An integrated global economy, along with the rapidly changing demographics of the U.S. domestic market, make expertise in Latin American studies an asset to students in numerous fields. The Latin American Studies major requires students to explore the region through exposure to multiple disciplinary approaches, while at the same time encouraging them to develop a specialized focus in one of the three main pillars of study (historical studies; economic, political and business studies, and linguistic, literary and cultural studies) that can be strengthened through interdisciplinary tools.

**Careers in Latin American Studies**

Studies have shown a general increase in jobs requiring linguistic and cultural fluency in recent years. Graduates with a degree in Latin American studies enjoy careers in translating, interpreting or teaching. Other students continue to graduate school. Students may also be certified to teach high school or middle school through the UT Dallas Teacher Development Center. Additionally, the area-specific content knowledge gained through the major will enhance students’ marketability in careers in business, education, government/public service, health care, law, tourism, humanitarian ventures and other fields.

The University’s Career Center is an important resource for students pursuing postgraduate employment. Licensed counselors are available to provide strategies for mastering job interviews, writing cover letters and resumes and connecting with campus recruiters, among other services.

**High School Preparation**

To major in Latin American studies, it may be helpful to complete four units of language arts, including three units of a single foreign language. Students may also want to take one or more Advanced Placement (AP) Spanish course in high school.

**Latin American Studies at UT Dallas**

After graduation, a Latin American studies major from UT Dallas will be able to meet the following objectives:

- Analyze and describe the history, culture, literature, politics, economics, language, religion, business environment, artistic expression, and/or other specialized aspects of Latin American nations and the Latino population in the United States.
- Analyze and describe Latin America’s interconnectedness with the world.
- Analyze and describe the complex connections linking Latin America with the United States, such as trade, diplomacy, immigration and cultural exchange.
- Develop language competencies in Spanish, or other approved languages, and integrate foreign language into the study of Latin American literature, economic systems, political traditions, historical framework, and cultural mores.
The School of Arts and Humanities prepares students for the changes they will face in a media-rich 21st century. By connecting the visual and performing arts with the humanities (philosophy, literature, history), students learn how to think creatively as well as critically. Faculty members, many of whom are internationally recognized scholars and performers, provide quality instruction on topics ranging from the history of the Holocaust to the world of Harry Potter.

**Degrees Offered**

**Bachelor of Arts:** Historical studies*, Latin American studies*, literature*, philosophy, visual and performing arts*

**Master of Arts:** Art history, history, history of ideas, humanities, Latin American studies, literature, visual and performing arts

**Doctor of Philosophy:** History of ideas, humanities, literature, visual and performing arts

**Minors Offered**

If your academic focus leads you elsewhere at UT Dallas, but you would still like to pursue studies in the School of Arts and Humanities, the following minors are available:

- Art history
- Asian studies
- Communication
- Creative writing
- Dance
- Film Studies
- History
- Latin American studies
- Literature
- Medical and scientific humanities
- Music
- Performing arts
- Philosophy
- Spanish
- Theatre
- Visual arts

**Honors Thesis and Fast Track**

The School of Arts and Humanities honors thesis offers the opportunity for advanced creative and scholarly work and recognition. To earn A&H honors, students must graduate with:

- A minimum of 30 graded, upper-division semester credit hours at UT Dallas.
- At least 12 hours of upper-division courses in the student’s major with a GPA of 3.80 in those courses.
- The completion of an honors thesis or project evaluated by two faculty members with a grade of at least B+.

*Exceptionally well-qualified Arts and Humanities undergraduates who meet the requirements for admission to graduate school should consider the Fast Track program, which allows them to begin work on an A&H master’s degree before graduation. Qualified seniors may take up to 12 credit hours of approved A&H graduate courses during their senior year, which will apply to their undergraduate degree plans. For more information regarding Fast Track, visit utdallas.edu/ah/fasttrack.

**Additional Facts**

Several faculty members have been awarded prestigious fellowships, including those from the Guggenheim, Fulbright, Alexander S. Onassis and Woodrow Wilson foundations. Others are recipients of the Füst Literary Award, as well as awards from the National Endowments for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities.

The school’s centers further enhance students’ educational experience by bringing the concept of globalism to campus, by bringing world events into focus through research and by encouraging innovation and creativity.

**Contact Information**

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