Latin American Studies Student Learning Goals and Objectives (Comprehensive Major)
Revised 6/6/13

The Latin American Studies program strives to give students a comprehensive understanding of the history, politics, economic development, and cultural diversity of Latin America, the Caribbean, and Latinos in the United States.

By the end of the Latin American Studies major students will:

GOAL 1: learn about diverse cultures, modes of communication, environments, and the creation of systems of knowledge and values as they pertain to Latin America, the Caribbean, and Latinos in the United States.

Outcome A: Identify diverse cultures, modes of communication, environments, and the creation of systems of knowledge and values as they pertain to Latin America, the Caribbean, and Latinos in the United States.
Outcome B: Explain systems of knowledge and values as they pertain to Latin America, the Caribbean, and Latinos in the United States.
Outcome C: Evaluate the creation and consequences of systems of knowledge and values - including one’s own - as they pertain to Latin America, the Caribbean, and Latinos in the United States.

GOAL 2: learn about global relationships of power and the inequality of access to resources in a historical and geographic context as they pertain to Latin America, the Caribbean, and Latinos in the United States.

Outcome A: Apply the knowledge of economic, social and cultural practices and institutions to reflect upon relationships of power and access to resources across time and space.
Outcome B: Employ multiple perspectives to evaluate relationships of power and access to resources across time and space.

GOAL 3: engage in critical and ethical global citizenship through learning experiences that enhance their understanding that individual and collective decisions have global implications.

Outcome A: Apply multiple perspectives based on learning experiences to explain the impact of actions (from personal to institutional) on people, places, countries and cultures of the world.
Outcome B: Appraise the need for personal and collective responsibility in creating more just global practices.

Goal 4: learn about the wide array of perspectives as they pertain to the multiple communities of Latin America, the Caribbean, and Latinos in the United States and be able to discuss the ways these perspectives shape behaviors and values.

Outcome A: Identify examples of the multiplicity of perspectives as they pertain to the array of communities of Latin America, the Caribbean, and Latinos in the United States
Outcome B: Evaluate how participation in these communities—including one’s own—impacts one’s interpretation of behaviors and values.

Goal 5: learn about privilege and oppression as they pertain to Latin America, the Caribbean, and Latinos in the United States.

Outcome A: Identify examples of privilege and oppression.
Outcome B: Evaluate the origins, perpetuation and consequences of privilege and oppression.

**Goal 6:** communicate with proficiency in a non-English target language of Latin America, the Caribbean, or Latinos in the United States.¹

Outcome A: Engage in interpersonal communication in the target language on a variety of topics of a personal, public, and professional/academic nature.
Outcome B: Understand and interpret the written, spoken, and visual expression of the target language on a variety of interdisciplinary topics.
Outcome C: Present information, concepts, and ideas to an audience of listeners and/or readers in the target language on a variety of topics related to Latin America, the Caribbean, and Latinos in the United States.

**Goal 7:** complete a substantial project requiring research and writing.

Outcome A:
Locate and access academic articles and books.
Communicate results effectively in writing.
Synthesize information from various sources into your own cohesive argument.
Employ appropriate use of a citation style.

Outcome B:
Construct a thesis and argument based on evidence.
Evaluate the credibility, position, or perspective of various forms of evidence and / or argumentation.

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¹ For each of the learning outcomes below concerning language proficiency listed, the desired benchmark for linguistic proficiency in the target language is the Intermediate/High level or above according to the ACTFL proficiency guidelines. [http://actflproficiencyguidelines2012.org/](http://actflproficiencyguidelines2012.org/). Presently the target language in Latin American Studies is Spanish. With the consent of the LAS Steering Committee students may work to develop proficiency in other languages spoken in Latin America and the Caribbean.