught in English. Counts toward the minor in PLST. Formerly offered as LASR 378.**LALX 390 - RECLAIMING THE FUTURE: CONTEMPORARY TECHNOLOGY, CULTURE & SOCIETY IN LATIN AMERICA****Short Title:** TECH CULTURE & SOC IN LATIN AM**Department:** Modrn & Classicl Lit & Culture**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Distribution Group:** Distribution Group I**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** What is the role of technology in helping Latin America articulate a post-neoliberal future? This course examines the past, present, and future of the relation between technology and society in Latin America, focusing on contemporary efforts in popular culture and media to syncretize old and new forms of knowledge and techno-social production. Taught in English. Formerly offered as LASR 390.**LALX 477 - SPECIAL TOPICS****Short Title:** SPECIAL TOPICS**Department:** Modrn & Classicl Lit & Culture**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Activity Course, Intensive Learning Experience, Independent Study, Internship/Practicum, Laboratory, Lecture, Lecture/Laboratory, Research, Seminar, Studio**Credit Hours:** 1-4**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** Topics and credit hours may vary each semester. Contact department for current semester’s topic(s). Repeatable for Credit.**LALX 490 - INDEPENDENT STUDY IN LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES****Short Title:** INDEPENDENT STUDIES**Department:** Modrn & Classicl Lit & Culture**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Independent Study**Credit Hours:** 1-3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** A variable-credit course designed for students who want to pursue intensive semester-long study of a particular topic not included in the curriculum. Language may be in English or Spanish. Instructor permission required. Repeatable for credit. Formerly offered as LASR 490. Instructor Permission Required. Repeatable for Credit.**LALX 492 - DIRECTED RESEARCH****Short Title:** DIRECTED RESEARCH**Department:** Modrn & Classicl Lit & Culture**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Research**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** Independent research and investigation on any aspect of Latin America, Latin American studies, or U. S. Latinx studies. This course includes directed research and/or a research project. Student will work independently with only minimal faculty supervision. Permission of the instructor is required. Formerly offered as LASR 492. Instructor Permission Required. Repeatable for Credit.

Description and Code Legend

Note: Internally, the university uses the following descriptions, codes, and abbreviations for this academic program. The following is a quick reference:

Course Catalog/Schedule

- Course offerings/subject code for Latin American and Latinx Studies: LALX

Department Description and Code

- Modern and Classical Literatures and Cultures: MCLC

Undergraduate Degree Description and Code

- Bachelor of Arts degree: BA

Undergraduate Major Description and Code

- Major in Latin American and Latinx Studies: LALX

Undergraduate Minor Description and Code

- Minor in Latin American and Latinx Studies: LALM

CIP Code and Description ¹

- **LALX** Major/Program: CIP Code/Title: *05.0107 - Latin American Studies*
- **LALM** Minor: CIP Code/Title: 05.0107 - Latin American Studies

¹ Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) 2020 Codes and Descriptions from the National Center for Education Statistics: <https://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/cipcode/>