LATINA/O STUDIES

Professor: Josefa Lago-Grana, Interim Director
Assistant Professor: Jairo Hoyos Galvis, Director
Advisory Committee: Andrew Gomez, History

About the Program
Latina/o Studies is an academic field born out of the social and political movements of Latinos in the U.S. The Latina/o Studies program (LTS) explores the historical, cultural, political, and socio-economic experiences of the largest minoritized ethnic group in the United States. The LTS program aims to produce knowledge about the growing Latina/o populations living in the United States in order to challenge taken-for-granted notions of race, ethnicity, and citizenship as they intersect with transnational identities. LTS is interdisciplinary by nature, and includes research from the fields of history, law, literature, economics, education, sociology, linguistics, philosophy, and health and medicine, covering a plethora of topics, including critical race theory, postcolonial and decolonial theory, border studies and immigration, gender studies, film studies, and critical and cultural studies. The LTS minor provides a comprehensive, in-depth approach to key issues in order to create lasting change in local and global communities. Students in the LTS program prepare themselves for graduate studies and careers in law, counseling, education, marketing, journalism, social work, public policy, and health care.

Students who graduate from the Latina/o Studies Program will be able to:

- To understand the historical, cultural, political, and socio-economic experiences of Latina/o communities.
- To integrate the body of knowledge about these populations into the understanding of the U.S.
- To engage with Latina/o communities through the public and the private sector.

General Requirements for the Minor

General university degree requirements stipulate that 1) three units of the minor be taken in residence at the University of Puget Sound; 2) students earn a GPA of 2.0 in courses taken for the minor; and 3) all courses taken for the minor must be taken for graded credit. Any exceptions to these stipulations are indicated in the minor degree requirements listed below.

Requirements for the Minor in Latina/o Studies

1. Completion of a minimum of five units, to include:
   a. LTS 200 Latina/o America: A Critical Introduction to Latino Studies (1 unit);
   b. Three courses from the following list of electives (3 units);
      AFAM/LTS 320 Race, Power, and Privilege
      AFAM 401 Narratives of Race
      CONN 335 Race and Multiculturalism in the American Context
      ECON 240 Economics of Migration
      HIST 152 American Experiences I: Origins to 1877
      HIST 153 American Experiences II: 1877 to Present
      HIST 367 Immigration in the U.S.
      HIST 376 Cuba and the Cuban Diaspora
      HIST 378 History of Latinx People in the United States
      HIST 380 Modern Mexico: From Revolution to NAFTA
      HON 214 Interrogating Inequality
      LTS 300/SPAN 309 Literatürx Latinx
      LTS 375 Queer-Latinx: Art, Sex, and Belonging in America
      LTS 376 The Art of Mestizaje
      LTS 400 Special Topics in Latina/o Studies
      PG 304 Race and American Politics
      PG 306 Immigration Politics and Policy in the U.S.
      PG 311 Politics of Detention: Criminal Justice, Immigration, and the War on Terror
      PG 345 Intersectionality as Theory and Method
      PG 346 Race in the American Political Imagination
      PHIL 312 Latin American and Latinx Philosophy
      PHIL 389 Race and Philosophy
      STHS 215 Race and Ethnic Relations
      STHS 330 Border Crossings: Transnational Migration and Diaspora Studies
      STHS 350/LTS 376 Latin American Film whenever the course includes significant Latina/o Studies content
      STHS 353 Latin America whenever the course includes significant Latina/o Studies content
      STHS 356 Medicine in the United States: Historical Perspectives
   c. A capstone experience: either a course with a research component relevant to LTS content, or a credit-bearing internship relevant to LTS content. Capstone experience must be pre-approved by the LTS Director. Students whose capstone is not for credit will need a fourth elective to reach the required 5 unit requirement.

2. Proficiency in Spanish at a level equivalent to passing SPAN 202.

Course Offerings

Unless otherwise specified, each course carries 1 unit of credit and is offered at least once each academic year. Please see “Frequency of Course Offerings” on page 20.

The proper course sequence of foreign language instruction is Elementary Level 101, 102, Intermediate Level 201, 202. A student who has received a C (2.00) grade or better in any course of this sequence or its equivalent cannot subsequently receive credit for a course which appears before it in the sequence.

Latina/o Studies (LTS)

200 Latina/o America: A Critical Introduction to Latina/o Studies
More than 50 million Latinos live in the United States of America, which makes the U.S the second-largest Spanish-speaking country in the world. In this course, students analyze the cultural, historical, political and social experiences of U. S. Latinos, or “Latinx America.” This course understands the place of Latinx communities in the rising U.S. nation as a political and economic agent that shaped the history of the world in the 19th and 20th century. First, the course examines the roots
of the US Hispanic populations, and also how colonization imposed Hispanic cultures and languages in North, Central and South America. Second, the course analyzes the experiences of the Latinx communities in the United States in the 19th and 20th centuries through various topics: Latino immigration, practices of racism and colonization, strategies of resistance, political and social movements, U.S. policies regarding Latino communities, and Latinx gender practices, among others. Taught in English. Satisfies the Humanistic Approaches core requirement.

Satisfies the Knowledge, Identity, Power graduation requirement.

300 Literaturx Latinx This course explores the diversity of the Latina/o/x experiences and introduces students to the originality of artistic and cultural expressions of the Latinx communities in the United States, focusing on texts written originally in Spanish. Plays, performance pieces, short stories, novels, testimonies, poems, essays, films, documentaries, and blogs help students understand the complex and often silenced histories of the U.S. Latinx population. Thus, literature becomes a place where identities and ideologies are articulated, debated and contested. Through readings and discussions, students explore questions related to community building, migration and diaspora, racism and racial relations, transnational politics, discourses of power and privilege, and the intersections of sexuality, gender, race, and class. Most readings are in Spanish, with some in English and Spanglish. Discussion, writing assignments and tests will be conducted in Spanish. Taught in English. Cross-listed as LTS 300/SPAN 309. Satisfies the Knowledge, Identity, Power graduation requirement. Satisfies the Language graduation requirement. Offered occasionally.

320 Race, Power, and Privilege This course is designed to be an introduction to major racial and ethnic groups which comprise the population of the United States. Emphasis will be according to the history and culture of racial/ethnic peoples in America as well as the role of race and nationality in the pursuit and achievement of the "American Dream." Also highlighted will be an exploration of the linkage between social power and the concepts of race and ethnicity in the United States and how this linkage affects personal identity formation and worldview assumptions. Discussion of the formation of myths and stereotypes and contemporary issues will be highlighted. Cross-listed as AFAM/LTS 320. Prerequisite: AFAM 101 or LTS 200 and junior or senior standing. Satisfies the Humanistic Approaches core requirement.

375 Queer-LatínIx: Art, Sex, and Belonging in America In this course, students develop an understanding of the main topics for Queer Latinx Studies, including current aesthetic, political, and theoretical frameworks to analyze Latinx art, cinema, literature, and performance. This course gives students the opportunity to study how queer Latinx artists are contesting civil and governmental oppression against non-heterosexual communities. Students understand the significance of dwelling and sexual embodiment for dissident artists and their political intervention in the public sphere. In this class, students will engage with questions of disability, immigration, legality, race, and sexuality in America. This course is taught in English, with some readings in Spanglish, a hybrid language that resulted from interaction between Spanish and English. Taught in English. Offered frequently.

376 The Art of Mestizaje This course analyzes how artists articulated the idea of mestizaje (racial and ethnic mixing) in Mexico and the U.S from the 16th to the 21st century. This course is divided into three sections: in the first section, students will study the genesis and evolution of racial taxonomies in the viceroyalty of New Spain. This section will teach the students the conceptual history of the idea of mestizaje and its political implications. In the second section, students will examine how diverse artists and political institutions portray the idea of mestizaje creating the genre of Casta paintings. Casta paintings are one of the most important artistic expressions of the Spanish Catholic Empire. In the third section, the students will analyze how governmental and nongovernmental corporations developed the Mexican muralism artistic movement, and also how U.S Latinx artists reinterpreted the muralist conceptualization of mestizaje in the 20th and 21st Century. Particularly, the course will emphasize the artworks of Diego Rivera in Mexico City and Detroit, and the artworks of Sandra de la Loza, and Emilio Aguayo. Taught in Spanish. Satisfies the Artistic Approaches core requirement. Cannot be audited. Offered occasionally.

400 Special Topics in Latinö Studies This special topics course is conducted as a seminar and varies in focus each time. The course offers students the opportunity to further examine, problematize, and research particular issues and forms of cultural productions as they relate to Latinö Studies and communities in the United States. To this purpose, class sessions require students to explore the discursive specificities of assigned works as well as to consider and interrogate the critical and theoretical issues they raise. Students’ thoughtful engagement with the material and ability to participate in productive dialogue bear directly on the quality of the knowledge produced throughout the semester. Taught in Spanish. Offered every other year.

495 Independent Study Variable credit up to 1.00 unit. Independent study is available to those students who wish to continue their learning in an area after completing the regularly offered courses in that area. Prerequisite: Junior or senior standing with a minimum 3.0 GPA. May be repeated for credit up to 4.00 units. Cannot be audited. Cannot be taken Credit/No Credit. Offered occasionally.