

LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN STUDIES (MA)

Department Website (<http://as.nyu.edu/clacs/>)

NYSED: 07743 HEGIS: 0312.00 CIP: 05.0107

Program Description

Our MA program in Latin American and Caribbean Studies offers a unique and exciting academic experience: students thrive from access to world-renowned scholars and wealth of research resources while pursuing a flexible interdisciplinary program. Dual and joint programs with Museum Studies, Global Journalism, Library Sciences, and Law. Learn more about the various options. (<https://as.nyu.edu/research-centers/clacs/admissions/concentrations-and-dual-degrees.html>)

The degree is a three-semester or four-semester academic program designed for those interested in pursuing careers in the academy, media and journalism, human rights, non-governmental work, public policy, and arts and cultures. Rigorous academic training and professional development opportunities prepare students to be leaders in academia and in the public and private sectors.

CLACS pays special attention to language training, with state-of-the-art instruction in Quechua and Haitian Creole and support for the teaching of Mixtec and Nahuatl at local institutions. We have competitive but generous funding options (<https://as.nyu.edu/research-centers/clacs/admissions/scholarships-and-funding.html>) with merit-based fellowships such as the McCracken Fellowship, Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowships (FLAS), and the NYU GSAS Tuition Incentive Program which matches external funding (<https://as.nyu.edu/research-centers/clacs/admissions/external-funding.html>).

Advanced Certificate

Students who wish to pursue an Advanced Certificate in Museum Studies alongside the MA in Latin American and Caribbean studies should consult that department's section for more information and requirements.

Dual Degree

The Latin American and Caribbean Studies Department offers a dual degree with the NYU School of Law: (<https://www.law.nyu.edu/jdadmissions/dualdegreeprograms/j.d.m.a.inlatinamericanandcaribbeanstudies/>) Latin American and Caribbean Studies MA/Law JD.

See Latin American and Caribbean Studies (<https://gsas.nyu.edu/admissions/arc/programs/latin-american-and-caribbean-studies.html>) for admission requirements and instructions specific to this program.

Admissions

All applicants to the Graduate School of Arts and Science (GSAS) are required to submit the general application requirements (<https://gsas.nyu.edu/nyu-as/gsas/admissions/arc.html>), which include:

- Academic Transcripts (<https://gsas.nyu.edu/nyu-as/gsas/admissions/arc/academic-transcripts.html>)
- Test Scores (<https://gsas.nyu.edu/nyu-as/gsas/admissions/arc/test-scores.html>) (if required)

- Applicant Statements (<https://gsas.nyu.edu/nyu-as/gsas/admissions/arc/statements.html>)
- Résumé or Curriculum Vitae
- Letters of Recommendation (<https://gsas.nyu.edu/nyu-as/gsas/admissions/arc/letters-of-recommendation.html>), and
- A non-refundable application fee (<https://gsas.nyu.edu/admissions/arc.html#fee>).

See Latin American and Caribbean Studies (<https://gsas.nyu.edu/admissions/arc/programs/latin-american-and-caribbean-studies.html>) for admission requirements and instructions specific to this program.

Program Requirements

The program requires the completion of 32 credits, and offers a concentration in Museum Studies. See concentration requirements below.

Course	Title	Credits
Major Requirements		
LATC-GA 1001	Intro Lat Am & Carib I: Iberian-Atl & Colonial	4
LATC-GA 2001	Intro Lat Am & Carib II: Hemispheric & Postcol	4
Electives		
Other Elective Credits ¹		24
Total Credits		32

¹ Of these, a minimum of three courses (12 credits) must be offered through CLACS. Four elective courses (16 credits) are typically taken in an area designed to prepare students for interdisciplinary field research and the completion of a final Masters' project. Examples include development; social movements; democratic transitions; inter-American relations; violence and conflict resolution; gender and sexuality; immigration; ethnic studies; and arts, museum, media, culture industry, and cultural policy studies.

Additional Program Requirements

Special Project/Thesis

Students must complete a Master's thesis, or an expanded and revised research paper in the student's area of specialization or in an integrating course, or a special project. The project builds on academic coursework and is based on original research. Most often, the Master's Project is an academic thesis of approximately 40–50 pages. Students may propose an alternative Master's Project; recent examples include a photo essay, podcast, and short film. Alternative projects must be accompanied by a 15–20-page critical rationale for the project.

Museum Studies Concentration

The concentration in Museum Studies requires the completion of 36 credits, comprised of the following:

Concentration Requirements

Course	Title	Credits
Required Courses		
LATC-GA 1001	Intro Lat Am & Carib I: Iberian-Atl & Colonial	4
LATC-GA 2001	Intro Lat Am & Carib II: Hemispheric & Postcol	4
LATC-GA 3200	Research & Writing Workshop	4
8 additional points in Latin American and Caribbean Studies		
LATC-GA —		4

LATC-GA ----	4
Select two of the following:	8
MSMS-GA 1500 History and Theory of Museums	
MSMS-GA 1501 Museum Collections and Exhibitions	
MSMS-GA 1502 Museum Management	
8 additional points in Museum Studies	
MSMS-GA ----	4
MSMS-GA ----	4
Total Credits	36

Additional Program Requirements

Major Project

Students must complete a major project. LATC-GA 3200 Research & Writing Workshop prepares students for the project.

Internship

Students must participate in a non-credit internship in a museum or cultural institution.

Language Competency

Language competency in Spanish, Portuguese, French, Quechua, Haitian Creole, or another language of the Americas must be proven through course work, the Foreign Language Proficiency Exam, or its equivalent.

Sample Plan of Study

Course	Title	Credits
1st Semester/Term		
LATC-GA 1001	Intro Lat Am & Carib I: Iberian-Atl & Colonial	4
LATC-GA ----	Latin American & Caribbean Studies Elective	4
	Credits	8
2nd Semester/Term		
LATC-GA 2001	Intro Lat Am & Carib II: Hemispheric & Postcol	4
LATC-GA ----	Latin American & Caribbean Studies Elective	4
	Credits	8
3rd Semester/Term		
LATC-GA ----	Latin American & Caribbean Studies Elective	4
LATC-GA ----	Latin American & Caribbean Studies Elective	4
	Credits	8
4th Semester/Term		
LATC-GA ----	Latin American & Caribbean Studies Elective	4
LATC-GA ----	Latin American & Caribbean Studies Elective	4
	Credits	8
	Total Credits	32

Museum Studies Concentration Plan of Study

Course	Title	Credits
1st Semester/Term		
LATC-GA 1001	Intro Lat Am & Carib I: Iberian-Atl & Colonial	4
LATC-GA ----	Latin American & Caribbean Studies Elective	4
MSMS-GA ----	Museum Studies Elective	4
	Credits	12
2nd Semester/Term		
LATC-GA 2001	Intro Lat Am & Carib II: Hemispheric & Postcol	4

LATC-GA ----	Latin American & Caribbean Studies Elective	4
	Credits	8
3rd Semester/Term		
LATC-GA 3200	Research & Writing Workshop	4
MSMS-GA 1500	History and Theory of Museums	4
	Credits	8
4th Semester/Term		
MSMS-GA 1501	Museum Collections and Exhibitions	4
MSMS-GA ----	Museum Studies Elective	4
	Credits	8
	Total Credits	36

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the program, graduates will have:

1. Mastery of the interdisciplinary theories, methods of inquiry, concepts of critical issues in the field of Latin American and Caribbean Studies.
2. The ability to analyze scholarly literature to produce a research proposal, carry out a field research project, and complete a Masters Project. The CLACS Master's Project is an academic paper which presents the student's research and findings related to the specific field of concentration. The Masters Project is generally no less than 35 pages and contains a review of relevant literature and presents a novel inquiry and analysis based on field research experience.
3. The ability to succeed in a professional or academic career with significant content related to the MA program at CLACS. Careers include academic degree pursuits following the MA or a professional position at a relevant organization. Such positions would involve intensive use of Latin American languages (Spanish, Portuguese, Haitian Creole, Indigenous languages) and oversight of related topics including immigration, arts, education, development, foreign relations, business, etc. in or related to Latin America and the Caribbean.

Policies

NYU Policies

University-wide policies can be found on the New York University Policy pages (<https://bulletins.nyu.edu/nyu/policies/>).

Graduate School of Arts and Science Policies

Academic Policies for the Graduate School of Arts and Science can be found on the Academic Policies page (<https://bulletins.nyu.edu/graduate/arts-science/academic-policies/>).