

## Latin American Studies Curriculum Map

### Student Learning Outcomes of Latin American Studies (Major and Concentration):

Students of the Latin American Studies' courses will:

- (a) explain the historical, political, cultural, or economic development of Latin America.
- (b) describe how Latin Americans have contemplated the human condition and the need for self-transcendence.
- (c) demonstrate how Latin America's natural history has had a tremendous influence on the development of the cultures of the people who live there, and how humans have adapted to and altered their environment.
- (d) discuss how literary works in Latin America represent cultural, social, and political issues such as the articulation and negotiation of class, racial, and sexual identities.
- (e) communicate with proficiency in the target language.<sup>1</sup>

### Assessment Methods:

#### A. Direct Measures

All courses in LAS measure student success by the following:

1. Exams and/or Research Papers: Student examinations and research papers are used to assess content knowledge as well as the research and writing skills of students.
2. Oral presentations (Individual or group presentations): In this assignment, students discuss and analyze a reading or a research topic. The assignment creates more opportunities for the students to develop critical thinking and oral skills.

In the specific case of the courses in the cognate area:

3. Linguistic proficiency' success in the target language (Spanish and/or Portuguese) will be assets according to the ACTFL proficiency guidelines. See attached guidelines followed by the World Languages and Cultures Department.

#### B. Indirect Measures

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<sup>1</sup> For 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. See guidelines followed by the World Languages and Cultures Department.

4. Alumni Survey – Students who have graduated are surveyed (Spring 2014) to determine whether they pursued further education or gained employment and were asked what aspects of the program most prepared them for further education or a career.
5. Exit Survey – Seniors take an exit survey at the end of the academic year. In this survey, students are asked in what specific ways they benefitted from the program as well as their impressions in regard to various aspects of the program.
6. Student's feedback of at least one extra cultural event sponsored by Latin American Studies.

The following matrix shows assessment methods (numbers from 1 to 6 as indicated above) with specific student learning outcomes (letters from a to e as indicated above) per each LAS course (Fall 2013-Spring 2014)

**Assessment Learning Outcomes X Assessment Methods Matrix (per course)**  
**Fall 2013-Spring 2014**

Outcome	A	B	C	D	E
Assessment Measure by course					
<b>SPRING 2014</b>					
ENLT 251	1,2,4,5	1,2,4,5	1,2,4,5	1,2,4,5	
<i>Borderlands Writing</i>					
LAWS 384	1,2,4,5	1,2,4,5	1,2,4,5		
<i>Working for Justice</i>					
PHIL 242	1,2,4,5,6	1,2,4,5,6	1,2,4,5,6	1,2,4,5,6	
<i>Latin Amer. Thought</i>					
PS 295	1,3,4,5,6	1,3,4,5,6	1,3,4,5,6		1,3,4,5,6
<i>Contem. Mex. Culture/Pol</i>					
PS 323	1,2,4,5	1,2,4,5	1,2,4,5		
<i>Central America</i>					
SPAN 312			1,3,4,5	1,3,4,5	1,3,4,5
<i>Spanish Composition</i>					
SPAN 314	1,2,3,4,5	1,2,3,4,5	1,2,3,4,5	1,2,3,4,5	1,2,3,4,5
<i>Latin American Culture and Civili</i>					
SPAN 384	1,2,3,4,5	1,2,3,4,5		1,2,3,4,5	1,2,3,4,5
<i>Colonial Cities</i>					
SPAN 315		1,2,3,4,5			1,2,3,4,5
<i>Medical Spanish</i>					

Outcome	A	B	C	D	E
Assessment Measure by course					
<b>FALL 2013</b>					
HIST 125	1,2,4,5	1,2,4,5	1,2,4,5		
<i>Colonial Latin America</i>	1,2,4,5			1,2,4,5	
HIST 215	1,2,4,5				
<i>Church/Society/Latin America</i>	1,2,4,5	1,2,4,5	1,2,4,5		
PS 219	1,2,4,5				
<i>Survey of Latin Am Polit</i>			1,3,4,5	1,3,4,5	1,3,4,5
SPAN 311					
<i>Spanish Conversation</i>	1,2,3,4,5	1,2,3,4,5		1,2,3,4,5	1,2,3,4,5
SPAN 320	1,2,3,4,5				
<i>Intro/Hispanic Literature</i>	1,2,3,4,5	1,2,3,4,5	1,2,3,4,5	1,2,3,4,5	1,2,3,4,5
SPAN 335	1,4,5	1,4,5			
<i>Service and Hispanic Community</i>					
T/RS 250					
<i>Latin Am Liberation Theology</i>				1,2,3,4,5	1,2,3,4,5
PORT 110					
<i>Intense Elementary</i>					