Colby

LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES

Director, *Associate Professor Ben Fallaw*
Advisory Committee*: Professors Patrice Franko (Economics and Global Studies), and Jorge Olivares (Spanish); Associate Professors Ariel Armony (Government), Ben Fallaw (History and Latin American Studies), Luis Millones (Spanish), and Betty Sasaki (Spanish); Assistant Professors Winifred Tate (Anthropology) and Emma García (Spanish)*

Requirements for the Major in Latin American Studies

A total of 10 courses, including Latin American Studies 173, 174, Spanish 231, two Latin American literature courses at the 200 level or above, four additional courses on Latin America at the 200 level or above from at least three disciplines other than literature, and one senior seminar or senior project.

Students must receive a grade of C or better for a course to count toward the major. No major requirements may be taken satisfactory/unsatisfactory. The point scale for retention of the major applies to all courses taken to fulfill the major.

Majors are required to spend at least one semester in Latin America matriculated in a program that offers university-level courses (not in a language acquisition program); all course work abroad must be conducted in either Spanish or Portuguese. All study-abroad plans must be approved by the director of the Latin American Studies Program. No more than the equivalent of two semester courses of foreign study credit may be counted toward the major per semester abroad, or four semester courses per year abroad. A minimum grade point average of 2.70 is required for admission to study abroad. Prerequisites for study abroad include the completion of Spanish 135 and Spanish 231 (may be taken concurrently) with a grade of C or better.

Note: Students wishing to fulfill the advanced grammar requirement in Portuguese must enroll, after securing the approval of the director of the Latin American Studies Program, in either a one-semester language program abroad (which will not replace the study-abroad requirement) or in an intensive summer language program that certifies advanced proficiency.

Honors in Latin American Studies

Students majoring in Latin American studies with a 3.7 major average or better and 3.3 overall at the end of their fifth semester (including course work done abroad) may apply for admission to the honors program by May 30 of their junior year. Permission of the program director and faculty sponsor is required. It involves a year-long independent research project that replaces the senior seminar requirement. Successful completion of the work of the honors thesis and of the major will enable the student to graduate “With Honors in Latin American Studies.”

Courses Approved for the Major in Latin American Studies

- *Anthropology*
  - 235 Ethnographies of Latin America: Violence and Democracy in the Andes
  - 236 Illegal Drugs, Law, and the State (paper must be on Latin America)
  - 297A Music and Culture in the Americas
- *Economics*
  - 214 Economic Policy and Performance in Contemporary Latin America
- *Global Studies*
  - 297J Environmental Issues in Latin America
- *Government*
  - 253 Latin American Politics
  - 297A Politics of the U.S.-Mexican Border
  - 335 U.S.-Latin American Relations
  - 450 Seminar: Democratization in Latin America
- *History*
  - 272 History of Law, Society, and Rebellion in Mexico
  - 274 Race, Religion, and Frontiers in Iberian-American Colonization
  - 275 Strongmen and Populism in Modern Spain and Latin America
  - 277 History of the Maya from 200 B.C.
  - 473 Seminar: Historical Roots of Violence in Modern Latin America
- *Latin American Studies*

- 173 History of Latin America
- 174 Introduction to Latin American Studies
- Music
  - 298 Music in Colonial Latin America
- *Spanish*
  - 231 Advanced Spanish
  - 264 U.S. Latina/o Literature: The Construction of "New" American Identities
  - 265 The Short Novel in Spanish America
  - 267 Transcultural Journeys: U.S. Latina/o Literature of Resilience
  - 268 Latina/o Cultural Expressions in Literature and Film
  - 273 Contemporary Spanish-American Short Story
  - 276 U.S. Latina/Chicana Women Writers
  - 354 Detectives and Spies: Popular Culture in Spanish-American Fiction
  - 371 The Colonial Experience: European and Amerindian Responses
  - 493B Seminar: The Latina Body

Course Offerings

LA173f History of Latin America To understand the historical roots of Latin America's enduring tensions and conflicts, students discuss and analyze sources (especially primary ones), write several short historical essays, and research and present a historical drama. Themes include the first American civilizations, the construction of colonial hierarchies, frustrated modernizations (religious, socioeconomic, political), liberalism and conservativism, nationalism, neocolonialism, and social revolutions. *Four credit hours.* **H, I** FALLAW

LA174s Introduction to Latin American Studies Cross-disciplinary, historically-grounded introduction to modern Latin America, including developing the capability to analyze and articulate the underlying forces behind the region's historical problems and its common geographical and environmental features (i.e. frontiers, regionalism), polities, cultural features, and recurring socioeconomic structures (i.e. plantations, favelas). Historical themes include the Gilded Age of export-oriented liberal modernization, the construction of supposedly timeless national cultures during the "critical decades" of the 1920s and 1930s, urban populism and economic nationalism, the Cuban Revolution, and Cold War dictatorships. *Four credit hours.* **H, I** FALLAW

[LA214] Economic Policy and Performance in Contemporary Latin America Listed as Economics 214. *Four credit hours.* **I**

[LA235] Ethnographies of Latin America: Violence and Democracy in the Andes Listed as Anthropology 235. *Four credit hours.*

[LA236] Illegal Drugs, Law, and the State Listed as Anthropology 236. *Four credit hours.*

[LA242] Anthropology of Latin America: City Life Listed as Anthropology 242. *Four credit hours.*

[LA268] Latino/a Cultural Expressions in Literature and Film Listed as Spanish 268. *Four credit hours.* **L, U**

[LA272] History of Law, Society, and Rebellion in Mexico Listed as History 272. *Four credit hours.* **H, I**

[LA274] Race, Religion, and Frontiers in Iberian-American Colonization Listed as History 274. *Four credit hours.* **H, I**

LA275j Strongmen and Populism in Modern Spain and Latin America Listed as History 275. *Three credit hours.* **H, I** FALLAW

LA277s History of the Maya from 200 B.C. Listed as History 277. *Four credit hours.* **H, I** FALLAW

LA297Jj Environmental Issues in Latin America Listed as Global Studies 297J. *Three credit hours.* BURKE

LA473f Historical Roots of Violence in Modern Latin America Listed as History 473. *Four credit hours.* **H, I** FALLAW

LA483f, 484s Senior Honors Thesis A year-long research project for senior majors resulting in a written thesis to be publicly presented and defended. Students may register either for two credits in the fall, January, and spring terms or for three credits in the fall and spring terms. *Prerequisite:* a 3.3 or higher major average at the end of the junior year and permission of the Latin American studies advisory committee. *One to four credit hours.* FACULTY

LA491f, 492s Independent Study An independent study project devoted to a topic chosen by the student with the approval

of an advisor. Only independent studies taken with a Colby faculty member and approved by the director of the Latin American Studies Program may count toward fulfilling major requirements. *One to four credit hours.* FACULTY