EXPLORE A RISING CULTURE AND COMMUNITY!

An interdisciplinary course of study in literature, politics, history, culture, and society.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Questions?
Contact the Latinx Studies Director:

Dr. Robert Con Davis-Undiano
Offices of World Literature Today
The University of Oklahoma
110 Monnet Hall
Norman, OK 73019

Phone: 405/325-4531
Email: rcdavis@ou.edu

For more information, contact or stop by the

The UNIVERSITY of OKLAHOMA
College of Arts and Sciences

Ellison Hall
633 Elm Avenue
Norman, OK 73019-3118

Phone: (405) 325-7709
Email: cas@ou.edu

Academic Services: (405) 325-4411
Dean’s Office: (405) 325-2077

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A TRADITION CONTINUES...

The logo for this program references an ancient tradition in the Americas. Called the “healing hand” and often referenced in Latinx culture, it shows a spiral in the palm of a hand that represents the course of one’s life, the potential for cultural reunification, and healing. The globe in the logo signals the broad perspective of Latinx Studies that connects American society to the life and culture of the Americas.

OU’s rich tradition of Latinx culture showcases remarkable faculty and students. An early shaper of OU culture was Patricio Gimeno (1862-1940) from Peru. Arriving in 1911, he was the founder of OU’s School of Art and a gifted painter whose works are still displayed around campus. He was also a long-serving head of OU’s Spanish section, and he helped to shape OU as a university and a culture. An internationally-renowned artist at OU was Emilio Amero (1901-1976), who came to campus in 1946. An historic figure in the Mexican Modern Movement in art, he attracted worldwide attention to OU through his painting, lithography, photography, filmmaking, and his inauguration of a famous print studio.

OU’s most illustrious Latinx student was Tomás Rivera (1935-1984). Graduating with a Ph.D. from OU in 1969, he was a ground-breaking novelist, a figure whose work in the 1970s marked the beginning of the Chicano Renaissance in culture and the arts. A gifted administrator and one of the great writers of the twentieth century, he is arguably OU’s most famous writer. The memory of Gimeno, Amero, and Rivera lives on each November in OU’s large Day of the Dead celebration, in a famous Latinx book series at the University of Oklahoma Press, and in the annual Tomás Rivera Educational Empowerment conference—a program that each fall brings to OU hundreds of underserved high-school students from around the state for a day of orientation to college life.

The new Latinx Studies program proudly builds on this tradition of cultural creativity and achievement. With a home in the College of Arts and Sciences and the support of eleven humanities and social sciences departments across campus, this program honors OU’s Latinx pioneers but also its current Latinx faculty and students who are destined to be the leaders of tomorrow.
LETTER FROM THE LATINX STUDIES DIRECTOR

Dear Students:

Welcome to Latinx Studies! For many years, OU has offered courses in this area but had no plan of study or minor. This new program brings together courses in Latinx culture, history, and society and reveals how Latinos and Latinas are currently helping to reshape the American experience.

Latinx Studies is a rich perspective and a guide for a critical understanding of current cultural and social events. It also helps students to fulfill the mandate of the College of Arts and Sciences to use knowledge produced through study and research to improve the quality of life and understand the complex world that we live in.

You will see that OU Latinx Studies references different regions, cultures, sub-cultures, social institutions, religious traditions, and political systems. In this way, Latinx Studies creates a meeting ground where the social sciences and the humanities join in a common inquiry. It helps students to think critically and creatively about the United States’ past and present, giving them a broad view that enables them to be citizens of many communities and leaders in their fields.

As director, my goal is to enhance your educational journey. I invite you to join us in this exciting area of inquiry and discovery.

Sincerely,

Robert Con Davis-Undiano
Director
Neustadt Professor
Presidential Professor

LATINX STUDIES PLANNED PROGRAM OF STUDY
(33 HOURS)

Take courses under Core Course, In-Depth Courses, Community Project, and Additional Requirements.

I. Core Courses:
Students will take courses in the history of Hispanic America (History 2613 and 2623), a course in literary or historical analysis (English 2273 or History 2573), a course in American literature (English 2273 or History 2573), and a course in immigration politics (Poli Sci 3073): 15 hours.

II. In-Depth Courses:
Students will take four in-depth courses ranging over literature and culture, race and gender, and politics and society (see director for specific courses): 12 hours.

III. Community Project, Research Project, Study Abroad, or Additional In-Depth Course:
Students can choose any of these four requirements (see director for course options): (1) a community project for credit (to be approved by the program director), (2) a research project for credit (to be approved by the program director), (3) a study abroad experience in a Spanish-speaking country, or (4) an additional upper-division course from In-Depth Courses (II): 3 hours.

IV. Additional Requirements:
Capstone Course: CAS 4703 Planned Program Capstone (3 hrs).
Language Requirement: OU language requirement must be met with Spanish.
Total number of Additional Requirements hours: 3 hours.

Grand total of hours for the Planned Program: 33

LATINX STUDIES MINOR
(18 HOURS)

Take courses indicated under Core Courses and In-Depth Courses:

I. Core Courses:
Take three courses in Hispanic America and literary or historical analysis (History 2613 and 2623, English 2273 or History 2573): 9 hours.

II. In-Depth Courses:
Take three courses in the areas of (1) literature and culture, (2) race and gender, and (3) politics and society (see director for course options): 9 hours.

III. Language Requirement: OU language requirement must be met with Spanish

Grand total of hours for the Latinx Studies Minor: 18