A Multidisciplinary Approach

The Latin American Institute brings together more than 140 faculty members from 28 departments and professional schools offering a broad range of courses about Latin America. Visitors from diverse Latin American countries come to campus to teach, lecture and participate in conferences and symposia sponsored by the Institute. Interdisciplinary BA and MA programs in Latin American Studies and joint degrees in education, public health, urban planning and management prepare our students for careers in business, media, government and non-governmental organizations.

The Institute’s publications program has issued original research from U.S. and foreign institutions. This tradition has produced the Statistical Abstract of Latin America, the Journal of Latin American Lore and a significant monograph series. HAPI: The Database of Latin American Journal Articles, a wide-ranging and carefully indexed resource, provides its online archive free of charge to libraries in the 15 poorest Latin American countries.

Partnerships Across the Region

The Institute maintains strong ties of collaboration and exchange with institutions of higher learning throughout Latin America such as the Universidad de Guadalajara and the Centro de Investigación y Docencia Económicas (CIDE) in Mexico and the federal universities of Santa Catarina and Rio Grande do Sul in Brazil. Through these partnerships, UCLA students learn directly from major Latin American scholars and literary figures, and the Institute extends its outreach efforts in local communities.

The Latin American Film and Media Project fosters teaching and research in audiovisual production and establishes long-term contacts with Latin Americans working in film, television and new media. One of the Project’s goals is the creation of an electronic media archive for future research. The Institute also presents frequent film screenings including a monthly series cosponsored since 2007 with the Consulate General of Brazil in Los Angeles.

For more than 50 years the UCLA Latin American Institute has trained area experts, supported research and disseminated scholarship on Latin America through conferences, public programs, teacher training and publications. We foster informed, multidisciplinary conversations about a region that is dear to Los Angeles for demographic, cultural, social and economic reasons.

The Institute houses research centers on Brazilian studies, Mexican studies, and the Southern Cone, and supports faculty and graduate student working groups on topics such as migration, Cuba and the Caribbean, HIV/AIDS in Latin America and Zapotec languages and cultures.
Conferences & Symposia

Throughout the academic year, the Institute hosts conferences and symposia on topics spanning fields in the humanities and social sciences, and often going beyond these core disciplines. Recent programs include:

- Fiscal Federalism in Latin America
- U.S. Latinos & Latin American Integration
- The U.S.-Mexico Border and Issues of National Security
- Middle Eastern Communities in Latin America
- Sex Tourism & Violence in the Caribbean
- Global Dimensions of the HIV/AIDS Pandemic
- Peronismo—The Aesthetics of Power in Modern Argentina
- Beyond Borders: Migration, Security and Cooperation in North America.

Service

Teacher training has long been a mainstay of the Institute’s community outreach efforts, allowing our faculty members to share their knowledge with as wide an audience as possible. Working with the Los Angeles Unified and other school districts, we organize an intensive training workshop each summer on a Latin American topic and seminars during the academic year. Recent seminars include Con Mis Manos: a History of Labor in Latin America; Enduring Legacies: African Influence in the Artistic Expressions of the Americas; Race, Class, Gender, and National Policy in Latin America; and Finding Pachamama: Environmentalism in Latin America.

The Institute’s lectures and conferences reach a wide range of constituencies, including the business community, media representatives and public officials. We frequently sponsor public talks, screenings and panel discussions and collaborate with UCLA’s Fowler Museum of Cultural History, which has a gallery dedicated to the Americas and operates an extensive outreach program to K-12 schools.

Centers & Working Groups

For five decades, the Institute has encouraged collaboration among international, interdisciplinary groups of scholars who think about Latin American institutions and local issues in global contexts. Most recently, in 2008, it formally opened three UCLA centers dedicated to studies on Mexico, Brazil, and the Southern Cone region of South America.

Support the UCLA Latin American Institute

We encourage you to participate in our events and support our efforts to educate students and the public about Latin America, and train the next generation of Latin America scholars.

Private philanthropy is critical to the health and vitality of our program. There are many ways to give, including outright gifts, pledges payable over time, and permanent endowments. All gifts are tax-deductible and may be directed to the area of greatest interest to you.

We look forward to discussing with you how your gift can make a significant impact. Please write or call us using the contact information on the back cover of this brochure, or visit www.international.ucla.edu/lai.
For information about supporting LAI and for all other inquiries, please contact:

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