Latinx America — a complex region, where speakers of Spanish, Portuguese and French have their counterparts in dozens of indigenous languages and where the conflicted histories of the literary and the political, of colonialism and liberation, have been evolving since 1492.

Rice's Program in Latin American and Latinx Studies offers a range of interdisciplinary courses designed to examine the cultures, histories and politics of Latin America and the Latinx United States. We look at this complex region from both local and global perspectives. Courses and faculty are drawn from a wide range of departments and programs, including anthropology, architecture, art history, English, French studies, history, Spanish and Portuguese, political science, and the Center for the Study of Women, Gender and Sexuality.

Latin American and Latinx studies provides a challenging context for students to develop core skills in a truly interdisciplinary setting with a focus on language; communication (oral and written); literary, cultural and political theory; research methodologies; the visual arts; and geography.

The Program in Latin American and Latinx Studies allows students the flexibility to study how knowledge and cultural technologies traverse social groups across Latin and Central America and the United States.

We study how knowledge is produced from sites that are local (e.g., grassroots responses to anti-immigration sentiment and legislation in Houston), or regional in character (e.g., women's leadership in labor organizing in the U.S.-Mexico border region) or hemispheric in influence (indigenous movements that seek to create more native forms of democracy and polity).

We explore the many connections that exist between the cultures and histories of the regions and nations that compose the contested geographies of what we call Latin America, and we examine how the literature and art in these regions simultaneously reflect processes of national building and shared transnational experiences.

Students majoring in Latin American and Latinx studies will take courses with appropriate content for a total of 10 courses (30 semester hours). The minor in Latin American and Latinx Studies requires 6 courses (18 semester hours).

Majors in Latin American and Latinx studies can also spend one semester studying at a Rice-approved study abroad program in which the primary language of instruction is Spanish, Portuguese or, in special circumstances, French.

For detailed requirements, please refer to Rice University's General Announcements or contact the program adviser, Sophie Esch, at sophie.esch@rice.edu.

Latin American and Latinx studies is closely related to the Initiative for the Study of LatinX America (ISLA), which works to increase the impact of research in Latin American, Latinx and Caribbean studies across the humanities and social sciences at Rice University. ISLA hosts regular research colloquia that are also open to students. The Department of Modern and Classical Literatures and Cultures also hosts the public lecture series New Directions in Latin American and Latinx Studies, which brings high-profile scholars to campus and is a valuable resource for students.

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For additional information, please visit cultures.rice.edu.

