Latin American Studies

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 study abroad 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.

Scroll down this page to find degree plans and advising sheets.

Majors

- Latin American Studies - Culture, Language and Society
- Latin American Studies - Language
- Comprehensive majors (no minor required)
- Latin American Studies - Liberal Arts
- Latin American Studies - Teaching

Minor

- Latin American Studies - Liberal Arts

Certificate

- Latin American Studies

Where you'll find our grads

- Non-profit Organization Project Manager, Mayflower Medical Outreach, Jinotega, Nicaragua

Prepared for Success

The significant Latino/Hispanic population in the United States and the increasing social, cultural and economic interconnectedness between the countries and peoples of the hemisphere will increase the demand for professionals who are both proficient in the Spanish language and prepared to work with Latinos/Hispanics and the people of Latin America. The unique Spanish language requirement in the LAS program provides students with the skills necessary to effectively communicate with Spanish speakers. Students must spend a minimum of six weeks of language immersion either abroad in an approved program in Latin America or participate in an approved alternative intercultural experience. UW-Eau Claire offers a Spanish Living Learning Community to introduce students and the Eau Claire community to the various aspects of the Spanish-speaking world.

Latin American Studies graduates work in a spectrum of fields including language interpretation and translation, international business, domestic and international non-profit organizations, K-12 Spanish and bilingual education, government agencies, and/or further their education through a master’s or doctoral degree.

Why UW-Eau Claire

Rankings / Reputation / Well-funded programs

Since the 2007-2008 academic year, four students in the Latin American Studies program have received the prestigious Fulbright U.S. Student award. Fulbright recipients represent the United States as cultural ambassadors overseas.

Research Opportunities

Our faculty offer top notch advising and include students in a variety of research opportunities. For example, students may engage in faculty/student research collaborations, international or domestic internships,
Latin American Studies (continued)

diversity mentoring projects, the
International Fellows Program and
student-designed independent
studies.

Course Work / Pre-
Professional
Courses

The interdisciplinary Latin American
Studies major and minor programs
include extensive coursework in
Spanish to provide students with the
proficiency necessary to communicate
effectively with Spanish speakers.
Students are also required to take LAS
150 – Introduction to Latin American
Studies, along with relevant courses in
art, anthropology/geography, history,
economics, political science and other
disciplines. Students majoring or
minoring in LAS also cover most many
of their liberal education requirements
through the LAS core curriculum and
electives. Many students find
completing an LAS and Spanish
major/minor combination to be a
logical combination very
complementary, though LAS students
also major or minor in Social Work,
Chemistry, Political Science and much
more.

Special Admission
Guidelines

Students are strongly advised to enroll
in Spanish courses during their first
semester or year at the university so as
to not lose practice in the language
and continue developing their
proficiency. They are also encouraged
to start thinking early on about when
and where they will do their study
abroad or other immersion experience
in a Latin American country.