I. Background Information

A. Title of Program: Latin American Studies Certificate

B. Department(s)/Program(s): Latin American Studies, Art, Economics, Geography/Anthropology, History, Honors, Languages, Mathematics, Nursing, Philosophy/Religious Studies, Sociology, Women's Studies

C. Administrative Home: Latin American Studies

D. Division: ☒ Undergraduate  □ Graduate  
   (Requires approval by APC*)  (Requires approval by GC**)

E. Effective Year and Term for Implementation of Action: Fall 2017

II. Unit Approvals

A. Department Chair(s)/Program Director(s)  

   Signatures  

   Date

   9/15/16

   15 Sep 2016

   15 Sep 2016

   9/19/16

   9/12/16

   9/19/16

   9/20/16
B. Dean of College

C. Chair, Academic Policies Committee

D. Chair, Graduate Council

9.29.16

* APC = Academic Policies Committee
** GC = Graduate Council
III. Certificate program proposals should originate at the department/program level; all affected departments/programs must endorse proposals. Each proposal will include the following:

A. Context for the certificate program (any predecessor programs, relationship to existing programs, alignment with university mission);

This certificate is similar to the existing Latin American Studies (LAS) minor but has fewer credits and will require neither an immersion in a Latin American country nor taking any Spanish classes and hence no Spanish language ability. The certificate will allow students from across campus learn about Latin American and U.S. Latino/Hispanic communities. Our intent is to serve the broader University goal of making UW-Eau Claire a more receptive environment for students with a Latin American background while also enhancing global awareness for all students pursuing the certificate. Because the certificate can serve a broader audience, it may help the Latin American Studies program to grow. Also, by providing a secondary program that requires only 12 unique credits, it can help students graduate within four years.

B. Rationale explaining need for the program (e.g., target audience(s), evidence of long-term need, anticipated enrollment);

The target audience is students from across campus who are interested in learning more about Latin America and Latin American communities in the U.S., their history and their culture. Many Nursing and Education students who are not taking Spanish and quite likely may not be able to study abroad given their prescriptive majors can nonetheless benefit from this certificate program. If the demographics in Wisconsin and the nation change as projected, Latino/Hispanic communities will continue to grow, and thus many different fields of study would be complemented by the material covered by the courses in this program. Additionally, heritage speakers that might not be interested in formally pursuing the study of Spanish may want to learn more about Latin America and Latin American communities in the U.S. It is difficult to predict enrollment, as much would depend on students knowing about the program, but we currently (as of 9/13/16) have 18 LAS majors and 13 minors; I can foresee having about 30-40 students wishing to obtain the certificate, if not in Fall 2017, then perhaps soon thereafter once word spreads of its existence

Because of extensive overlapping credits, Latin American Studies majors will not be able to utilize this certificate as their second program for purposes of graduation. Also, courses in the certificate cannot be applied to any major whose course work is included in the certificate to ensure there is enough distinction between the first and second programs for graduation purposes.

C. Statement of benefits to students, the department(s)/program(s), college(s), and university;

One of the impediments to having an environment that is receptive to students of color is the lack of historical and cultural knowledge held by the rest of the student communities on campus. The general assumption behind area studies is that the more those who are not of particular groups learn about others from differing groups, the less likely they will be to act in derogatory and insensitive ways. That, in addition
to other benefits mentioned previously, is one of the major benefits of such a certificate program that does not preclude students from participating in it by requiring language ability or study abroad.

D. Description of the academic component including:

i. **Learning goals and outcomes for students;**

   Via the core courses, students will learn about Latin America and Latino/Hispanic cultures in the U.S. and also learn about the role that economic, political and social factors such as race have had on those communities. Beyond the core courses, students will choose two other courses from an identified list of electives. These electives serve the purpose of further informing current students and future citizens about Latin America and Latino/Hispanics in the U.S.

ii. **Specification of any program admission requirements, minimum GPA requirements for courses, GPA requirements for certificate completion above the university minimum, applicability of the S/U option;**

   We do not have any program admission requirements, minimum GPA requirements for courses nor for certificate completion above the university minimum. S/U would be applicable as per the university regulations.

iii. **Course array, including specification of new, required and elective courses. If electives are allowed within the certificate program, an explanation of the proposed electives in light of the need for program cohesion should be included.**

   This certificate draws from existing courses. All students will complete two core courses for the certificate: LAS 150 Introduction to Latin American Studies (3 credits, offered Fall and Spring) and LAS 222 Introduction to U.S. Latino History and Culture (3 credits, offered Fall and Spring). Students then can choose any two 3 credit courses from the list of Humanities/Social Sciences electives currently approved for our LAS majors and minors, excluding the Spanish language courses, as well as future upper division courses with a focus on Latin America and/or U.S. Latino/as, or other courses with approval of the LAS Director based on suitability of the course for the certificate program.

Core Courses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Course Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LAS 150</td>
<td>Introduction to Latin American Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAS 222</td>
<td>Introduction to U.S. Latino History and Culture</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Two courses from the Humanities/Social Sciences courses listed below (or future upper division courses with a focus on Latin America and/or US Latino/as, or other courses with approval of the LAS Director based on suitability of the course for the certificate program):
Anth/Wmns 356 Women in Cross-Cultural Perspective
ArtH/AIS 335 Ancient Art and Architecture of Mexico and Central America
ArtH/AIS 337 Art of Tawantinsuyo
Hnrs 304 Honors Colloquium (when offered as Crossing Borders: Discourses from Latin America)
LAS/Hist 309 Latin America Through Independence
LAS/Hist 311 Latin America Since Independence
LAS 314 Music and Dance of Latin America
LAS/Geog 321 Geography of Latin America
LAS/Econ 356 Economic Development of Latin America
Math 107 Mathematics in Latin American Cultures
NRSG 389 Cross-Cultural Health
Rel/AlS 330 Indigenous Religions of the Americas
Soc 312 Race and Ethnicity in the U.S. or Soc 314 Social Class and Inequality
Wmns 422 Women's Studies Advanced Travel Seminar (when offered as Women in Nicaragua)

E. Description of the administration, staffing, and budgeting for the program, including:

i. **Faculty/staff participating in the certificate program;**

Gerardo Licón, from the LAS program. Other courses are taught by faculty from various programs across campus, some of whom are affiliates of the LAS program.

ii. **Proposed frequency of offering for courses included in the certificate program;**

Courses would continue to be offered as described in the UW-Eau Claire browse catalog.

iii. **Proposed arrangements for ongoing advising for students in the certificate program;**

Students seeking to complete this certificate will be advised by the current LAS advisers. Particular care will be paid to ensure that any prerequisites for courses have been taken, or (if not) that students choose other courses and do so in a timely manner based on when courses are offered. However, since many of the courses that are part of our current electives for the LAS majors and minors have no prerequisites, this should not be too much of an issue.

iv. **Anticipated need for student support services for students enrolled in the certificate program;**

Other than proper advising, we do not foresee any other support needs associated with this certificate program.
v. Identification of an administrative home for certificate programs involving more than one academic department/program;

This certificate program would be offered by the LAS Program, with supporting course work offered by the other departments/programs noted on the cover page.

vi. Funding needs to initiate and maintain the certificate program, including source(s) of funding and any needed resource reallocation;

As the certificate is based on existing courses, we do not foresee a need for more funding to initiate the program. For maintenance of the program, if enrollment in courses is increased significantly, we will pursue conversations about how the enrollment demand can be addressed.

vii. Impact on existing courses and programs.

It is possible that courses which are part of the program may experience a higher enrollment, but this should not be excessive. This can be monitored, as well as the impact of the LAS certificate on the LAS minor program, but this will hold true for all certificates currently being developed.