



**CERTIFICATE  
IN  
LATIN AMERICAN  
STUDIES**

A Collaborative Program of  
14 Universities in  
The University System of Georgia  
[www.kennesaw.edu/ac/](http://www.kennesaw.edu/ac/)

**Certificate in Latin American Studies**

The undergraduate Certificate in Latin American Studies recognizes a student's knowledge and understanding of a region of growing importance, both economically and culturally. The course of study is designed to be interdisciplinary and complementary to existing undergraduate programs. Those who satisfy the certificate requirements of their B.A./B.S. will be awarded a Certificate in Latin American Studies. This will be noted in the student's placement materials.

A Certificate in Latin American Studies must be taken with a formal degree program. Course work may be undertaken at two-year institutions but must be completed at a four-year university.

Students from all majors who maintain a 2.80 GPA are eligible to participate.

A student may formally apply to enroll in the program after successful completion of:

- (1) 30 hours of academic credit at a four-year institution or 15 hours of academic credit at a two-year institution
- (2) one three-hour interdisciplinary course which focuses on contemporary Latin America OR a three-hour course on Latin American Culture and Civilization.

**Total Requirements (12-18 hours):**

**Language Area**

[0-6 hrs. at the 3000 level OR demonstration of proficiency] Students must be able to demonstrate oral and written proficiency in

Spanish, Portuguese, French, Haitian Creole, or Quechua. This requirement may be fulfilled in one of two ways:

6 hours of language course work at the 3000 level (with a grade of C or better). These hours may be taken as part of an approved study abroad program as long as the course is beyond the intermediate level.

Or

Demonstration of language proficiency above the intermediate level as defined by ACTFL standards through examination. Accepted demonstration consists of a passing grade on a Princeton Exam, OR the successful completion of an oral and written examination evaluated by a qualified University System of Georgia faculty member. For Haitian Creole and Quechua, a qualified faculty member must evaluate both written and oral exams.

**Latin America Area (12 hours)**

Students must complete the following course work:



One 3-hour course which focuses on contemporary Latin America OR a 3-hour course on Latin American Culture and Civilization.

Three courses [9 hours] in Latin American Studies, two of which must be outside the student's major, from the following options:

Any Latin American upper division courses offered in the University System of Georgia.

6 hours may come from courses that have a minimum 25% Latin American component.

No more than 6 hours from study abroad or internships.

NOTE: the Campus International Coordinator or the Campus CLAS Coordinator must approve all courses, study abroad programs and internships. All courses require a grade of C or Better. No more than one course may be taken at the 1000-2000 level.

Honors Option (Institutional Discretion)

A student may receive an Honors Certificate in Latin American studies if he or she:

Maintains an overall GPA of 2.8 and a GPA of 3.5 in CLAS courses.

Submits a Senior Honors Paper on a Latin American topic to a faculty member in that field. The paper must receive a B+ or better.

## CLAS CONTACTS

Dr. William Deaver  
Armstrong Atlantic State University  
Dr. Robert Flannigan  
Augusta State University  
Dr. Thomas Hanley  
Columbus State University  
Prof. Patricia Davis  
Darton College  
Dr. Ruben Noguera  
Fort Valley State University  
Dr. Jeffrey Blick  
Georgia College and State University  
Prof. Anna Schachner  
Georgia Perimeter College  
Dr. Richard Persico  
Georgia Southern University  
Dr. Elena Odio  
Georgia Southwestern  
Dr. A. K. Harris  
Georgia State University  
Dr. Lynn Fedeli  
Kennesaw State University  
Dr. Victoria McCard  
North Georgia College & State Univ.  
Dr. Marjorie Snipes  
State University of West Georgia  
Dr. Susan Wehling  
Valdosta State University  
Dr. David de Posada  
Macon State College

## WHY STUDY LATIN AMERICA?

US relations with Latin America have been altered significantly by the dynamism and synergy of escalating global and regional economic diversification and growth. The Southeast is one of the regions most integrally linked to this rapidly evolving, shifting, and complex set of relationships. Consider for example:

- US exports to our hemispheric neighbors have grown 15 times faster than trade with Europe and 8 times faster than with Japan.
- Mexico is the United States' third largest trading partner, following Canada and Japan, with the US accounting for 60% of all foreign direct investment in Mexico and an estimated 2600 companies operating there
- Mexico is Georgia's third largest trading partner with Trade increasing 70% in the 1990's.
- Georgia's Latino population has increased 300% in the last decade, the third fastest growth rate in the Southeast after Texas and Florida.
- State official estimate that over 500,000 Latinos live in Georgia.
- Over 1600 multinational corporations expanded or located their operations to the city of Atlanta, with the metro area serving as gateway to Latin America.