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 Islands, and Latinos in the United States.

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

**GOAL 1:** be able to negotiate meaning and knowledge about diverse cultures, modes of communication, environments, epistemologies, and values as they pertain to Latin America, the Caribbean, and Latinos in the United States.
   - Outcome A: Applies cultural knowledge to communicate and demonstrate differences in behaviors, worldviews, economic, social, political, or religious systems by providing examples of what counts as knowledge based on theories and/or disciplines.

**GOAL 2:** be able to evaluate global systems, institutions, and/or relationships of power and resources in a historical and geographic context as they pertain to Latin America, the Caribbean, and Latinos in the United States.
   - Outcome A: Applies the knowledge of global systems and/or institutions, and employs multiple perspectives and theories to reflect upon 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: Applies and employs multiple perspectives and/or theories based on global learning experiences to explain the connectedness of decisions and/or actions (ranging from personal to institutional) on people, places, countries and cultures of the world.

**Goal 4:** learn about social group perspectives as they pertain to Latin America, the Caribbean, and Latinos in the United States.
   - Outcome A: Critique the perspectives of multiple and intersecting social groups—including their own—on the interpretation of and connection between historical and current events and issues.

**Goal 5:** learn about privilege and oppression as they pertain to Latin America, the Caribbean, and Latinos in the United States.
   - Outcome A: Critique the knowledge systems and likely experiences that may accompany particular positions within systems of privilege and oppression (e.g. meritocracy).
   - Outcome B: Articulate the need for personal and collective responsibility to act in order to change these systems.
   - Outcome C: Foster inclusive interactions with others in a manner that demonstrates knowledge of relevant culture.

**Performance Indicator:**
- Exit survey
Goal 6: will communicate with proficiency in the target language.¹

Outcome A: Engage in interpersonal communication in the target language on a variety of topics of a personal, public, and professional nature.

**Performance Indicator**
- ☐ Language Immersion Experience²
- ☐ Successful completion of Spanish 302

Outcome B: Understand and interpret the written and spoken expression of the target language and visual images on a variety of interdisciplinary topics.

**Performance Indicator**
- ☐ Language Immersion Experience
- ☐ Successful completion of Spanish 352

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 Islands, and Latinos in the United States.

**Performance Indicator**
- ☐ Successful completion of LAS Language Immersion Experience
- ☐ Successful completion of LAS Capstone
- ☐ Successful completion of Spanish 352

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/]. 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.

² Complete a language immersion experience of a minimum of six weeks in residence in an approved academic program (study abroad, internship or a volunteer work) in a Latin American country. Students facing extenuating circumstances may participate in an alternative domestic language immersion experience pre-approved and determined in conjunction with the LAS Steering Committee.