STUDY ABROAD STUDENT REFLECTION

“LALACS courses prepared me for Cuba by making it mentally and emotionally accessible. The trip was so enlightening that my return was a difficult transition; LALACS helped me negotiate this incredible experience by giving me the capacity to reflect, connect, and consider my role as a world citizen.”
— Emma Jasnoch ’16

CAREER PATHS
Non-Profits | Human Rights | Patient Advocacy | International Education | Graduate School | Public Policy | Market Research | Teaching | English Language Learning

LALACS EVENTS
El Mundialito – LALACS Soccer Cup | Brazilian Carnival | Day of the Dead Celebration | Hispanic Heritage Month | Anti-Columbus Day

PAST LECTURES INCLUDE
• Alma López, “I Love Lupe”
• Francisco Cerezo, “Drugs, Guns and US Policies in Mexico,” Witness for Peace
• Sohely Rua Castañeda, Secretary of Women & Labor for Colombia’s National Union School
• Damaris Puñales Alpízar, “Cuban Cinema and Soviet Cultural Influence”
• Diana Taylor, “Performing Mexico”
• and many more

LALACS
LATIN AMERICAN, LATINA/O, AND CARIBBEAN STUDIES PROGRAM

LALACS
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LALACS MAJOR
Nine courses needed, which include two core courses (*), five elective courses, a field study, and a Senior Capstone.

HIS-160* Introduction to Latin America
SPA-200* Intermediate Spanish, or above or FRE-202, Intermediate French II, or above

Take five courses: at least one from each category mentioned below. At least one course must be a 300 level course.

Humanities:
• ENG-226 U.S. Latino/a Literatures
• FRE-364 Francophone African/Caribbean Literatures and Cultures
• HIS-261 Colonial Latin America
• HIS-262 Argentina
• HIS-263 Cuba
• HIS-265 Mexican American History
• HIS-361 Latin America and the United States
• HIS-362 The Age of Conquest
• SPA-250 Negotiating Difference in the Hispanic World
• SPA-280 Social Interaction through Literature and Film
• SPA-322 Masterworks of Spanish American Literature
• SPA-375 Gender and Sexual Identities in the Spanish-Speaking World

Latin American Arts in Context:
• ART-265 Maya and Mexican Art and Archeology
• SPA-320 Latin American Culture
• SPA-390 Through the Lens: Film in Spanish
• T/D-265 Performance in the Americas

Social Sciences and Religion:
• POL-230 Latin American Politics
• REL-273 Religion and Politics in Latin America
• REL-383 Liberation Struggles
• S/A-258 African Culture in Latin America and the Caribbean

Senior Capstone
• This course offers students directed practice in completing an independent research/artistic project that deepens their knowledge of Latin America. The project will be presented in front of a LALACS faculty and student panel.
Pre-requisites: HIS-160 and senior status.

LALACS MINOR
Six courses needed, which include two core courses (*) and four elective courses.

HIS-160* Introduction to Latin America
SPA-200* Intermediate Spanish, or above or FRE-202, Intermediate French II, or above.

Four courses from three departments, selected from the course list above.

INTERNATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES
This required opportunity provides students with employment experience. Past LALACS majors have completed internships in Saint Peter, Mankato, the Twin Cities, and opportunities abroad. These are some options available locally:
• Internships in Saint Peter
• Saint Peter Public Schools
• Saint Peter Community Center
• Saint Peter/Petatlán Sister City Committee
• Language Buddies

LALACS Latin American, Latina/o, and Caribbean Studies Program
Because LALACS is an interdisciplinary program, students learn to make connections between disciplines, become more vibrant thinkers, and gain the deep cultural knowledge sought after by employers and graduate programs.

ALUMNI REFLECTIONS
“I am translating full-time and doing legal assistant work for an immigration law firm. When applying for jobs I stood out because of speaking Spanish, and I marketed my LALACS studies as a source of cultural literacy and international perspective. I continue drawing on my LALACS studies every day as I work with clients from various countries.”
— Ian Shay ’13

“I was a Spanish and LALACS double major, and I feel that the things I learned in my LALACS classes added depth to my education. The multi-faceted nature of the major has given me a strong foundation of knowledge on which to use my language skills, and I feel that employers respond positively to that.”
— Andi Doebler ’14

“Studying LALACS gave me the ability to look at world events through a much wider lens than was permitted by my own cultural background. When I worked as a news writer in Peru, I found myself constantly thankful for my Gustavus LALACS education on a regular basis.”
— Rachel Chase ’13