APPROVAL FORM FOR

DEGREE PROGRAMS

MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY

NOTE: This form is a cover sheet that must accompany the degree program change proposal. The actual proposal should be prepared in accordance with format requirements provided in the *Guide and Format for Curriculum Proposals* published by the UCCC. Both cover sheet and proposal should be submitted to UCCC Mail Stop 9702 (281 Garner Hall), Phone: 325-9410.

College: Arts & Sciences **Department:** CMLL

Contact Person: Brian Davisson **Mail Stop:** 9517

E-mail: bdavisson@cmll.msstate.edu

Nature of Change: New minor **Date Initiated:** **Effective Date:** Spring 2024

Current Degree Program Name:

Major: **Concentration:**

New Degree Program Name: Minor in Latin American, Caribbean, and Latinx Studies

Major: **Concentration:**

Summary of Proposed Changes:
Coursework on topics related to Latin America are dispersed throughout the university, in multiple colleges and departments, and are taught regularly. This minor seeks to provide students with a unified minor program of study in order to provide them with a cross-disciplinary curriculum to enhance their understanding of the cultural, political, historical, and linguistic diversity of Latin America, the Caribbean, and Latin American-descendant populations throughout the world.

Approved: **Date:**

Department Head Sept. 20, 2023

Dana Pomykal Gray - Acad Cor. 9/15/23

11/3/23

Chair, College or School Curriculum Committee

11/6/23

Dean of College or School

Chair, University Committee on Courses and Curricula

Chair, Graduate Council(if applicable)

Chair, Deans Council

PROPOSAL FOR ADDITION OF MINOR
Degree: Bachelor of Arts
Minor: Latin American, Caribbean, and Latinx Studies

1. CATALOG DESCRIPTION

The Minor in Latin American, Caribbean, and Latinx Studies provides students with a minor course of study that explores the cultural, political, historical, and linguistic diversity of Latin American and Latinx communities throughout the US, the Caribbean, Latin America, and the wider world. It will provide students with a solid understanding of issues related to Latin America, Caribbean, and Latinx communities, both contemporary and historical, and to provide them with sufficient background to better interpret and engage with the diverse cultural production and populations of Latin America. Our course of study aims to give students a unique interdisciplinary and transnational perspective that investigates the historical, economic, sociopolitical, and cultural processes and forces that are shaping and transforming regions across the Americas.

Administration:
The program of the Minor in Latin American, Caribbean, and Latinx Studies will be administered by the Department of Classical & Modern Languages and Literatures (CMLL). The Latin American, Caribbean, and Latinx Studies Committee consisting of professors with research backgrounds or expertise on Latin America will oversee the program's structure and performance in collaboration with CMLL. Other participating departments and programs include Anthropology and Middle Eastern Cultures, Geosciences, Music, and Political Science.

Admission to the Minor:
The Minor in Latin American, Caribbean, and Latinx Studies is open to all undergraduate students in good standing who are currently enrolled at the university.

2. CURRICULUM OUTLINE

The minor requires a minimum of 18 semester hours with a grade of C or above in each course. Possible courses are listed below. Up to two additional Special Topics or Directed Individual Study courses will count toward the minor when approved in advance by the Latin American, Caribbean, and Latinx Studies Committee. Other substitutions are unlikely, but if a student believes that a non-listed course is centrally related to the field of Latin American, Caribbean and Latinx Studies, that student may petition the Latin American and Latinx Studies Committee to approve counting the course toward the minor. Courses that are cross-listed in more than one department may be taken under any cross-listing.

The following course is being proposed concurrent with the proposal for the minor:
FL 3813 Latin American, Caribbean, and Latinx Studies

PROPOSED New Degree
Degree: MINOR Major: **LATIN AMERICAN, CARIBBEAN, AND LATINX STUDIES** Concentration:
The Minor in Latin American, Caribbean, and Latinx Studies provides students with a minor course of study that explores the cultural, political, historical, and linguistic diversity of Latin American and Latinx communities throughout the US, the Caribbean, Latin America, and the wider world. It will provide students with a solid understanding of issues related to Latin America, Caribbean, and Latinx communities, both contemporary and historical, and to provide them with sufficient background to better interpret and engage with the diverse cultural production and populations of Latin America. Our course of study aims to give students a unique interdisciplinary and transnational perspective that investigates the historical, economic, sociopolitical, and cultural processes and forces that are shaping and transforming regions across the Americas.

Proposed Curriculum Outline	Required Hours
Students seeking a Minor in Latin American, Caribbean, and Latinx Studies are required to complete the following courses:	
Required Course	
FL 3813 Latin American, Caribbean, and Latinx Studies	**3**
Electives	**15**
AN 3133 Anthropology of Latin America	
AN 3533 Rise of Civilization	
FLS 3143 Hispanic Civilization	
FLS 4283 Spanish American Novel	
FLS 4543 Survey of Modern Spanish American Literature	
FLS 4573 Contemporary Spanish American Drama	
FLS 4613 Latin American Cinema	
GR 4213 Geography of Latin America	
HI 3813 Modern Latin America	
HI 3853 US and Latin America	
MU 2023 Music of Latin America	
PS 4593 Latin American Politics	
No more than 6 hours using any specific course prefix may be counted toward the minor (e.g. students may not take more than 6 hours of FLS courses to complete the minor, but could take 6 FLS courses as well as the FL core course).	
Total Hours	**18**

3. JUSTIFICATION AND LEARNING OUTCOMES

Justification

Mississippi State University, as well as the state of Mississippi and the US South in general, is home to a significant population of individuals with origins in Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as individuals from the US of Latin American and/or Caribbean heritage. For students at Mississippi State University, understanding of these communities has occurred through coursework in diverse departments and colleges throughout campus (as well as cultural activities led by various campus groups and organizations, or the work of individuals from the university and non-university communities in Starkville and surrounding areas).

MSU students would benefit from a minor course of study that allows them to explore the diversity of Latin America, the Caribbean, and the Latinx communities living throughout the US from various disciplinary perspectives, and to place those perspectives in discourse with one another. This interdisciplinary minor will allow students to view these communities and groups from new angles, and to better understand the nuances of their cultural, historical, social, and political heritage through comparative disciplinary study.

Relation to existing curriculum

The curricula of various departments and units at Mississippi State University already include numerous courses that relate to Latin America, the Caribbean, and the Latinx community in the United States. The minor seeks to unify these various courses and to help establish for students the inherently interconnected and interdisciplinary approaches that are necessary to understand these various communities, and their oftentimes shared cultural, historical, political, and sociological identities.

There is no concern for duplication related to the Latin American, Caribbean, and Latinx Studies minor, given that the core course for the minor does not count as a core course for any other university major or minor, and students will complete coursework in the curricula of various departments, with no more than

two courses from any given field of study.

Learning outcomes
Students who satisfy all requires for the minor will:

- Clearly delineate the inherently interdisciplinary and interconnected history of Latin America, the Caribbean, and Latinx communities in the US
- Write critical papers on issues related to these communities through diverse disciplines of study
- Speak and engage with others critically on social, political, historical, and cultural issues of importance to communities with origins in the Americas, including the Caribbean region
- Explain nuances connected with the cultural production of specific communities from Latin America, the Caribbean, and the Latinx US
- Identify significant political distinctions between diverse parts of Latin America and the Caribbean
- Analyze the historical and political circumstances of moments of contact between communities within Latin America, the Caribbean, and the Latinx US and groups from other parts of the world

4. SUPPORT
Please see the attached letters of support from the Curriculum Committees of Classical & Modern Languages and Literatures, Anthropology and Middle Eastern Cultures, Geoscience, History, Music, and Political Science.

5. PROPOSED 4-LETTER ABBREVIATION
LACL

6. EFFECTIVE DATE
FALL 2024

MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES
ANTHROPOLOGY AND MIDDLE EASTERN CULTURES

P.O. Box AF
340 Lee Blvd., Room 204 Cobb Bldg
Mississippi State, MS 39762

P. 662.325.2013
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www.amec.msstate.edu

April 18, 2023

Dr. Brian Davisson
Department of Classical & Modern Languages
College of Arts & Sciences

Dear Dr. Davisson,

I am writing on behalf of the Department of Anthropology and Middle Eastern Cultures (AMEC) to confirm that the AMEC Curriculum Committee has reviewed the materials for the proposed Minor in Latin American, Caribbean, and Latin Studies and has agreed to support it.

Thank you for including anthropology courses in your proposal and we wish you much success in your endeavor.

Should you need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Dr. Hsain Ilahiane
Department Head, Professor

Dr. Anna Osterholtz
Chair, AMEC Curriculum Committee, Associate Professor

D. Shane Miller

Dr. Shane Miller
AMEC Curriculum Committee Member, Associate Professor

Dr. Jordan Lynton Cox
AMEC Curriculum Committee Member, Assistant Professor

CLASSICAL & MODERN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES
P.O. Box FL
1501 Lee Hall
Mississippi State, MS 39762
P. 662.325.3480
www.cmll.msstate.edu

Friday, September 15, 2023

Members of the UCCC:

The Curriculum Committee for Classical & Modern Languages and Literatures has met and voted to approve the proposal for the minor in Latin American, Caribbean, and Latinx Studies, as well as the addition of the course FL 3813 Latin American, Caribbean, and Latinx Studies to the CMLL curriculum. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,
The members of the CMLL Curriculum Committee

Dr. Brian Davisson, Chair

Dr. Scott DiGiulio

Dr. Robert Harland

Dr. Fumiko Jōo

Dr. Edward Potter

Dr. Karim Simpore

MISSISSIPPI STATE
UNIVERSITY

Department of Geosciences
108 Hilburn Hall
355 Lee Blvd.
PO Box 5448
Mississippi State, MS 39762
Phone (662) 325-3915
FAX (662) 325-9423

February 13, 2023

Dear Curriculum Committee chair,

The Department of Geosciences Curriculum Committee reviewed the degree proposal for the Minor in Latin American Studies, specifically the use of our course GR 4213/6213 Geography of Latin America. The committee fully supports this new program, and we are excited to collaborate with CMLL in this way. If you have any questions or need additional information, please let us know.

Respectfully,

Andrew Mercer Digitally signed by Andrew Mercer Date: 2023.02.14 08:57:38 -06'00'

Andrew Mercer (Committee Chair)

Padmanava Dash Digitally signed by Padmanava Dash Date: 2023.02.14 11:50:18 -06'00'

Padmanava Dash (Committee Member)

Christa R. Haney Digitally signed by Christa R. Haney Date: 2023.02.14 10:45:02 -06'00'

Christa Haney (Committee Member)

Sarah Lalk Digitally signed by Sarah Lalk DN: cn=Sarah Lalk, o, ou, email=spr67@msstate.edu, c=US Date: 2023.02.14 10:52:54 -06'00'

Sarah Lalk (Committee Member)

Rinat Gabitov Digitally signed by Rinat Gabitov Date: 2023.02.14 12:21:55 -06'00'

Rinat Gabitov (Committee Member)

Brian S. Williams Digitally signed by Brian S. Williams Date: 2023.02.14 12:45:56 -06'00'

Brian Williams (Committee Member)

Cc: Dr. John C. Rodgers, Department Head of Geosciences

MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

February 24, 2023

Members of the UCCC:

The Department of History supports the new minor in Latin American, Caribbean, and Latinx Studies.

The Curriculum Committee of the Department of History has reviewed the proposal and approves of the use of two existing courses, HI 3813 (Modern Latin America) and HI 3853 (US and Latin America) as part of its curricular options, subject to instructor availability.

Sincerely,

Dr. Matthew Lavine
Chair, Curriculum Committee

Dr. James Giesen
Associate Professor

Dr. Julia Osman
Associate Professor

Dr. Courtney Thompson
Associate Professor

Mailbox H, Mississippi State, MS 39762 · 662.325.3604 · http://www.history.msstate.edu/

MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC
P.O. Box 6240
Mississippi State, MS 39762
P. 662.325.3070
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Band (662)325.2713
Choral (662)325.3490
www.music.msstate.edu

February 15, 2023

To: College of Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee
University Committee on Courses and Curricula

Fr: Department of Music Curriculum Committee

Re: Support of inclusion of MU 2023 Music of Latin American Music in the proposed Minor in Latin American, Caribbean, and Latinx Studies

With a majority vote in favor (one abstention), the Department of Music supports the inclusion of MU 2023 Music of Latin American in the proposed Minor in Latin American, Caribbean, and Latinx Studies.

Sincerely,

Department of Music Curriculum Committee

Dr. Robert Damm

Dr. Jeanette Fontaine

Dr. Richard Human, chair

Dr. Gary Packwood

Dr. Ryan Ross
(Abstention)

Dr. Sophie Wang

MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES
Department of Political Science and
Public Administration

P.O. Box PC
456 Hardy Rd.,
105 Bowen Hall
Mississippi State, MS 39762

P. 662.325.2711
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www.pspa.msstate.edu

September 1, 2023

To the University Committee on Courses and Curricula;

The Political Science and Public Administration Undergraduate Curriculum Committee writes this letter in support of the Department of Classical and Modern Languages and Literatures' Latin American Studies minor. This concentration would incorporate the following PS courses as options for this concentration:

PS 4593 (Latin American Politics)

Leslie Baker (Chair): Leslie Baker

James Chamberlain: James Chamberlain

Steve Shaffer: Steve Shaffer

Ben Tkach: Ben Tkach