

# LATIN AMERICAN AND LATINO STUDIES

## Learning Goals

The Latin American and Latino Studies (LALS) program provides a foundational background in the experiences of Latin Americans and Latinos. It fosters:

- An understanding of similarities and differences in the experiences of people in the various Latin American nations and/or the various Latino groups in the United States.
- An awareness of the role of migration in shaping Latin American and/or Latino communities.
- An understanding of the role of race, ethnicity, class, gender, or sexuality in the experiences of Latin Americans and/or Latinos.
- An increased understanding of the Spanish and/or Portuguese language(s).
- An appreciation for the capacity of various academic disciplines to convey knowledge about the Latin American and/or Latino experiences.

## Program Activities

### Study Abroad

Studying abroad is a rewarding experience and is especially recommended for LALS majors and minors. Study abroad complements LALS courses while helping students fulfill some of the program's goals. For instance, it helps students achieve competency in Spanish or Portuguese and gain a better understanding of Latin America and Spain through cultural immersion and service-oriented courses. To this effect, the program has established a series of study abroad opportunities for students, ranging from a fall, spring, or summer term in Granada, Spain, to other LALS-approved study abroad programs throughout Latin America, the Caribbean, and Spain. Occasionally, LALS also sponsors spring and summer study tours.

For Fordham study abroad programs, such as the program in Granada, LALS majors and minors will be able to count all relevant courses taken abroad. If the student has already declared a LALS major or minor, ideally these courses should be approved by the LALS director or associate director before going abroad. For study abroad in a non-Fordham program, consult with the LALS director or associate director regarding the applicability of courses, ideally before going abroad. Typically, most or all courses with appropriate content will count toward the major or minor.

For more information on studying abroad, please visit the International and Study Abroad Programs page or email [isap@fordham.edu](mailto:isap@fordham.edu).

## LALS-Sponsored Programs

### Fall, spring, and summer semester programs in Granada, Spain

Continuously populated for more than seven millennia, Granada, a world heritage site, is one of the most beautiful and historically rich cities in the world. It was the hometown of the poet Federico García Lorca, a center of flamenco culture, and a place of intersection for European, North African, and Latin American cultures and scholarship. Study-abroad students will have the opportunity to live in this wondrous city, study the works of famous Spanish writers and artists and Spanish and Latin

American cultures, and partake in cultural visits and tours of Andalucía (Andalusia), the region in which Granada is located. Interested students should contact Rafael Lamas at [lamas@fordham.edu](mailto:lamas@fordham.edu).

## Other LALS-Sponsored Programs

LALS often sponsors study-tour courses in Latin America, which offer in-depth, on-site study of the history, arts, and culture of a Latin American city or country. Past courses have included:

- A spring study tour on the colonial artistic traditions of Mexico in Mexico City with Barbara Mundy (art history); on peace, reconciliation initiatives, and service to communities of displaced families in Bogotá, Colombia, with Arnaldo Cruz-Malavé (languages and cultures); and on migration in Puebla, Mexico, with Lindo-Fuentes (history).
- A summer course on the development of Cuban culture since the 1959 Revolution in Havana, Cuba, with Cruz-Malavé (languages and cultures), hosted by Casa de las Américas, Cuba's premier cultural institute.
- LALS will be offering spring study tours on the politics of memory in Santiago, Chile, with Carl Fischer (languages and cultures), on contemporary culture in Havana, Cuba, with Cruz-Malavé (languages and cultures), and on public health in Cali, Colombia, with Lenis (dean) and Renaldo Alba (associate director, CSTEP).

## Institute Resources

In addition to offering a major and minor, the Latin American and Latino studies program sponsors an institute that provides an intellectual home for students and faculty who are interested in Latin America and the Latino communities in the United States. LALS acts as a clearinghouse for information for faculty and students, invites speakers, organizes conferences and film series, and maintains video and journal collections for the use of its faculty and students. In addition, it sponsors visiting scholars; networks of scholarly exchange between Latin America and the United States, especially on issues pertaining to the relationship between Latin America and its diasporas; and fosters understanding of and service in Latin America. Its newsletter, *Boletín*, documents the program's multiple academic events, as well as the research, educational, and service activities of its faculty and students. All *Boletín* issues are available online at [www.fordham.edu/lalsi](http://www.fordham.edu/lalsi).

## Prestigious Fellowship Opportunities

LALS students have won many prestigious fellowships, including Fulbright Awards, which allow students to pursue their own research abroad. Students need to plan early (preferably in their sophomore year) if they wish to compete for a prestigious fellowship. See the director or associate director for more information.

## For more information

Visit the Latin American and Latino Studies Institute web page.