LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN STUDIES

You’re familiar with reggae music. And no doubt you know who Fidel Castro, Che Guevara and Hugo Chavez are. Maybe you’ve even read the novels of Gabriel Garcia-Marquez or seen the outsize subjects in paintings by Fernando Botero. But do you understand how they all weave together? Can you talk about them in context? That’s where Latin American and Caribbean studies can help.

At the College of Charleston, Latin American and Caribbean studies (LACS) is designed to broaden your understanding of a world region whose importance is often overlooked. Both in the classroom and outside, this program will expose you not only to the cultures and languages of our neighbors to the south, but also to their history, politics and economy. To do that, the courses we offer are taught in a variety of disciplines, including:

- anthropology
- history
- literature (in translation)
- political science
- foreign language

We use strong language programs in Spanish and Portuguese as an important basis for understanding the Latin American and Caribbean world. And we support and enhance our students’ academic work with numerous study-abroad opportunities. One of our most popular offerings is the spring semester program in Cuba. The courses you’ll take while there are taught by College of Charleston faculty and Cuban scholars. And, by spending a semester in Cuba, you’ll advance your Spanish language skills while learning about the country’s rich heritage as reflected in its culture, economy, political and social history, art, music and literature.

Because our LACS program is designed to be flexible, it can complement a variety of majors at the College, in business, the arts, the humanities or science. Combining this minor with your major can lead to a growing number of rewarding career opportunities in a variety of areas. And, it’s also excellent preparation for graduate or professional school. Why not check it out?

“This minor provided me with a new outlook on political, social and cultural aspects of the region. And, it’s added an aspect of fun. I’m a biology major; you won’t find biology professors playing Celia Cruz music before class, or having salsa dancing on a lecture day, but the Latin American and Caribbean Studies Program offers that, and more.

– Skyler Hughes ’12