

LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN STUDIES (LACS)

CORE FACULTY:

PROFESSOR BARNETT

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR MAYOCK

ASSISTANT PROFESSORS BOTTA, CAREY,
DICKOVICK, EASTWOOD

The **Program in Latin American and Caribbean Studies** is an interdisciplinary program that allows students to explore the concepts of civilization, culture, and society as applied to the region of Latin America and the Caribbean. The program's curriculum draws from a variety of disciplines - including history, literature, economics, politics, and sociology - in an effort to explore the ways the region has been shaped by the meeting of Amerindian, African, and European peoples. The program aims to teach students about the commonalities and diversity within the region. Students will consider how these factors complement or differ from North American society.

Students who complete the program can gain the background necessary for careers in teaching, bilingual education, social work, government or international organizations, business, journalism, and specialized non-profit organizations, and/or for graduate work in Latin American Studies and related disciplines.

The Latin American and Caribbean Studies Program is not a major. Students identified by the head of the program as having completed the requirements will have a notation placed on their transcripts at graduation.

The program requires completion of at least 21 credits as follows:

1. Introduction: Latin American and Caribbean Studies 101
2. Distribution: 15 credits selected from the following, with at least one course from each of the three areas. Latin American and Caribbean Studies 421, 422, and 423 may count towards the total count of 15 credits. Additional courses may be used when the topic is relevant and the program director approves.
 - a. *Literature*: Literature in Translation 253, 259; Spanish 240, 340, 342, 344, 346, 348, 350, 398; and, when appropriate, English 262, French 344, and Literature in Translation 295
 - b. *Humanities*: History 130, 131, 333, 336, 337, 366; Spanish 201, 212; and, when appropriate, French 280 and Spanish 295
 - c. *Social and Natural Sciences*: Biology 216; Economics 255, 280, 356; Politics 215 and 247; Sociology 334; and, when appropriate, Business 305, Economics 288, 289; Politics 381; Sociology 272

3. Capstone experience (typically after completion of other program courses): Latin American and Caribbean Studies 396

Students must complete the General Education (area 2) or Foundation and Distribution (FL) language requirement in Spanish or French. Students who wish to fulfill the requirement in Portuguese must consult the program head. Subsequently, students are strongly encouraged to pursue advanced language courses in French, Portuguese, and/or Spanish. Students should also take advantage of opportunities that will offer first-hand knowledge of the target culture(s) through formal study abroad, internships, or individual research. Various departments, for example, periodically offer study abroad programs in Latin America, including Costa Rica, Mexico, Ecuador and Brazil. In addition to W&L and independent study abroad opportunities, the program also facilitates internship placement information.

Courses relevant to the Program in Latin American and Caribbean Studies are as follows; for course descriptions, see the appropriate departmental listings:

Biology 216 - Tropical Ecology (Ecuador)
 Economics 280 - Development Economics
 Economics 255 - Environmental and Natural Resource Economics
 History 130 - Survey of Colonial Latin America
 History 131 - Modern Latin America
 History 333 - U.S.-Latin American Relations
 History 336 - Environmental History of Latin America
 History 337 - Revolutions in Latin America
 History 366 - Seminar: Slavery in the Americas
 Literature in Translation 253 - Contemporary Spanish-American Prose Fiction in Translation
 Literature in Translation 259 - The French Caribbean Novel
 Politics 215 - International Development
 Politics 247 - Latin American Politics
 Sociology 334 (History 334) - Nationalism in Latin America
 Spanish 201 - Supervised Study Abroad in Costa Rica
 Spanish 240 - Introducción a la literatura hispanoamericana
 Spanish 212 - Spanish-American Civilization and Culture
 Spanish 340 - Spanish-American Short Story
 Spanish 342 - Spanish-American Narrative: The Boom Generation
 Spanish 344 - Spanish-American Poetry
 Spanish 346 - Spanish-American Essay
 Spanish 348 - Spanish-American Women Writers
 Spanish 350 - The Cuban Story
 Spanish 398 - Spanish-American Seminar

The following courses may also meet program requirements, when the topic is appropriate.

Business Administration 305 - Seminar in International Business
 Economics 288, 289 - Supervised Study Abroad (when Brazil or Mexico)

English 262 - Literature, Race and Ethnicity
 French 280 - Civilisation et culture francophones
 French 344 - La Francophonie
 Interdepartmental 296 - Spring Institute in Culture
 and Society
 Literature in Translation 295 - Special Topics in
 Literature and Translation
 Politics 381 - International Political Economy
 Sociology 272 - Social Revolutions
 Spanish 295 - Special Topics in Conversation

**Latin American and Caribbean Studies 101 (3)—
 Introduction to Latin American and Caribbean
 Studies**

A multidisciplinary, introductory course designed to familiarize students with the pertinent issues that determine or affect the concept of identity in Latin American and Caribbean societies through a study of their geography, history, politics, economics, literature, and culture. The purpose of the course is to provide a framework or overview to enhance understanding in the students' future courses in particular disciplines and specific areas of Latin American and Caribbean study. (HU) *Barnett*.

Fall

**Latin American and Caribbean Studies 396 (3)—
 Advanced Seminar in Latin American and
 Caribbean Studies.**

Prerequisites: LACS 101, completion of six credits for the program's requirements at the 200 level or above, at least junior standing, and permission of the instructor. This course provides an opportunity for advanced students to explore in detail a specific aspect of Latin American and Caribbean Studies. Specific topics vary and are determined, in part, by student interest. May be repeated for degree credit with permission and if the topics are different. Offered when interest is expressed and faculty resources permit. *Barnett*.

Winter

**Latin American and Caribbean Studies 421 (1), 422
 (2), and 423 (3)—Interdisciplinary Research**

Prerequisites: LACS 101, junior or senior standing, and permission of the instructor. Independent research into a topic centered within Latin America or the Caribbean, directed by two or more faculty representing at least two disciplines. Students are expected to share their work with the public through a public presentation. *Barnett*.

Offered when interest is expressed and faculty resources permit.

LITERATURE IN TRANSLATION (LIT)

**Literature in Translation 201 (Classics 201) (3)—
 Classical Mythology**

An introduction to the study of Greek and Roman mythology, with an emphasis on the primary sources, both literary and visual. The myths are presented in their historical, religious and political contexts. The course also includes an introduction to some major theories of myth, and uses comparative materials drawn from the myths of other peoples and contemporary society. (HL, GE3) *Staff*.

Fall

**Literature in Translation 203 (Classics 203) (3)—
 Greek Literature from Homer to the
 Early Hellenistic Period**

Readings in translation from Homer, Hesiod, the tragedians, the comedians, and the lyric and pastoral poets, including selections from Herodotus and Thucydides, and from Plato's and Aristotle's reflections on literature. The course includes readings from modern critical writings. (HL, GE3) *Crotty*.

Not offered in 2008-2009

**Literature in Translation 204 (Classics 204) (3)—
 Augustan Era**

An interdisciplinary course taught in English, using the tools of literature, history and art to examine a specific, complicated, and pivotally important period in the evolution of western culture, focused on the literary. Readings from the poets predominate (Virgil's *Aeneid* and Ovid's *Metamorphosis*, selections from Horace, Propertius, Tibullus and other poems of Ovid) and also including readings from ancient historians dealing with Augustus and the major events of his period (e.g. Suetonius, Plutarch, and Tacitus on such topics as Actium and problems of succession). The topic for each lecture is illustrated with slides of works of art and architecture from the period. Selections from historians and from material remains are chosen according to intersection points with the literature. (HL, GE3) *Carlisle*.

Not offered in 2008-2009

**Literature in Translation 215 (3)—
 20th-Century Russian Literature in Translation**

Selected Russian literary masterpieces (short stories, plays and novels). Authors include Olesha, Babel, Nabokov, and Solzhenitsyn. (HL, GE3) *Brodsky*.

Winter

**Literature in Translation 218 (3)—
 Pre-Modern Chinese Literature in Translation**

A survey of Chinese literature from the earliest period to the founding of the Republic in 1912. Taught in English, the course presupposes no previous knowledge of China or Chinese culture. The literature is presented in the context of its intellectual, philosophical and cultural background. Texts used may vary from year to year and include a wide selection of fiction, poetry, historical documents, Chinese drama (opera) and prose works.