Launched in fall 1967, the Program of Latin American Studies (PLAS) is one the nation’s first centers dedicated exclusively to Latin American area studies. At the program’s core is a mission to increase knowledge of the histories, cultures, economies, environments of Latin America, and to foster cooperation and understanding across the Americas by bringing Latin American scholars, artists, politicians, and scientists to campus, and by providing support for collaborative research, community service, and cultural exchanges in the region.

In addition to a broad array of public programming, and undergraduate and graduate courses in a range of disciplines, PLAS funds undergraduate, graduate student, and faculty field research; provides support for innovative study and travel proposals via the competitive Sigmund Scholars Award; supports undergraduate internships throughout the region; and brings prominent scholars from the region to teach and carry out research at Princeton.

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*Irene V. Small, Art and Archaeology*

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Undergraduate Certificates in Latin American Studies

Students may write a senior thesis, an independent research paper (*), or take an additional LAS course to fulfill the final requirement for the certificate.

**Lisa Abascal Larson**, School of Public and International Affairs
*An Investigation of the Link Between Remittances to Cuba and Economic Liberalization*

**Daniela Alvarez**, Spanish and Portuguese
*La Gran Cárcel: Two Militarized Borders, Two Failed Asylum Systems and a Mexico-Wide Prison*

**Celia Aranda Reina**, Civil and Environmental Engineering
*Mapuche Language and Culture (Study abroad in Chile)*

**Bruno Emilio Aravena Maguida**, Economics
*Discontinuity in Becas Chile: Evidence for the Merits of the Recently Cancelled Doctoral Grants Program*

**Germán Felipe Arrocha Boyd**, School of Public and International Affairs
*El progreso acaricia tus lares: The Republic of Panama’s Fiscal and Institutional Decentralization*

**Daniel Benitez**, Spanish and Portuguese
*Redefining Drag: The Art of Translating Gender*

**Brandon Shane Flora Dunlevy**, Spanish and Portuguese
*Out of Sight, Out of Mind: Clandestinity, Resistance & Perceptions of Indigenous People in Castile*

**Amanda Eisenhour**, African American Studies
*Quilombo Futurism: Translating Key Concepts in Afro-Brazilian Liberation*

**Erika Escalona Barragan**, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology
*ANT 246/AMS 246 Native American and Indigenous Studies: An Introduction*

**Jocelyn Galindo**, Anthropology
*SPA 220/LAS 220 El Género Negro: Crime Fiction*

**Jessica Gaytán**, Anthropology
“This Place is Sacred” Ecological and Community Regeneration in Pomona, CA Via Urban Farming

**Roberto Hasbun**, History
*“Americanos Todos”: Redefining U.S. Latino and Latina Identity in the Second World War*

**Jimin Kang**, Spanish and Portuguese
*Tales from Indigenous Brazil: A Translation of Daniel Munduruku’s ‘Chronicles of São Paulo’ & ‘The Lessons I’ve Learned’ from the Portuguese*

**Rae Keazer**, Spanish and Portuguese
“I just like to sing”: Exploring La Lupe’s Unique Performance Style as a Nexus of Her Cultural Identity, Spiritual Journey, and Uninhibited Love for Salsa

**Joice Kim**, Anthropology
“The Words They Left Us: Examining the Sociopolitical Nature of Language”*

**Regina Lankenau**, School of Public and International Affairs
*Weathering the Storm: Harnessing Climate Migration from Central America to Advance the Sustainable Development Agenda*

**Stephanie Lytle**, Spanish and Portuguese
*HIS 303/LAS 305 Colonial Latin America to 1810*

**Jesús Martínez Garza**, Spanish and Portuguese
*Irene, Gerardo, y Yo: An Imperfect Political Screening of The other, its Memory, and its Extremes*

**Asia Matthews**, African American Studies
*A Story of Black Institutional Advocacy: The Journey of Arthur Alfonso Schomburg from San Juan, Puerto Rico to Harlem*
Cierra Moore, Spanish and Portuguese
AAS 303/LAS 363 Topics in Global Race and Ethnicity

Anglory Morel Espinal, Sociology
Dominicano soy: A Comparative Study of Ethno-Racial Identity Transformation and Resistance among Dominicans in the United States and the Dominican Republic

Vic Panata, Art and Archaeology
LAS 306 Topics in Latinx Literature and Culture: Latinx Literary Worlds

Jorge Rafael Pereira, Politics
LAO 201/AMS 211/LAS 201 Introduction to Latino/a/x Studies

Alonso Perez Putnam, Politics
Batalla Espiritual: An Analysis of the Emergence of Evangelical Identity-Based Politics in Costa Rica’s 2018 Presidential Elections

Rodrigo Iván Pichardo Urbina, Spanish and Portuguese
God is Mexican American: Poetry Translations in Conversation with Historical and Contemporary Violence Towards Mexican Americans in the U.S.

Jacob Rob, School of Public and International Affairs
Ending the Cold War Against Cuba: A Policy Recommendation for the Biden Administration

Ashley Roundtree, Spanish and Portuguese
The Legend of Dandara: A Translation and Critical Analysis

Arianna Rowe, African American Studies
The Discourses of Blanqueamiento: A Multilateral Analysis of 19th Century Racial Ideologies in the Making of Modern Argentina

Trinidad Santos, Spanish and Portuguese
Fleeing on Foot: A Selected Translation of Alans Peralta’s Con el pais a cuestas

Lindsey Schmidt, School of Public and International Affairs
A Push Towards Security: Drivers of Migration from Guatemala and El Salvador and Implications for U.S. Policy

Hannah Smalley, Spanish and Portuguese
“Arquitectura Sin Arquitectura”: Reimaginando el Parque Biblioteca Espana Santo Domingo Savio Desde la Itinerancia

Leopoldo Solis Martinez, History
Global Seminar 333 Becoming Brazil (Fulfilled course requirements for LAS and Brazilian tracks)

Lydia Spencer, Spanish and Portuguese
“Todo bicho que camina que siga caminando: Feminism, Politics, and Identity: an Ethnographic Look at the Burgeoning Porteo Vegan Movement”*

Annie Sullivan Crowley, Politics
Democratic Disillusionment: Explaining the Rise of Far-Right Populism in Brazil

Alvin Synarong, Spanish and Portuguese
O progresso social pelas paradas: How the São Paulo Pride Parade Reflects Progress for Queer Equality in Modern-Day Brazil

Leila Ullmann, African American Studies
“‘Negra, tu voz enseña’: Contemporary Anti-Racist and Anti-Sexist Activism in Cuba”*

Jackson Vail, History
“Internationalist Science, Nationalist Geography, and Elite Notions of Progress: The Emergence of the Lima Geographic Society in Peru, 1888-1913”*

Abraham Waserstein, School of Public and International Affairs
“US Sanctions Against Venezuela: Another Case of Misguided Policy or a Crucial Tool in the Fight for Democratization?”*
Marissa Webb, School of Public and International Affairs
“Never Fully Recovered: Argentina’s Vicious Cycle of Economic Growth and Default From 1982 to Today’s Crisis”

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POR 304/LAS 311 Topics in Brazilian Cultural and Social History: Listening to Brazil

Senior Thesis Prize Nominees
The Stanley J. Stein Prize is awarded by PLAS each year to the student who writes the best senior thesis on a Latin Amerian-related topic.

The Kenneth Maxwell Prize is awarded by PLAS on behalf of the Firestone Library to the student who writes the best senior thesis related to Brazil.

Daniela Alvarez, Spanish and Portuguese
La Gran Cárcel: Two Militarized Borders, Two Failed Asylum Systems and a Mexico-Wide Prison

Brandon Shane Flora Dunlevy, Spanish and Portuguese
Out of Sight, Out of Mind: Clandestinity, Resistance & Perceptions of Indigenous People in Castile

Nasir Ismael, Spanish and Portuguese
Jogo Bonito? Investigating theExtent of Racial Bias in Sports Commentary of Domestic Football in Brazil

Regina Lankenau, School of Public and International Affairs
Weathering the Storm: Harnessing Climate Migration from Central America to Advance the Sustainable Development Agenda

Jonathan Ort, History
The Day Kingston Fell: How Workers Upended Jamaica’s Colonial Order in 1938

Rodrigo Iván Pichardo Urbina, Creative Writing
God is Mexican American

Ashley Roundtree, Spanish and Portuguese
The Legend of Dandara: A Translation and Critical Analysis

Ariane Rowe, African American Studies
The Discourses of Blanqueamiento: A Multilateral Analysis of 19th Century Racial Ideologies in the Making of Modern Argentina

Lindsey Schmidt, School of Public and International Affairs
A Push Towards Security: Drivers of Migration from Guatemala and El Salvador and Implications for U.S. Policy

Graduate Certificates in Latin American Studies

Daniela T. Barba Sánchez, Ph.D., Politics
Private Gains and Human Rights Violations. Beyond Collateral Damage in Mexico’s War on Drugs

Martín Cobas Sosa, Ph.D., Architecture
LIMINAL CREATURES/LIMINAL TOPOGRAPHIES: Rhetorics of Excess in the New World

Miguel Domínguez, Ph.D., Spanish and Portuguese
Esquirlas de la vanguardia: Juan García Ponce y la literatura como supervivencia en el México del desarrollismo

Marina Miguel Bedran, Ph.D., Spanish and Portuguese
A Turn to Amazonia: Experimental Art, Indigeneity, and the Rise of Political Ecology in Brazil

Benjamin Murphy, Ph.D., Art and Archaeology
Second-Order Images: Reflexive Strategies in Early Latin American Video Art

Sowmya Ramanathan, Ph.D., Spanish and Portuguese
Textures of the Sensible: Reading Affect in Diamela Eltit

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Congratulations to the Class of 2021!