

SENIOR THESIS PRIZES

Stanley J. Stein Thesis Prize in Latin American Studies

The Stanley J. Stein Prize is awarded to the best final written work on a Latin American or Caribbean topic in any field.

Kenneth Maxwell Senior Thesis Prize in Brazilian and Portuguese Studies

The Kenneth Maxwell Prize, provided on behalf of the Firestone Library, is awarded to the best final written work on a Brazilian topic in any field.

For a list of recent prize recipients, visit: plas.princeton.edu



LAS 212 Latin American Soundscapes Class Trip: New York, NY (Eneida Toner)

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

Introduced in 2012, the graduate certificate is designed to allow students who are taking seminars in the program, working closely with our faculty, and writing dissertations on a Latin American topic to receive a formal credential in the field.

The program is open to all Princeton University graduate students currently enrolled in any doctoral program in the humanities, social sciences, engineering, math or natural sciences. Students enrolled in the Master in Public Affairs Degree Program at the Princeton School of Public and International Affairs may enroll in the certificate program if they write a research paper on a Latin American topic in consultation with the program director.

Certificate Requirements

- **Language:** Advanced proficiency in Spanish, Portuguese or French (for students working on the French-speaking Caribbean). Students can satisfy this requirement by completing a course taught in Spanish, Portuguese or French.
- **Coursework:** Four full-term, approved graduate courses on a Latin American topic or substitutes approved by the program director. At least one course should be outside of the student's home department. In addition, the program director may approve other graduate courses, on a case-by-case basis, for which the student has written a final paper focusing on a Latin American topic.



Graduate Roundtable on Latin America Today: Upheavals and Repression, Part II (Jonathan Aguirre)

- **Works-in-Progress:** Students enrolled in the graduate certificate program are encouraged to participate in the program's Graduate Works-in-Progress series during their course of study, and do at least one presentation on their dissertation research to an audience of faculty and graduate students to receive feedback. PLAS also encourages students to attend and organize scholarly events sponsored by the program.
- **Dissertation:** A dissertation that includes significant research on a Latin American topic.

Students may enroll in the certificate program by completing the brief online registration form on the PLAS website.

PLAS also offers substantial travel grants to graduate students for pre-dissertation and dissertation research in Latin America and the Caribbean.

FELLOWSHIPS

For information about our fellowship opportunities and to see a full list of our current and former PLAS fellows, please visit our website.

PROGRAM IN LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES

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For the latest program, news and events information visit:
plas.princeton.edu

 PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

Program in Latin American Studies 2021-2022 ACADEMIC YEAR

Becoming Brazil Global Seminar: SESC Pompeia, São Paulo, Brazil (Miqueias H. Mugge)

PLAS



Princeton in Argentina: Jujuy, Argentina (Gabriela Nouzeilles)



ABOUT PLAS

Founded in 1967, the Princeton University Program in Latin American Studies (PLAS) is one of the nation's first that is dedicated exclusively to Latin American area studies. At the program's core is a mission to foster intellectual exchange among students and scholars, whether in the classroom or in the field. Given the depth and breadth of the region's contributions and avenues for inquiry, PLAS welcomes a range of disciplinary perspectives, with special attention to culture, history, socioeconomics, politics and society.

Centered on Scholarship
PLAS programming, hosted both on- and off-campus, connects Princeton to the Latin American world. From our graduate and undergraduate courses to travel experiences that span the region, the program takes pride in training the next generation of thinkers, while connecting them to those who are reshaping their respective fields today.

Fostering Engagement
Each year, PLAS sponsors and co-sponsors a broad array of programming, which serves to expand the conversation between students, faculty and the public. Additionally, the program funds undergraduate, graduate and faculty research; supports innovative study and travel via the competitive Paul E. Sigmund Scholars program and other awards; and facilitates undergraduate internships. PLAS also brings prominent scholars to Princeton through its visiting fellowship, whereby fellows are able to contribute to course offerings while advancing their own research.

Class Day 2021 Student Collage

UNDERGRADUATE CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

PLAS offers two tracks of study: Latin American studies and Brazilian studies.

Combined with a departmental concentration, the PLAS undergraduate certificate is designed to give undergraduates the opportunity and resources to do specialized work on the diversity of languages, histories, environments, politics, economies and cultures of the Latin American region. Students may select from undergraduate and graduate courses and seminars in architecture, African American studies, American studies, anthropology, art and archaeology, comparative literature, ecology and evolutionary biology, economics, English, French and Italian, history, Latin American studies, Latino studies, music, philosophy, politics, religion, sociology, Spanish and Portuguese and the Princeton School of Public and International Affairs. Senior thesis work is supervised by a faculty adviser and is combined with a departmental concentration. PLAS provides substantial travel grants to conduct research in Latin America. A PLAS certificate prepares students for careers and jobs in many fields, including the foreign service, international development, academic research, environmental work, education, journalism, global health, international and environmental law, tourism and many other fields.

ADMISSION TO THE PROGRAM

Students from all departments are welcome. There are no pre-requisites to enroll. Interested students should contact the program coordinator.

CERTIFICATE REQUIREMENTS

Students must meet the following requirements to receive a certificate of proficiency in Latin American studies:

Department
Completion of the requirements of a departmental concentration.

Language Proficiency
Satisfactory completion of the language requirement in Spanish or Portuguese for students pursuing the Brazilian Studies track or French for students focusing on the French-speaking Caribbean.

Courses
For students pursuing the Latin American studies track, satisfactory completion of four courses across several disciplines, at least one of these courses must be a seminar:

- > One humanities course cross-listed with LAS or with strong Latin American content;
- > Three courses from any field cross-listed with LAS or with strong Latin American content;

With program director's permission, a maximum of two courses from study abroad may count toward fulfilling the course requirements.

For students pursuing the Brazilian studies track, satisfactory completion of four courses across several disciplines, at least one of these courses must be a seminar:

- > One humanities course cross-listed with LAS or with strong Brazilian content;
- > Three courses from any field cross-listed with LAS or with strong Brazilian content;

Courses that are not focused entirely on Brazil must be preapproved by the program director, and the final written work must be Brazil related. With the program director's permission, a maximum of two courses from study abroad may count toward fulfilling the course requirements.

Becoming Brazil Global Seminar: Porto Maravilha, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (Miqueias H. Mugge)

Senior Thesis

A thesis on a Latin American or Brazilian topic depending on track, using primary materials from the region in the original language, written under the supervision of a faculty adviser and/or PLAS associated faculty, and combined with a departmental concentration.

Students whose departmental obligations preclude a thesis on a Latin American or Brazilian topic may complete the program requirements by writing a research paper of sufficient complexity and length to substitute for the thesis requirement (the topic should be determined in consultation with the director and relevant program faculty) or by taking an additional approved course.

STUDY ABROAD

PLAS strongly encourages students to travel to and explore Latin America and the Caribbean. Funds are available to support student travel to these regions for research purposes.

RESEARCH, TRAVEL, & INTERNSHIP SUPPORT

Undergraduate Opportunities
PLAS is committed to promoting student research, experience, and personal and professional growth in Latin America and the Caribbean. Through a combination of substantial travel grants and established institutional networks, PLAS supports undergraduates from a wide range of disciplines as they pursue summer field research and internships throughout the region.

Paul E. Sigmund Scholars Award
The Paul E. Sigmund Scholars Award is named in honor of the late professor of politics, Sigmund (1929-2014), who joined Princeton in 1963 and taught political theory and Latin American politics. The award is intended primarily to support first year and sophomore summer projects and research-related travel.

Travel Support
PLAS offers funding for senior thesis research to juniors for summer fieldwork and to seniors to conduct research during winter break. PLAS also provides funding support for numerous summer internships in the region sponsored by the International Internship Program.

Postgraduate Opportunities
Graduating seniors seeking postgraduate support may wish to consider the Martin A. Dale '53 Fellowship or the Henry Richardson Labouisse '26 Prize. The Office of the Dean of the College publishes a complete list of postgraduate fellowship opportunities.

Seniors may also wish to consider a postgraduate internship through Princeton in Latin America (PiLA).

Independent Research, Colombia (Anglory Morel Espinal)

LAS 373 Inca Art and Architecture Class Trip: Cusco, Peru (Gabriela Nouzeilles)