

**Certificate in Latin American Studies for M.Ed. and Ph.D. Students
in the Peabody College of Education**

The Center for Latin American Studies allows students to document their regional specialization by earning the Certificate, which is awarded in conjunction with their degree. The LAS Certificate also encourages graduate students to study outside of their disciplinary specialization.

The Certificate in Latin American Studies for graduate students in the Peabody College of Education has four basic requirements:

1. The completion of at least 6 hours of coursework in Latin American Studies: eligible courses are listed in the Graduate Catalog.
2. The Certificate requires demonstrated conversational or reading proficiency in Spanish, Portuguese, or an indigenous Latin American language. Proficiency may be demonstrated by either
 - successful (“B” or higher) completion of intermediate level course work in the language; courses that satisfy this requirement are Spanish 104, Portuguese 200, Anthropology 269 (indigenous language), and Anthropology 276 (indigenous language).
 - Having an oral or written examination administered by a Vanderbilt Professor or Lecturer (not a graduate student) resulting in a rating of “intermediate-mid” following ACTFL guidelines. There is a required CLAS form for this evaluation. Contact the CLAS Associate Director for Graduate Studies.
3. Attendance of at least 5 events sponsored by CLAS during the period of graduate study at Vanderbilt. Students must document their attendance at CLAS lectures or other events by emailing the CLAS Associate Director for Graduate Studies.
4. Completion of a project relating to Latin American Studies (e.g., M.Ed. or Ph.D. thesis, capstone project, term paper) approved by the student’s mentor in the Peabody College of Education and by the CLAS Associate Director for Graduate Studies.

Upon enrollment in the Certificate program, students will meet with the CLAS Associate Director for Graduate Studies who will ensure that they are placed on the CLAS listserve and thus receive weekly emails about events sponsored by CLAS.

Upon completion of the requirements, students will receive a Certificate document, as well as a notation on their transcript.

**CLAS Associate Director for Graduate Studies: Dr. Helena Simonett,
helena.simonett@vanderbilt.edu**