

LATIN AMERICAN, CARIBBEAN, AND U.S LATINX STUDIES, BA

UWM students interested in pursuing advanced knowledge about the varied cultures, histories, languages, and origins that are included within Latinx populations have three different programs to choose from, including a major and two different certificates.

UWM students in the Latin American, Caribbean, and U.S. Latinx Studies (LACUSL) major learn about the many different histories, cultures, and modern issues of Latinx peoples from all three regions - Latin America, the Caribbean, and the United States. It is among a small handful of programs nationwide to explore both Latinx communities in the U.S. as well as those in Latin America and the Caribbean; most programs focus on one or the other. Coursework spans several departments, including history, sociology, the arts, political science, anthropology, languages and literature, giving students many different lenses through which to look.

Many students choose this major because they intend to work with the Latinx population in some way. They may be going into health services, education, manufacturing, business, nonprofit work, social services, trade, or government work. Regardless of industry, they understand that the impact of globalization is growing and they recognize the increasing importance of Latin American countries and Latinx communities in the U.S. as political and economic forces.

Students more interested in the experience of Latinx communities within the United States might find our certificate in Latinx Studies well-suited to their personal and professional goals. A certificate is similar to a minor in terms of number of credits, but like the interdisciplinary LACUSL major mentioned above, it draws on classes from many different subject areas. Students can expect to take classes from history, English, Spanish, educational policy, and sociology.

Students more interested in the regions of Latin America and the Caribbean should explore the certificate in Latin American and Caribbean Studies in more detail.

Both certificates are excellent complements to other majors both within the College of Letters & Science as well as professional degrees such as business, education, nursing or health sciences.

Numerous study abroad (<https://uwm.edu/cie/study-abroad/>) opportunities are available to students in any of these programs, including short-term and longer-length. Most students start planning their study abroad experience early in sophomore year for trips that take place in junior year. Popular destinations include Mexico, Cuba, Brazil, Peru, Ecuador, Argentina, and Chile.

Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
	General Education Requirements	30
	L&S Requirements (general degree and major requirements)	75
	Electives	15
	Total Credits	120

Credit numbers reflect total possible credits towards degree. Due to the ability to count courses towards more than one requirement, credit amounts will vary. Please work with your academic advisor on your plan of study.

Preparatory Coursework

Based on individual placement results, some students may be required to complete preparatory coursework before enrolling in the courses listed here. This may include English language or composition preparation, developmental math, introductory chemistry, and/or student support courses for students participating in the First Year Bridge program.

General Education Requirements (GER)

UW-Milwaukee has General Education Requirements (<https://catalog.uwm.edu/policies/undergraduate-policies/#generaleducationtext>) that must be met in order to earn a bachelor's or associate degree. They include at minimum 30 credits (10 courses) in six categories that are designed to assure basic student competencies and provide a broad body of knowledge as a context for specialization.

Some degree requirements may fulfill GERs. Please review the requirements and consult with your academic advisor.

Code	Title	Credits
General Education Categories and Credits		
	Civics and Perspectives (CP)	6
	Communication and Literacy (CL)	6
	Humanities and Arts (HA)	6
	Mathematics and Quantitative Reasoning (MQR)	3
	Natural Science and Wellness (NSW/NSWL)	6
	Social and Behavioral Science (SBS)	3
	Total Credits	30

Letters and Science Course of Study – Bachelor of Arts Degree

Complete 120 credits including 75 credits in the College of Letters & Science with 36 of the 75 credits in L&S upper-level (numbered 300 or above) courses.

The College requires that students must complete, in residence at UWM, at least 15 credits in upper-division (numbered 300 or above) courses in their major. The College also requires that students complete at least 30 credits overall in residence at UWM. For additional residency and transfer credit limitations, see L&S Undergraduate Policies and Regulations (<https://catalog.uwm.edu/letters-science/#policiesandregulationstext>).

Students are also required to complete University-wide General Education Requirements (<https://catalog.uwm.edu/policies/undergraduate-policies/#bachelorsdegreegeneraleducation>) and the specific L&S requirements listed below.

To complete a major, students must satisfy all the requirements of the major as stated in this catalog. Students who declare their majors within five years of entering the UW System as a degree candidate may satisfy the requirements outlined in any catalog issued since the time they entered. Credits used to satisfy the major also may be used to satisfy other degree requirements.

College of Letters & Science Requirements

The degree requirements in the College of Letters and Science build on the University General Education Requirements to provide a broad base

of knowledge as well as an array of skills cited by employers as critical to professional success: critical thinking, problem solving, oral and written communication, ability to work well with others, and adaptability to change.

For the Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), students must complete the UWM General Education Requirements as well as these L&S requirements: the International requirement, the Breadth requirement, a Natural Science Lab requirement, the Research requirement, and a Language other than English requirement. The International requirement develops student potential for cross-cultural understanding in a globalizing world. The Breadth requirement ensures that students take classes in a wide variety of subjects, across humanities, natural sciences, and social sciences. The Research requirement calls for students to build critical thinking and oral and written communication skills through conducting an independent research project in their major. The Language other than English requirement further develops student proficiency in a language other than English. And, the requirement that students take an L&S Natural Science lab ensures exposure to and practice with the scientific method in action.

I. Total Credits and Upper-Division Courses Requirement

Students must complete 120 credits including 75 credits in the College of Letters & Science with 36 of those 75 credits in L&S upper-level (numbered 300 and above) courses.

II. Language other than English Requirement

Students doing the B.A. must fulfill a language other than English requirement by either successfully completing the fourth semester of university work or equivalent in one language other than English, or by successfully completing the second semester of university work or equivalent in two languages other than English (including all languages other than English and American Sign Language).

Language courses (including American Sign Language) other than English taken in high school may be used to satisfy all or part of this requirement. One year of high school language equates to one semester of college work. Proficiency tests approved by the Languages faculty may be used to satisfy all or part of this requirement.

III. International Requirement

To meet the International Requirement, students must successfully complete some two-course (minimum 6 credits) combination of:

1. Courses with L&S approved international content (see Courses Approved for the L&S International Requirement (<https://catalog.uwm.edu/letters-science/approved-courses-international-requirement/>) for course options).
2. Any study abroad course(s).

Students who graduate secondary school in a country other than the U.S. are exempt from this requirement.

IV. Breadth Requirement

In addition to completing the University General Education Requirements, L&S students must complete the Breadth requirement to obtain deeper experience across our three substantive divisions.

The L&S Breadth requirement calls for 9 credits each in L&S courses designated L&S Humanities, L&S Natural Sciences, and L&S Social Sciences breadth. One of the L&S Natural Science breadth courses must include a laboratory or fieldwork experience.

Please refer to the list of Courses Approved for the L&S Breadth Requirement (<https://catalog.uwm.edu/letters-science/breadth-requirement-course-list/>).

V. The Major

The College of Letters and Science requires that students attain at least a 2.0 GPA in all credits in the major attempted at UWM. In addition, students must attain a 2.0 GPA on all major credits attempted, including any transfer work. Individual departments or programs may require higher GPAs for graduation. Some departmental majors require courses from other departments. Students should contact their major department for information on whether those credits will count as part of the major GPA. The College requires that students must complete, in residence at UWM, at least 15 credits in upper-division (numbered 300 or above) courses in their major.

Research Requirement

Within their majors, students must complete a research experience approved by the L&S faculty. A list of courses satisfying the research requirement in each major can be found here (<https://catalog.uwm.edu/letters-science/approved-courses-research-requirement/>).

VI. The Minor

Students are encouraged to consider completing a minor, but it is not required. To complete a minor, the College of Letters and Science requires that students attain at least a 2.0 GPA in all credits in the minor attempted at UWM. In addition, students must attain a 2.0 GPA on all minor credits attempted, including any transfer work. The minor must contain at least 9 credits in upper-division (numbered 300 and above) courses taken at UWM.

Major Requirements

Students are required to complete a minimum of 33 credits in the major, at least 15 of which must be taken at the advanced level (300 and above) in residence at UWM. At least 9 of those credits must represent at least three curricular areas (i.e. one 3-credit course each in three different curricular areas) with no more than 18 credits of approved courses in a singular curricular area. Students are required to complete an e-portfolio for assessment purposes. Students will be assisted in the creation of an e-portfolio, and can ask the LACUSL advisor for direction to an appropriate faculty member.

Study of a language widely spoken in Latin America or the Caribbean is strongly encouraged, but not required. Students are strongly encouraged to pursue a combination of LAC area studies and U.S. Latinx-focused courses.

The College requires that all students attain at least a 2.0 GPA on all credits in the major attempted at UWM. In addition, students must attain a 2.0 GPA on all major credits attempted, including any transfer work.

With approval of program coordinator, a relevant course not currently listed below may be substituted.

The following are required:

Code	Title	Credits
Core		
<i>Introductory courses</i>		
LACS 101	Introduction to Latin American and Caribbean Studies	3
LATINX 101	Introduction to Latino Studies	3

Research Requirement

LACUSL 680	LACUSL Senior Research Project	3
or one course accepted for the LACUSL major and satisfying the L&S research requirement from table below ¹		

Electives

Select 24 credits from table of LACUSL-approved Electives below	24
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Total Credits	33
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¹ LACUSL 680 (<https://catalog.uwm.edu/search/?P=LACUSL%20680>) is the recommended research requirement course. In semesters when LACUSL 680 (<https://catalog.uwm.edu/search/?P=LACUSL%20680>) is not offered, the student may substitute an existing course from the table below, provided that the major research project undertaken as part of that course has a distinctly LACUSL topic. The student must inform the instructor they wish to fulfill the research requirement in the course.

If neither of these options is viable, students also may complete the research requirement by taking three credits of LACUSL 699 (<https://catalog.uwm.edu/search/?P=LACUSL%20699>), with an appropriate faculty member from the LACUSL associated faculty. L&S guidelines require that students will:

1. develop a research question, statement, or problem;
2. evaluate research in the field of study and integrate it with their findings; and
3. disseminate their findings orally or in writing.

Courses accepted for the LACUSL major and the L&S research requirement

Code	Title	Credits
AFRIC 320	Black Cultures in Latin America and the Caribbean	3
AFRIC 344	Global Black Social Movements	3
AFRIC 414	The Black Woman in America, Africa, and the Caribbean	3
AFRIC 418	Race, Class, and Gender in Latin America and the Caribbean	3
POL SCI 325	Latin American Politics	3
SPANISH 507	Seminar in Latin-American Literature and Culture:	3

Electives

Electives may be selected from the courses listed below. At least three different departmental curricular codes must be represented among the electives, with no more than 18 credits in any one curricular area. A maximum of 3 credits in an internship (LACS 289, LACS 489, LACUSL 289, LACUSL 489, LATINX 289 OR LATINX 489) may count as an elective for the major.

With approval of program coordinator, a relevant course not listed below may be substituted.

Code	Title	Credits
Electives approved for the LACUSL major		
AFRIC 205	The Poetry of African, African-American, and Caribbean Writers	3
AFRIC 311	African Religious Thought and Social Organizations	3

AFRIC 320	Black Cultures in Latin America and the Caribbean	3
AFRIC 334	Survey of Black American and Black Brazilian Societies	3
AFRIC 344	Global Black Social Movements	3
AFRIC 414	The Black Woman in America, Africa, and the Caribbean	3
AFRIC 418	Race, Class, and Gender in Latin America and the Caribbean	3
AIS 310		3
AIS 311	The World of the Ancient Maya	3
ANTHRO 214	Ancient Civilizations of Latin America	3
ANTHRO 309	Archaeology of Central and South America	3
ANTHRO 310	Archaeology of Middle America	3
ANTHRO 311	The World of the Ancient Maya	3
ANTHRO 497	Study Abroad: ²	1-12
ANTHRO 570	Issues in Bilingualism	3
ARTHIST 104	African, New World and Oceanic Art and Architecture	3
ARTHIST 251	Introduction to the Art and Architecture of Latin America	3
ARTHIST 270	Pre-Columbian Art, Myth, and Legacy	3
ARTHIST 343	Art and Culture of Spain and Latin America, 1500-1750	3
ARTHIST 372	Art of the Inca and their Ancestors	3
ARTHIST 373	Art of Ancient Mexico and Central America	3
ARTHIST 375	Art of the Aztec Empire	3
ARTHIST 474	Maya Art	3
ATM SCI 297	Study Abroad: ²	1-12
ATM SCI 497	Study Abroad: ²	1-12
BIO SCI 297	Study Abroad: ²	1-12
BIO SCI 497	Study Abroad: ²	1-12
COMMUN 350	Intercultural Communication	3
COMMUN 450	Cross-Cultural Communication	3
COMMUN 550	International and Global Communication	3
COMPLIT 365	Literatures and Cultures of the Americas:	3
CURRINS 542	History and Politics of Second Language Education	3
CURRINS 550	Using Children's Literature to Explore Latin Am/Latino Cultural Heritage	3
DANCE 122	African Dance & Diaspora Technique I	2-3
DANCE 414	Dance Composition III	2-3
ECON 353	Economic Development	3
ED POL 360	The Mexicano/Mexicana Experience in the U.S.	3
ENGLISH 279	Introduction to U.S. Latino/a Literature:	3
ENGLISH 316	World Cinema:	3
ENGLISH 374	Survey of U.S. Latino/a Literature	3
ENGLISH 394	Theories of Digital Culture:	3
ENGLISH 404	Language, Power, and Identity	3

ENGLISH 523	Studies in U.S. Latino/a Literature:	3	LINGUIS 420	Introduction to Second Language Acquisition	3
ETHNIC 102	Transnational Migrations: People on the Move	3	LINGUIS 570	Issues in Bilingualism	3
ETHNIC 200	Racial Minorities in the United States	3	POL SCI 215	Ethnicity, Religion and Race in American Politics	3
ETHNIC 245	Indians, Artists, and Conquistadores: The U.S. Southwest	3	POL SCI 325	Latin American Politics	3
ETHNIC 255	Migration and Gender: Starbucks, Sex Trafficking, and Nannies	3	POL SCI 374	Health, Wealth, and Democracy	3
ETHNIC/LGBT 275	Queer Migrations	3	POL SCI 415	The Politics of Race, Ethnicity and Immigration	3
ETHNIC 375	Global Violence, Disease, and Death	3	PORTUGS 225	Understanding Brazil:	3
FRENCH 303	Conversation and Composition: Intermediate Level	3	PORTUGS 310	Advanced Composition and Conversation	3
FRENCH 325	Intensive Grammar and Usage	3	PORTUGS 313	Advanced Speaking and Listening	3
FRENCH 392	Phonetics	3	PORTUGS 360	Luso-Brazilian Culture:	3
FRENCH 427	Advanced Written Expression	3	PORTUGS 699	Independent Reading	1-3
HIST 180	Latin American Society and Culture	3	SOCIOL 224	Race and Ethnicity in the United States	3
HIST 267	The History of Latinos in the United States	3	SOCIOL 323	Perspectives on Latino Communities	3
HIST 290	Topics in Global History:	3	SOCIOL 324	Race and Ethnicity in Global Contexts	3
HIST 372	Topics in Global History:	3	SPANISH 225	Understanding the Hispanic World: (Topic: Women and War in Latin America)	3
HIST 393	History of Mexico	3	SPANISH 308	Advanced Writing and Reading	3
HIST 400	Topics in Latin American and Caribbean History:	3	SPANISH 318	Advanced Speaking and Listening	3
HIST 404	Topics in American History:	3	SPANISH 319	Advanced Speaking and Listening for Heritage Speakers	3
HIST 436	Immigrant America Since 1880	3	SPANISH 332	Using Spanish in the Business World	3
JAMS 450	Race and Ethnicity in the Media	3	SPANISH 333	Advanced Spanish Grammar	3
LACS 289	Internship in Latin American/Caribbean Studies, Lower Division	1-3	SPANISH 338	Spanish for Health Professionals	3
LACS 489	Internship in Latin American/Caribbean Studies, Upper Division	1-3	SPANISH 341	Introduction to Hispanic Linguistics	3
LACUSL 200	Special Topics in Latin American, Caribbean, and U.S. Latinx Studies:	3	SPANISH 342	Business and Legal Spanish	3
LACUSL 201	Latin American, Caribbean, and U.S. Latinx Arts and Culture:	3	SPANISH 348	Introduction to Translation: English to Spanish	3
LACUSL 289	Internship-Latin American, Caribbean, & U.S. Latinx Studies, Lower Division	1-3	SPANISH 350	Understanding Literature and Culture	3
LACUSL 297	Study Abroad:	1-12	SPANISH 371	Introduction to Latino Literature in English	3
LACUSL 300	Advanced Topics in Latin American, Caribbean, and U.S. Latinx Studies:	3	SPANISH 388	Health Issues in the Hispanic World	3
LACUSL/THEATRE 324	Theatre in the Americas: Latin American, Caribbean, and Latinx Theatre	3	SPANISH 470	From the Middle Ages to Modernity: The Rise of the Hispanic World	3
LACUSL 489	Internship in Latin American, Caribbean, and US Latinx Studies, Upper Level	1-3	SPANISH 472	Contemporary Literature and Culture of Latin America	3
LACUSL 497	Study Abroad:	1-12	SPANISH 507	Seminar in Latin-American Literature and Culture:	3
LATINX 267	The History of Latinos in the United States	3	THEATRE/LACUSL 324	Theatre in the Americas: Latin American, Caribbean, and Latinx Theatre	3
LATINX 289	Internship in Latino Studies, Lower Division	1-6	WGS 311	Global Anti-Gender Movements	3
LATINX 301	Advanced Topics in U.S. Latino Studies:	3			
LATINX 323	Perspectives on Latino Communities	3			
LATINX 489	Internship in Latino Studies, Upper Division	1-6			
LATINX 523	Studies in U.S. Latino/a Literature:	3			
LGBT/ETHNIC 275	Queer Migrations	3			

² Study abroad must be in a relevant context, for example, in a Latin American country.

Latin American, Caribbean and U.S. Latinx Studies BA Learning Outcomes

Students graduating from the Latin American, Caribbean and U.S. Latinx Studies, BA Program will be able to:

- proficiently identify and describe fundamental knowledge about the histories, cultures, and societies of Latin American, Caribbean and U.S. Latinx communities.
- apply a variety of disciplinary or interdisciplinary perspectives to issues relating to Latin America, the Caribbean, and U.S. Latinx communities.
- compare and contrast diverse and common features within Latin America, the Caribbean, and its diaspora in the U.S., building intercultural knowledge and competence.
- analyze historical, cultural, and societal issues within Latin America, the Caribbean, and the U.S. Latinx diaspora, utilize that knowledge in the L&S research requirement, and synthesize learning in the LACUSL e-portfolio.

Letters & Science Advising

During your time at UWM, you may have multiple members of your success team, including advisors, peer mentors and success coaches. Letters & Science students typically work with at least two different types of advisors as they pursue their degrees: professional college advisors and faculty advisors. L&S college advisors advise across your entire degree program while departmental faculty advisors focus on the major.

College advisors are located in Holton Hall (or virtually for online students) and serve as your primary advisor. They are your point person for your questions about navigating college and completing your degree. College advisors will:

- Assist you in defining your academic and life goals.
- Help you create an educational plan that is consistent with those goals.
- Assist you in understanding curriculum, major and degree requirements for graduation, as well as university policies and procedures.
- Provide you with information about campus and community resources and refer you to those resources as appropriate.
- Monitor your progress toward graduation and completion of requirements.

Faculty advisors mentor students in the major and assist them in maximizing their development in the program. You will begin working with a faculty advisor when you declare your major. Faculty advisors are an important partner and will:

- Help you understand major requirements and course offerings in the department.
- Explain opportunities for internships and undergraduate research and guide you in obtaining those experiences.
- Serve as an excellent resource as you consider potential graduate programs and career paths in your field.

Students are encouraged to meet with both their college advisor and faculty advisor at least once each semester. Appointments are available in-person, by phone or by video.

Currently enrolled students should use the Navigate360 website (<https://uwm.navigate.eab.com/>) to make an appointment with your assigned advisor or call (414) 229-4654 if you do not currently have an assigned Letters & Science advisor. Prospective students who haven't enrolled in classes yet should call (414) 229-7711 or email let-sci@uwm.edu.

College of Letters and Science Dean's Honor List

GPA of 3.750 or above, earned on a full-time student's GPA on 12 or more graded credits in a given semester.

Honors College Degree and Honors College Degree with Distinction

Granted to graduating seniors who complete Honors College requirements, as listed in the Honors College (<https://catalog.uwm.edu/honors-college/>) section of this site.

Commencement Honors

Students with a cumulative GPA of 3.500 or above, based on a minimum of 40 graded UWM credits earned prior to the final semester, will receive all-university commencement honors and be awarded the traditional gold cord at the December or May Honors Convocation. Please note that for honors calculation, the GPA is **not** rounded and is truncated at the third decimal (e.g., 3.499).

Final Honors

Earned on a minimum of 60 graded UWM credits: Cum Laude - 3.500 or above; Magna Cum Laude - 3.650 or above; Summa Cum Laude - 3.800 or above.