

# LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES, MINOR

Requirements for a minor may be completed at any campus location offering the specified courses for the minor. Students may not change from a campus that offers their major to a campus that does not offer their major for the purpose of completing a minor.

## Program Description

This interdisciplinary minor is designed for students in any college or program of the University who want to supplement their knowledge and skills with the study of Latin America. A certificate is awarded to students who complete the requirements of the minor.

## What is Latin American Studies?

Latin American studies covers numerous disciplines such as history, politics, art, geography, gender studies, and sociology and uses them to critically examine and analyze the experiences of Latin Americans in Latin America and elsewhere.

## You Might Like This Program If...

- You're interested in gaining further understanding of Latin America and the many rich histories and cultures that it encompasses.
- You want to take part in exciting study abroad opportunities to places such as Santiago, Dominican Republic and Sao Paulo, Brazil.
- You're looking for an interdisciplinary area of study that can lead you toward multiple paths: Anthropology, art, language, and more.
- You want to be involved with a dynamic and diverse community of faculty and students through enriching courses and opportunities.

## Program Requirements

Requirement	Credits
Requirements for the Minor	18-19

## Requirements for the Minor

A grade of C or better is required for all courses in the minor, as specified by Senate Policy 59-10 (<https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/59-00-minors-and-certificates/#59-10>). In addition, at least six credits of the minor must be unique from the prescribed courses required by a student's major(s).

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Prescribed Courses</b>		
<i>Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
PLSC 456	Politics and Institutions of Latin-American Nations	3
<b>Additional Courses</b>		
<i>Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
HIST 178	Latin-American History to 1820	3
or HIST 179	Latin-American History Since 1820	
PORT 1	Elementary Portuguese I	3-4
or SPAN 100	Intermediate Grammar and Composition	

## Supporting Courses and Related Areas

*Supporting Courses and Related Areas: Require a grade of C or better*

Select 9 credits (at least 3 credits at the 400 level) from an approved list in consultation with the adviser 9

## Academic Advising

The objectives of the university's academic advising program are to help advisees identify and achieve their academic goals, to promote their intellectual discovery, and to encourage students to take advantage of both in-and out-of class educational opportunities in order that they become self-directed learners and decision makers.

Both advisers and advisees share responsibility for making the advising relationship succeed. By encouraging their advisees to become engaged in their education, to meet their educational goals, and to develop the habit of learning, advisers assume a significant educational role. The advisee's unit of enrollment will provide each advisee with a primary academic adviser, the information needed to plan the chosen program of study, and referrals to other specialized resources.

READ SENATE POLICY 32-00: ADVISING POLICY (<https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/32-00-advising-policy/>)

## University Park

### Liberal Arts Academic Advising

814-865-2545

Use the Liberal Arts Meet the Academic Advisers web page (<https://la.psu.edu/student-services/academic-advising/meet-the-academic-advisers/>) to see the contact information for the specific adviser(s) of this program

## ERIE

### Maggie Shum, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor, Political Science  
164 Kochel Center  
Erie, PA 16563  
814-898-6648  
[mps6969@psu.edu](mailto:mps6969@psu.edu)

## Career Paths

The major and minor in LAS are designed to be combined with other majors and minors to create a multidisciplinary degree that will enrich the student's educational experience at Penn State and be appealing to potential graduate programs and employers. Most LAS majors go on to law school or graduate school; others find jobs with corporations that have Latin American interests or with US government agencies such as the NSA and State Department.

## Careers

- Law
- Business
- NSA or State Department
- Historic Preservation
- United Nations Organizations / Non-Governmental Organizations
- Medicine
- Secondary Education Teaching

## Contact

### University Park

LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES  
108 Weaver Building

University Park, PA 16802  
814-865-1367  
bdw150@psu.edu

<https://latinamericanstudies.la.psu.edu/>

## **ERIE**

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES  
170 Kochel Center  
Erie, PA 16563  
814-898-6108  
HSSOffice@psu.edu

<https://behrend.psu.edu/school-of-humanities-social-sciences> (<https://behrend.psu.edu/school-of-humanities-social-sciences/>)