

Major in Latin American Studies

An interdisciplinary major in the history, politics, and cultures of Central and South America and the Caribbean. The major consists of 9 courses and demonstrated language ability in advanced Spanish and intensive elementary Portuguese or elementary Quechua. Required: Iberian Atlantic, and one survey course of Latin American culture, history or politics, plus 7 electives related to the field drawn from group C or D below or from any department at the University.

THE MAJOR

Group A: Language Requisite. These are pre-requisites to the major (but can be fulfilled at any time prior to completion of the major) and do not count toward the 9 courses in the major.

Spanish: demonstrated language ability through the level of [Advanced Grammar and Composition \(SPAN-UA.0100\)](#)

and either

Portuguese: demonstrated language ability through the intensive elementary
or

Quechua: demonstrated language ability through elementary

Group B: Foundations in the major (2)

[The Iberian Atlantic \(SPAN-UA.0300\)](#)

Required; offered every semester. Taught in English with Spanish section available. May be taken at any stage; recommended early in the major, concurrent with language study.

One introductory course on modern Latin America or the Caribbean. Any of the following meet this requirement; see your department advisor for additional options.

[Cultural History of Latin America \(SPAN-UA.0305\)](#)

Offered every fall; taught in Spanish. Prerequisite: Critical Approaches (SPAN-UA.0200).

[Cultures and Contexts: Caribbean \(MAP-UA.0509\)](#)

Offered regularly through the Morse Academic Plan. Taught in English.

[Cultures and Contexts: Latin America \(MAP-UA.0515\)](#)

Offered regularly through the Morse Academic Plan. Taught in English.

Group C: Electives (7)

Electives may be drawn from the rich offering of courses on Latin America across the university. Offerings vary by semester, but are regularly offered in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese, Anthropology, History, Politics, as well as at Gallatin and other schools. Those taught in Spanish in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese carry as a pre-requisite "Critical Approaches" (SPAN-UA.0200), which also counts toward the major.

Recent course offerings include the following:

In [Spanish and Portuguese](#): Latin American Cinema, Modern Brazilian Fiction; Cities on the Edge; New Borderlands in Latin America and Spain; Cuba—Revolution and Culture; Brazil and Paradise; Fictions of Power in Spain and Latin America; Photography and Literature in Latin America. In [Africana Studies](#): Language and Liberation—At Home in the Caribbean and Abroad. In [Art History](#): Modern Art of Latin America. In [Anthropology](#): Ethnography and Ethnohistory in the Andes. In [Comparative Literature](#): Topics in Caribbean Literature; Diaries of Modernity. In [History](#): Politics of the Cuban Revolution; The Amazon—From Cannibals to Rainforest Crunch; Research Workshop-Inventing the US-Mexico Border. In [Music](#): Popular music in Latin/o America and the Caribbean; Brazilian Music and Globalization. In [Linguistics](#): Language in Latin America. In [Social and Cultural Analysis](#): Caribbean Women Writers. In [Politics](#): Politics of Latin America; Inter-American Relations. At [Gallatin](#): Imagining Latin America. At the [Silver School of Social Work](#): Global Service Learning in the Dominican Republic. At [Tisch](#): Latin American Theatre.

[NYU in Buenos Aires](#) offers many electives in Latin American Studies, including: History of Latin America; Music of Latin America; Global Scapes—Latin America in the Global World; the Language of Buenos Aires; Tango and Mass Culture; Contemporary Argentine Cinema; Contemporary Argentine Theatre.

Group D: Advanced Seminars / Special Courses

Recommended for juniors and seniors. Seminars are smaller classes that offer in-depth study of particular topics. Most of courses are taught in Spanish and carry as a pre-requisite SPAN-UA.0200 "Critical Approaches."

[Junior Research Seminar](#). Offered every spring; recommended for honors students.

[Honors Thesis Seminar](#). Offered every fall; followed by 4 points of Thesis Writing in the spring. Required for honors students.

For majors, by permission: [Internship](#) • [Directed Research/ Independent Study](#), for 2–4 credits.

Double majors may double count one relevant course with their other major with the permission of the Director of Undergraduate Studies in Spanish and Portuguese.

Honors Program

Students with a general and major GPA of 3.65 or above are encouraged to participate in the Honors Program. Those interested are encouraged to take the Junior Research Seminar in the spring of the junior year. Honors majors enroll in a year-long (8-point) colloquium in the senior year, the Honors Thesis Seminar (4 of these points count toward the major.) The honors thesis is an extended research paper on a topic of the student's choice and directed by a faculty adviser, written in Spanish or English. Students offer an oral presentation of the thesis in the spring of senior year.

AP Credit

4 or 5 in Spanish Language: language requirement fulfilled; credit for SPAN-UA.0004. Enroll in Advanced Grammar & Composition (SPAN-UA.0100)

5 in Spanish Literature: credit for either Advanced Grammar & Composition (SPAN-UA.0100) or Critical Approaches (SPAN-UA.0200) based on the decision of the Director of Language Programs.

Non-NYU Credits: Majors may count a maximum of 4 courses from other institutions toward the major.