

Department of Black and Latino Studies

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Field Description

This discipline explores the social, political, cultural, and economic history of Black and Latino peoples throughout the world from ancient to modern times. Themes include community economic development, micro-enterprise and small business, nonprofit organizations, culture and identity, the development of community, social and public policy, migration processes, and media portrayals.

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The Major

Black and Latino Studies (BLS) is an interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary course of study that centers the knowledge productions by people of the African, Caribbean, and Latin American diasporas in the United States and globally. The major builds on a curriculum that respects Black, Indigenous, Latin American and US Latinx peoples as intellectuals, cultural producers and activists. It maintains a scholarly interest in critical questions about race, identity, and justice that offers connections between academic lessons and real-world concerns.

Program Learning Goals

Upon completion of a major in Black and Latino Studies, students will be able to:

Coursework

- Closely read and contextualize texts and artifacts related to Black and Latino Studies
- Articulate multiple scholarly and applied theories of culture, power, and social change
- Assess and evaluate both quantitative and qualitative evidence and arguments
- Analyze knowledge production using interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary perspectives
- Communicate complex ideas and arguments in written, oral, and digital forms

Fieldwork

- Identify, explain, and analyze key dynamics in cultural, political, economic, and/or ecological issues that specifically affect Black and Latino peoples
- Develop community-engaged, practical applications to classroom learning
- Reflect on the ethics of cross-cultural research, representation, and collaboration
- Practice skills that support career preparedness and/or graduate studies

Public Knowledge Projects

- Create and share accessible content and resources that advance racial and social justice
- Design and conduct critical research that offers practical solutions concerning relevant social and cultural questions
- Connect coursework with community interests and concerns

Requirements for the Major (30 credits)

Required credits for the Bachelor of the Arts degree in Black and Latino Studies include:

- BLS/LTS 4900 Capstone (3 credits)
- Core BLS/LTS Electives (6 credits)
- Additional BLS/LTS Electives (21 credits)

Required Capstone Course: 3 Credits

All BLS majors and minors must complete this capstone course. It will be organized using three key components: (1) Academic coursework, (2) Fieldwork, and (3) Public Knowledge Research Projects. The capstone course themes will be determined by the instructor, such as by offering specialized focus on (1) race, history, culture or, (2) racial and social justice, public policy, and human rights. Upon completion students will have developed advanced skills in research methods, established fieldwork experience, and a public research project.

BLS 4900/ LTS 4900	Seminar in Black and Latino Studies	3 credits

Required Core Elective Courses: 6 Credits

Majors must take two interdisciplinary Core Elective courses, which will establish experience with the foundational methods and themes that inform Black, Latino, and Latinx Studies.

- Take one of the following Core Electives in interdisciplinary, intersectional thinking about gender, race, and sexuality:
 - [LTS 3012](#) Latinas: A Social and Cultural Survey
 - [BLS 3024](#) Women of Color
- Take one of the following interdisciplinary Core Electives to develop complex thinking about empire and racial justice.
 - [LTS 3100](#) Latino Communities in the U.S.
 - [BLS 3012](#) Black Revolution and Political Thinking in the U.S.
 - [BLS 3050](#) / [LTS 3050](#) Race and Global Inequity

Additional Elective Courses in the Major (21 credits)

The Elective Courses offered to support the major manifest the interdisciplinary practices that define Black, Latinx Studies, and AfroLatinx Studies. They represent a distribution of courses that support well-rounded knowledge within Black, Caribbean, and Latinx areas of interest.

Black Studies (BLS) Elective Courses Offered by the Department of Black and Latino Studies

BLS 3002	Contemporary Black Literatures	3 credits
BLS 3008	Urban Economic Structure	3 credits
BLS 3010	The Black Child and Adolescent in the United States	3 credits
BLS 3011	The Black Family	3 credits
BLS 3012	Black Revolution and Political Thinking in the U.S. *	3 credits
BLS 3013	Mass Media and the Black America	3 credits
BLS 3014	Civil Rights Legislation and Litigation	3 credits
BLS 3015	Black Economic Development 1860-Present	3 credits

BLS 3018	African Philosophy and Religion	3 credits
BLS 3024	Women of Color *	3 credits
BLS 3050	Race and Global Inequality *	3 credits
BLS 3085	Special Topics in Black Studies	3 credits
BLS 5000	Independent Study I	3 credits
BLS 5001	Independent Study II	3 credits
BLS 6001H	Honors Thesis I in Black Studies **	3 credits
BLS 6002H	Honors Thesis I in Black Studies **	3 credits
Latino Studies (LTS) Elective Courses Offered By the Department of Black and Latino Studies		
LTS 3001	The Puerto Rican Community	3 credits
LTS 3002	Puerto Rican Political and Economic Development in the Twentieth Century	3 credits
LTS 3004	Politics and Power in Puerto Rico	3 credits
LTS 3005	Economic History of Puerto Rico	3 credits
LTS 3006	Religions in the Caribbean	3 credits
LTS 3007	Puerto Rican Culture	3 credits
LTS 3009	Dominican Heritage: From Pre-Columbian Times to Present	3 credits
LTS 3012	Latinas: A Social and Cultural Survey *	3 credits
LTS 3050	Race and Global Inequality *	3 credits
LTS 3052	Latinx Film and Media	3 credits
LTS 3085	Special Topics in Hispanic/Latino Studies	3 credits
LTS 3100	Latino Communities in the U.S. *	3 credits
LTS 3110	Debates in Latin American Social Theory	3 credits
LTS 5000	Independent Study I	3 credits
LTS 5001	Independent Study II	3 credits
LTS 6001H	Honors Thesis I in Black Studies **	3 credits
LTS 6002H	Honors Thesis I in Black Studies **	3 credits

NOTES:

* These courses satisfy the Core Elective requirement.

**The BLS/LTS 5000/5001 and BLS/LTS 6001H/6002H course sequences allow for independent study and advanced work. In these courses students will work on independent projects under mentorship and direction from a faculty advisor. These projects may include experiential learning or social justice work with community organizations. All projects in this course sequence will culminate in an advanced research project.

BLS and LTS Elective Courses Cross-Listed with Other Weissman Departments

BLS 3030/ LTS 3030/ SOC 3030	The Changing Demographics of the City	
BLS 3034/ ENG 3034	Survey of African American Literature	3 credits
BLS 3035/ LTS 3035/ SOC 3035	The Remaking of New York: The Immigrant Experience	3 credits
BLS 3835/ ENG 3835	Black Women Writers	3 credits
BLS 3845/ ENG 3845	Genres of African Literature	3 credits
BLS 3038/ CMP 3038/ ENG 3038	Survey of Caribbean Literature in English	3 credits
BLS 3060/ HIS 3060	African American History	3 credits
BLS 3061/ HIS 3061	Survey of African History	3 credits
BLS 3062/ HIS 3062	Women in African History	3 credits
BLS 3063/ HIS 3063	History of the African Diaspora	3 credits
BLS 3115/ ANT 3115/ SOC 3115	People and Culture of Haiti	3 credits
BLS 3043/ THE 3043	Theater of Color in the United States	3 credits
BLS 3044/ LTS 3044/ SOC 3044	Migration in the Americas	3 credits
BLS 3055/ LTS 3055/ HIS 3055	The Sixties in America	3 credits
BLS 3056/ LTS 3056/ HIS 3056	The Civil Rights Movement	3 credits
BLS 3125/ LTS 3125/ ANT 3125/ SOC 3125	Race and Ethnic Relations	3 credits
LTS 3010/ HIS 3010	Central America: A Regional Study	3 credits
LTS 3015/ ANT 3015/ SOC 3015	Cuban Culture and Society	3 credits
LTS 3021/ ANT 3021/ SOC 3021	The U.S. and Mexican Border	3 credits
LTS 3025/ HIS 3025	Race, Class, and Gender in Brazil	3 credits
LTS 3051/ CMP 3051/ JWS 3051/ LACS 3051	Latin American Jewish Women Writers	3 credits
LTS 3058/ CMP 3058/ ENG 3058	Contemporary Latin American Fiction	3 credits
LTS 3059/ CMP 3059/ ENG 3059	Latin American Literature in the U.S.	3 credits

LTS 3071/ HIS 3071	Colonial Latin America	3 credits
LTS 3073/ HIS 3073	History of US-Latin American Relations	3 credits
LTS 3074/ HIS 3074	From Silver to Cocaine: The Economic History of Latin America	3 credits

The Minors

- [Black Studies](#)
- [Black and Latino Studies](#)
- [Latino Studies](#)

Black Studies

This program offers an interdisciplinary study of the social, political, cultural, and economic history of Black peoples throughout the world from ancient to modern times. Themes include community economic development, micro-enterprise and small business, nonprofit organizations, culture and identity, the development of community, social and public policy, migration processes, and media portrayals.

The requirements of Black Studies minor can be fulfilled by completing two courses in the department at the 3000-level or above, followed by the capstone course [BLS 4900](#) - Seminar in Black & Latino Studies.

Please note: *Neither BLS/LTS/LACS 4901 nor BLS/LTS/LACS 4902 may serve as the capstone course for the minor.*

Black and Latino Studies

This program offers an interdisciplinary study of the social, political, cultural, and economic history of Black and Latino peoples throughout the world from ancient to modern times. Themes include community economic development, micro-enterprise and small business, nonprofit organizations, culture and identity, the development of community, social and public policy, migration processes, and media portrayals.

The requirements of the Black and Latino Studies minor can be fulfilled by completing two courses in the department at the 3000-level or above, followed by the capstone course

[BLS 4900/ LTS 4900](#) - Seminar in Black & Latino Studies.

Please note: *Neither BLS/LTS/LACS 4901 nor BLS/LTS/LACS 4902 may serve as the capstone course for the minor.*

Latino Studies

This program offers an interdisciplinary study of the social, political, cultural, and economic history of Latino/a, Latinx peoples throughout the world from ancient to modern times. Themes include community economic development, micro-enterprise and small business, nonprofit organizations, culture and identity, the development of community, social and public policy, migration processes, and media portrayals.

The requirements of Latino Studies minor can be fulfilled by completing two courses in the department at the 3000-level or above, followed by the capstone course [LTS 4900](#) - Seminar in Black & Latino Studies.

Please note: *Neither BLS/LTS/LACS 4901 nor BLS/LTS/LACS 4902 may serve as the capstone course for the minor.*

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Courses

Black Studies (BLS)

BLS 1000	African History Until the Dispersion, Seventeenth Century	3 hours; 3 credits
BLS 1001	Geography and Cultures of Africa	3 hours; 3 credits
BLS 1002	Black American History, Seventeenth Century Until the Present Time	3 hours; 3 credits
BLS 1003	The Evolution and Expressions of Racism	3 hours; 3 credits
BLS 3002	Contemporary Black Literatures	3 hours; 3 credits
BLS 3003	Local Government and Customary Law in Africa	3 hours; 3 credits
BLS 3008	Urban Economic Structure	3 hours; 3 credits
BLS 3010	The Black Child and Adolescent in the United States	3 hours; 3 credits
BLS 3011	The Black Family	3 hours; 3 credits
BLS 3012	Black Revolution and Political Thinking in the U.S.	3 hours; 3 credits
BLS 3013	Mass Media and the Black American	3 hours; 3 credits
BLS 3014	Civil Rights Legislation and Litigation	3 hours; 3 credits
BLS 3015	Black Economic Development: 1860 to the Present	3 hours; 3 credits
BLS 3016	Urban Economic Structure	3 hours; 3 credits
BLS 3018	African Philosophy and Religion	3 hours; 3 credits
BLS 3024	Women of Color	3 hours; 3 credits
BLS 3030	The Changing Demographics of the City (LTS 3030), (SOC 3030)	3 hours; 3 credits
BLS 3034	A Survey of African American Literature (ENG 3034)	3 hours; 3 credits
BLS 3035	The Remaking of New York: the Immigrant Experience (ANT 3035), (LTS 3035), (SOC 3035)	3 hours; 3 credits
BLS 3038	Survey of Caribbean Literature in English (CMP 3038), (ENG 3038)	3 hours; 3 credits
BLS 3043	Theatre of Color in the United States (THE 3043)	3 hours; 3 credits
BLS 3044	Migration in the Americas (LTS 3044), (SOC 3044)	3 hours; 3 credits
BLS 3045	Changing Demographics of the City (LTS 3045)	3 hours; 3 credits
BLS 3046	Four Hundred Years of the Black Presence in New York City	3 hours; 3 credits
BLS 3050	Race and Global Inequality (LTS 3050)	3 hours; 3 credits
BLS 3055	The Sixties in America (HIS 3055), (LTS 3055)	3 hours; 3 credits
BLS 3056	The Civil Rights Movement (HIS 3056), (LTS 3056)	3 hours; 3 credits
BLS 3060	African American History (HIS 3060)	3 hours; 3 credits
BLS 3061	Survey of African History (HIS 3061)	3 hours; 3 credits
BLS 3062	Women in African History (HIS 3062)	3 hours; 3 credits

BLS 3063	History of the African Diaspora (HIS 3063)	3 hours; 3 credits
BLS 3085	Special Topics in Black Studies	3 hours; 3 credits
BLS 3115	People and Culture of Haiti (ANT 3115), (SOC 3115)	3 hours; 3 credits
BLS 3120	Passing, Covering, and Social Stigma in Race, Ethnicity, Gender, and Sexuality (ANT 3120), (LTS 3120), (SOC 3120)	3 hours; 3 credits
BLS 3125	Race and Ethnic Relations (ANT 3125), (LTS 3125), (SOC 3125)	3 hours; 3 credits
BLS 3130H	The City That Care Forgot: The Roots, Ruin, and Rebirth of New Orleans (ANT 3130H), (LTS 3130H), (SOC 3130H)	3 hours; 3 credits
BLS 3309	Race and Ethnicity in American Politics (LTS 3309), (POL 3309)	3 hours; 3 credits
BLS 3835	Black Women Writers (ENG 3835)	3 hours; 3 credits
BLS 3845	Genres of African Literature (ENG 3845)	3 hours; 3 credits
BLS 4545	Literature of the Harlem Renaissance (ENG 4545)	3 hours; 3 credits
BLS 4900	Seminar in Black & Latino Studies	3 hours; 3 credits
BLS 4901	Latin America and the Caribbean: History and Politics (LACS 4901), (LTS 4901)	3 hours; 3 credits
BLS 4902	Latin America and the Caribbean: Arts and Cultures (LACS 4902), (LTS 4902)	3 hours; 3 credits
BLS 6001H	Honors Thesis in Black Studies	3 hours; 3 credits
BLS 6002H	Honors Thesis in Black Studies	3 hours; 3 credits

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Latino Studies (LTS)

LTS 1003	Latin America: An Institutional and Cultural Survey	3 hours; 3 credits
LTS 3001	The Puerto Rican Community	3 hours; 3 credits
LTS 3002	Puerto Rican Political and Economic Development in the Twentieth Century	3 hours; 3 credits
LTS 3003	Major Selected Problems of the Puerto Rican Community	3 hours; 3 credits
LTS 3004	Politics and Power in Puerto Rico	3 hours; 3 credits
LTS 3005	Economic History of Puerto Rico	3 hours; 3 credits
LTS 3006	Religions of the Caribbean	3 hours; 3 credits
LTS 3007	Puerto Rican Culture	3 hours; 3 credits
LTS 3008	Puerto Rican Heritage: 1898 to the Present	3 hours; 3 credits

LTS 3009	Dominican Heritage: From Pre-Columbian Times to Present	3 hours; 3 credits
LTS 3010	Central America: A Regional Study (HIS 3010)	3 hours; 3 credits
LTS 3011	The Contemporary Puerto Rican Family	3 hours; 3 credits
LTS 3012	Latinas: A Social and Cultural Survey	3 hours; 3 credits
LTS 3015	Cuban Culture and Society (ANT 3015), (SOC 3015)	3 hours; 3 credits
LTS 3016	Urban Economic Structure	3 hours; 3 credits
LTS 3021	The U.S. and Mexican Border (ANT 3021 , SOC 3021)	3 hours; 3 credits
LTS 3025	Race, Class, and Gender in Brazil (HIS 3025)	3 hours; 3 credits
LTS 3030	Changing Demographic of the City (BLS 3030), (SOC 3030)	3 hours; 3 credits
LTS 3035	The Remaking of New York: The Immigrant Experience (ANT 3035), (BLS 3035), (SOC 3035)	3 hours; 3 credits
LTS 3044	Migration in the Americas (BLS 3044), (SOC 3044)	3 hours; 3 credits
LTS 3045	Changing Demographics of the City (BLS 3045)	3 hours; 3 credits
LTS 3050	Race and Global Inequality (BLS 3050)	3 hours; 3 credits
LTS 3052	Latinx Film and Media	3 hours; 3 credits
LTS 3055	The Sixties in America (BLS 3055), (HIS 3055)	3 hours; 3 credits
LTS 3056	The Civil Rights Movement (BLS 3056), (HIS 3056)	3 hours; 3 credits
LTS 3051	Latin American Jewish Women Writers (CMP 3051), (JWS 3051), (LACS 3051)	3 hours; 3 credits
LTS 3058	Contemporary Latin American Fiction (CMP 3058)	3 hours; 3 credits
LTS 3059	Latino/a Literature in the U.S. (CMP 3059) (ENG 3059)	3 hours; 3 credits
LTS 3071	History of Colonial Latin America (HIS 3071), (LACS 3071)	3 hours; 3 credits
LTS 3073	History of U.S.-Latin American Relations (HIS 3073), (LACS 3073)	3 hours; 3 credits
LTS 3074	From Silver to Cocaine: An Economic History of Latin America (HIS 3074)	3 hours; 3 credits
LTS 3085	Special Topics in Hispanic/Latino Studies	3 hours; 3 credits
LTS 3100	Latino Communities in the U.S.	3 hours; 3 credits
LTS 3110	Debates in Latin American Social Theory	3 hours; 3 credits
LTS 3120	Passing, Covering, and Social Stigma in Race, Ethnicity, Gender, and Sexuality (ANT 3120), (BLS 3120), (SOC 3120)	3 hours; 3 credits
LTS 3125	Race and Ethnic Relations (ANT 3125), (BLS 3125), (SOC 3125)	3 hours; 3 credits
LTS 3130H	The City that Care Forgot: The Roots, Ruin, and Rebirth of New Orleans (ANT 3130H), (BLS 3130H), (SOC 3130H)	3 hours; 3 credits

LTS 3309	Race and Ethnicity in American Politics (BLS 3309), (POL 3309)	3 hours; 3 credits
LTS 4900	Seminar in Black and Latino Studies	3 hours; 3 credits
LTS 4901	Latin America and the Caribbean: History and Politics (BLS 4901), (LACS 4901)	3 hours; 3 credits
LTS 4902	Latin America and the Caribbean: Arts and Cultures (BLS 4902), (LACS 4902)	3 hours; 3 credits
LTS 5000	Independent Study I	Hours and credits to be arranged
LTS 5001	Independent Study II	Hours and credits to be arranged

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