



**The Paul H. Nitze
School of Advanced
International Studies**

JOHNS HOPKINS
U N I V E R S I T Y

Latin American Studies | MA Academic Requirements

CONCENTRATION

Students concentrating in Latin American Studies must take at least 6 courses within Western Hemisphere including the Western Hemisphere Studies (WHS) core course, Theory and Practice of Politics in Latin America (810.700), and 1 Canadian Studies course. Students should be enrolled in a minimum of one Western Hemisphere course per semester. Latin American Studies Program students who wish to qualify for WHS internship opportunities in Latin America must pass the [Latin American history exam](#).

INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS

All candidates for the M.A. degree must complete a concentration in the field of International Economics by taking 4-6 economics courses at SAIS. Students can also pursue a [specialization](#) within International Economics by taking additional course work.

CORE COURSES

All SAIS students must pass 2 core exams and/or courses. If the cores are not completed by the start of their fourth semester, the student must enroll in the core course(s).

LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

Latin American Studies MA candidates must pass exams to demonstrate proficiency in Spanish or Portuguese. Those who successfully complete the oral and written exams in one language are encouraged to enroll for study in the other language. Non-native English speakers are required to pass an English placement exam upon entering SAIS.

CAPSTONE

Latin American Studies concentrators must complete ONE of the following capstones:

1. An academic or professional internship* relevant to program course work and subsequently submit a report** on the experience. All internships completed through the WHS Summer Internship Program satisfy this requirement
2. Students who are unable to complete an internship will be required to pass a 30–45 minute oral exam with LASP faculty at the end of their final semester
3. MA Oral Exam (to compete for honors- if eligible)

*If unable to participate in the WHS Summer Internship Program, students may secure their own internships to be completed during the summer or during their second year at SAIS. These internships must be no less than eight weeks in duration and are subject to departmental approval.

**The internship written report should be three double-spaced pages in length and will be due by the beginning of the student's last semester at SAIS. The report should delve into a thematic component of the internship rather than highlight duties/responsibilities.

A total of 16 courses are required for an MA degree.

[Click here](#) for more information about the Academic Requirements for Latin American Studies.

[Requirements for AY 09/10 class](#)

