About the major:
The globally interdependent nature of today’s world makes second language proficiency and cross-cultural understanding valuable assets for students in any field. Students in the Latin American Studies program (LAS) can develop a high proficiency in Spanish through the LAS core language courses and language immersion requirements. Students also gain in-depth knowledge and understanding of Latin America and Latinos/Hispanics in the United States through an array of courses from multiple disciplines including art history, economics, geography, history, literature, political science, sociology, religion and women’s studies.

Students complete between core Spanish and Latin American Studies classes, plus elective courses related to Latin America taken outside of the Languages Department.

### Majors:
- Latin American Studies, Liberal Arts – comprehensive major
- Latin American Studies, Language Emphasis, major
- Latin American Studies, Culture, Language and Society Emphasis, major
- Latin American Studies, Teaching – comprehensive major

### Minors:
- Latin American Studies, Liberal Arts

### Required GE or University courses:

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<tr>
<th>Latin American Studies liberal arts majors</th>
<th>Minors:</th>
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<td>choose a Bachelor of Arts or a Bachelor of Science degree within the College of Arts and Science. The General Education requirements differ depending on the degree, so the student should consult the Catalog. Most LAS majors choose a B.A.</td>
<td>Latin American Studies, Liberal Arts</td>
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<td>Teaching majors have more specific G.E. requirements, including:</td>
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<td><strong>GE IA:</strong> CJ 201, 202 or 205</td>
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<td><strong>GE IB:</strong> Math course 104 or higher (usually Math 107)</td>
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<td><strong>GE II:</strong> A biology and a physical science required (BIOL 182 is also an LAS elective course; consult catalog)</td>
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<td><strong>GE III:</strong> Pols 110 (American National Politics); Psyc 261 (Psyc Dev and Classroom Processes); LAS 150 (Introduction to Latin American Studies)</td>
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<td><strong>GE IV:</strong> Must include one course from IV-A Fine Arts (can be met through major); one IV-B Literature (met through LAS major); Additional credits fulfilled through major.</td>
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<td><strong>GE V:</strong> ES 385</td>
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### Helpful Tips:
- All majors must take LAS 150, Introduction to Latin American Studies.
- Language credit in the major begins with Spanish 301, although a student’s initial Spanish course will depend on the placement examination results.
- All majors take a variety of elective courses which usually fulfill many G.E. requirements. Language courses fulfill GE-IA requirements, BIOL 182 is a G.E. II class, and Math 107 fulfills GE-IB for the B.A. and Teaching major.
- Since many of the courses required for the major are not offered every semester, students should take the courses as soon as they are available.
- All LAS majors and minors must spend a minimum of six weeks in an approved program in Latin America or participate in an approved alternative domestic language immersion experience, such as an internship or volunteer experience.
- Because many of the LAS major courses fulfill GE requirements (categories IA, II, III and IV), students should choose their other GE courses in these categories carefully. This is particularly true for teaching majors.
- Students are encouraged to join the Latin American Studies Club, the Latin American Sustainability Education and Development club (LA SED), and the Student Organization of Latinas/os (SOL) for further Spanish practice and cultural information.
Courses for the First Year

- Students should take a Spanish course each semester.
- LAS 150 is offered both fall and spring semesters.

First year students should review LAS offerings in the Mathematics, Natural Sciences, Social Sciences and Humanities which are also GE courses (see LAS degree planning worksheets at: http://www.uwec.edu/LAS/degree.htm).

Information for exploring students:
LAS 150 is the introductory course that introduces the field of Latin American Studies to the student.

Admission for LAS Teaching:
LAS Teaching majors must be admitted into the College of Education and Human Sciences. To be eligible for the pre-program, in which a student should be enrolled their sophomore year, (ES 212, Initial Teaching Experience in Elementary, Middle and High School Settings), a student must pass the Praxis Core, complete the university writing requirement, have at least a 2.75 resident and total GPA and have earned 14 credits by the time they register for the course. Praxis Core or appropriate ACT scores required for ES212: Students are required to pass a standardized test—the Praxis Core—preferably in their first year of study. The Praxis core may be waived if a student has a composite ACT score of 23 with a minimum score of 20 on the English, math, and reading subject tests from a single ACT taken within the past 5 years. If a student does not meet all of these ACT criteria, they must take the entire Praxis Core. The passing test scores must be received before students can register for ES 212, Initial Teaching Experience in Elementary, Middle and High School Settings, preferably in their second year of study.

Language Immersion Requirements:
All LAS majors and minors must spend a minimum of six weeks of language immersion in an approved program in Latin America or participate in an approved alternative domestic language immersion experience, such as an internship or volunteer experience. While the minimum requirement is six weeks, the Latin American Studies program recommends that students spend at least one semester abroad.

The following UWEC study abroad program options in Latin America are available:
- **Chile**--ISEP-Direct Pontificia Universidad Católica de Valparaíso
  **Costa Rica (spring semester only)**-Costa Rica Study Abroad, San Isidro
- **Nicaragua/Costa Rica (fall semester only)**-Granada, Nicaragua & Bagaces, Costa Rica
- **Uruguay**-ISEP - Direct Universidad Católica del Uruguay, Montevideo
- **Costa Rica (summer)**-Nursing & Health Care Professions in Costa Rica
- **Costa Rica Study Abroad (summer)**-San Isidro, Costa Rica
- **Nicaragua (summer)**-Women in Nicaragua: Culture, Language & Society

*A student should consult with a Latin American Studies adviser regarding the courses to be taken while abroad. Courses which are available abroad can often be used in substitution for courses offered at UW-Eau Claire. For more information on study abroad programs please consult a study abroad coordinator or the CIE website: http://www.uwec.edu/cie/

Contact information:
Dr. Manuel Fernández
fernanm@uwec.edu
Hibbard Humanities Hall 352/Centennial Hall 4702
715-836-2390
www.uwec.edu/LAS/index.htm

UW-Eau Claire respects individual differences.
This guide complements rather than substitutes for individual advising.

For instructions about how to declare this major:
www.uwec.edu/Registrar/student/chgofmajor/index.htm