

# LATINA/LATINO STUDIES, BALAS

*for the degree of Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts & Sciences in Latina/Latino Studies*

The Undergraduate Major in Latina/Latino Studies explores the experiences and lives of Latinas/os in the context of the United States. The major provides a broad and deep approach to theory, research, and multidisciplinary study of the Latina/o experience. Students will complete 34 hours of required and elective courses, and a minimum of 18 hours of supporting course work or a minor in an area outside of the major. Students majoring in Latina/Latino Studies receive excellent preparation for graduate study or careers in education, social and welfare policy, counseling, law, public policy, and other fields that address Latino issues.

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**Advising:** The Department of Latina/Latino Studies provides advising for students. Students will also be assigned a faculty advisor to help plan a coherent program in their selected area of study.

**Departmental distinction:** To graduate with distinction in Latina/Latino Studies, a student must have at least a 3.25 overall GPA, a minimum 3.5 GPA in the major, and complete a senior honors thesis. To complete the honors thesis requires a student to enroll in four hours of LLS 495, normally distributed evenly across two consecutive semesters. Students graduating with at least a 3.5 GPA in the major (and meeting the other conditions) will be awarded Distinction; those with at least a 3.7 GPA in the major will be given High Distinction.

## Graduation Requirements

Minimum hours required for graduation: 120

Minimum required major and supporting course work: 52 hours required, including 34 hours in Latina/Latino Studies courses. Twelve hours of 300- and 400-level in the major must be taken on this campus.

## University Requirements

Minimum of 40 hours of upper-division coursework, generally at the 300- or 400-level. These hours can be drawn from all elements of the degree.

Students should consult their academic advisor for additional guidance in fulfilling this requirement.

The university and residency requirements can be found in the Student Code (<https://studentcode.illinois.edu/article3/part8/3-801/>) (§ 3-801) and in the Academic Catalog (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/general-information/degree-general-education-requirements/>).

## General Education Requirements

Follows the campus General Education (Gen Ed) requirements (<https://courses.illinois.edu/gened/DEFAULT/DEFAULT/>). Some Gen Ed requirements may be met by courses required and/or electives in the program.

Code	Title	Hours
	Composition I	4-6
	Advanced Composition	3
	Fulfilled by LLS 385	
	Humanities & the Arts (6 hours)	6
	Natural Sciences & Technology (6 hours)	6
	Social & Behavioral Sciences (6 hours)	6
	Fulfilled by LLS 100 and any other course approved as Social & Behavioral Sciences	
	Cultural Studies: Non-Western Cultures (1 course)	3
	Cultural Studies: US Minority Cultures (1 course)	3
	Fulfilled by LLS 100	
	Cultural Studies: Western/Comparative Cultures (1 course)	3
	Quantitative Reasoning (2 courses, at least one course must be Quantitative Reasoning I)	6-10
	Language Requirement (Completion of the fourth semester or equivalent of a language other than English, or completion of the third semester in two different languages other than English is required)	0-20

Code	Title	Hours
<b>Orientation and Professional Development</b>		
LAS 101	Design Your First Year Experience	1
	OR	
LAS 100 & LAS 101	Success in LAS for International Students and Design Your First Year Experience	3
	OR	
LAS 102	Transfer Advantage	1
Total Hours		1 or 3

## Major Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
LLS 100	Intro Latina/Latino Studies	3
LLS 385	Theory and Methods in LLS	3

<b>Thematic Areas</b>		
Students must take two courses in each of the following three areas:		
A. Literature, Media and Culture		6
LLS 240	Latina/o Popular Culture	
LLS 242	Intro to Latina/o Literature	
LLS 250	Latina/os on the Bronze Screen	
LLS 259	Latina/o Anthropology	
LLS 357	Literatures of the Displaced	
LLS 360	Contemporary US Latina/o Lit	
LLS 365	Chicana/Latina Autobiography, Memoir, Testimonio	
LLS 375	Latina/o Media in the US	
LLS 410	Writing Latina/o Chicago	
LLS 435	Commodifying Difference	
LLS 458	Latina/o Performance	
LLS 472	Border Latina, Latino Cultures	
B. Race, Gender, and Sexuality		6
LLS 230	Latina/o Genders & Sexualities	
LLS 235	Race and the Politics of Reproduction	

LLS 320	Gender & Latina/o Migration	
LLS 355	Race and Mixed Race	
LLS 387	Race, Gender and the Body	
LLS 392	Chicanas&Latinas: Self&Society	
LLS 442	Latina Literature	
LLS 465	Race, Sex, and Deviance	
LLS 479	Race, Medicine, and Society	
C. History, Politics, and Society		6
LLS 220	Latina/o Migration	
LLS 238	Latina/o Social Movements	
LLS 278	Mapping Latina/o Inequalities	
LLS 279	Mexican-American History	
LLS 280	Caribbean Latina/o Migration	
LLS 343	Criminalization and Punishment	
LLS 368	Latinas/os & Public Policy	
LLS 370	Latina/o Ethnography	
LLS 379	Latina/os and the City	
LLS 382	Race and Migration in Chicago	
LLS 468	Latinas/os & the Law	
LLS 473	Immigration, Health & Society	
LLS 490 or LLS 495	Research and Writing Seminar Senior Honors Thesis	4
LLS Electives selected from the list of all LLS and cross-listed LLS classes		6
Remaining courses to total 6 hours minimum may be selected from any of the area courses listed above (not used to fulfill the Thematic Areas requirement) or chosen in consultation with an academic advisor		
Supporting coursework (six hours must be at the 300-/400-level) chosen in consultation with an advisor; may be a campus approved minor		18
<b>Total Hours</b>		<b>52</b>

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## Sample Sequence

*This sample sequence is intended to be used only as a guide for degree completion. All students should work individually with their academic advisors to decide the actual course selection and sequence that works best for them based on their academic preparation and goals. Enrichment programming such as study abroad, minors, internships, and so on may impact the structure of this four-year plan. Course availability is not guaranteed during the semester indicated in the sample sequence.*

Students must fulfill their Language Other Than English requirement by successfully completing a fourth level of a language other than English. For more information, see the corresponding section on the Degree and General Education Requirements page (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/general-information/degree-general-education-requirements/>).

<b>First Year</b>	
<b>First Semester</b>	<b>Hours</b>
LAS 101	1
LLS 100	3
General Education course	3
Composition I or General Education course	4
Language Other Than English (3rd level)	4
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>15</b>

<b>First Year</b>	
<b>Second Semester</b>	<b>Hours</b>
Thematic Area A Course	3
Thematic Area C Course	3
General Education course	3
General Education course or Composition I	3
Language Other Than English (4th level)	4
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>16</b>

<b>Second Year</b>	
<b>First Semester</b>	<b>Hours</b>
Thematic Area A Course	3
Thematic Area B Course	3
General Education course	3
General Education course	3
Supporting Coursework	3
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>15</b>

<b>Second Year</b>	
<b>Second Semester</b>	<b>Hours</b>
Thematic Area B Course	3
Thematic Area C Course	3
General Education course	3
General Education course	3
Supporting Coursework	3
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>15</b>

<b>Third Year</b>	
<b>First Semester</b>	<b>Hours</b>
LLC Elective Course	3
General Education course	3
Supporting Coursework	3
Supporting Coursework (300-/400-level)	3

Free Elective course	3
	<b>15</b>

**Total Hours 15**

**Third Year**

Second Semester	Hours
LLS Elective Course	3
General Education course	3
Supporting Coursework	3
Supporting Coursework (300-/400-level)	3
Free Elective course	3
	<b>15</b>

**Total Hours 15**

**Fourth Year**

First Semester	Hours
LLS 385	3
Free Elective course	3
	<b>15</b>

**Total Hours 15**

**Fourth Year**

Second Semester	Hours
LLS 490 or 495	4
Free Elective course	3
Free Elective course	3
Free Elective course	4
	<b>14</b>

**Total Hours 14**

**Total Hours: 120**

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- Critical and Creative Inquiry:** Students will apply Latina/Latino Studies theories in developing their capacities for critical and creative inquiry. Specifically, students will exercise their oral and written communication skills as they express new ideas and generate projects that build upon Latina/Latino Studies theories and draw from the range of interdisciplinary Latina/Latino Studies methods.
- Self-Reflexivity and Community Engagement:** To help promote effective leadership and community engagement, students will demonstrate self-reflexivity about their ideas as well as about their social and political positions in their classrooms and communities. They will also learn to build and sustain relationships and take leadership towards the elimination of social inequities at the local, national, and global levels.
- Social Awareness and Understanding Power:** Student will recognize that Latina/Latino lives and communities unfold within historically unequal and racialized social, cultural, economic, and political power relations. Students will become familiar with Latina/Latino theories and social movements that consider indigeneity, race, class, gender, sexuality and citizenship to understand and intervene on historical and contemporary power formations.
- Global Consciousness:** Students will understand how complex and interdependent historical and contemporary global forces— environmental, social, cultural, economic, and political— impact and are impacted by Latinas/Latinos. They will learn to apply Latina/ Latino Studies critiques to these forces, including but not limited to those related to migration and transnationalism.

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## Department of Latina/Latino Studies (<https://lls.illinois.edu/>)

Latina/Latino Faculty (<https://lls.illinois.edu/directory/faculty/>)  
lls-studies@illinois.edu

## College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (<https://las.illinois.edu/>)

**overview of college admissions & requirements:** Liberal Arts & Sciences  
(<http://catalog.illinois.edu/schools/las/academic-units/>)

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- Intellectual Reasoning and Knowledge:** Students will become proficient in the field of Latina/Latino Studies, which includes, but is not limited to, interdisciplinary, intersectional, and transnational knowledge about:
    - sociohistorical, political, economic and cultural processes that affect Latina/Latino groups in contemporary society;
    - Latina/Latino social movements;
    - Latina/Latino cultural productions;
    - the relationship between class, gender, sexuality, race/ethnicity and migration in the construction of Latina/Latino cultural and racial formations; and
    - Latina/Latino Studies theories and methods. Students will learn that Latina/Latino Studies is a body of critical inquiry that encompasses a wide range of topics and objects of study, and that leverages multiple forms of knowledge production.