Bachelor of Arts

INTRODUCTION TO THE MAJOR

Chicanx and Latinx Studies is grounded in the decolonization and liberation projects of U.S. Latina/os and their allies in the civil rights, gender, and sexual liberation movements of the 1960s that continue through the present in new forms that address new conditions. We take seriously the knowledges, epistemologies and critical thinking produced by racially and sexually oppressed subjects, and endeavor to examine the entangled intersectionality of racialized sexuality, gender, and class in complex socio-historical processes.

The Chicanx and Latinx Studies major and minor are offered by the Department of Ethnic Studies, which also offers a major and minor in Ethnic Studies as well as a minor in Race and the Law.

THE MAJOR CURRICULUM

Our courses on the U.S. Latinx experience contribute to the production of truly universal knowledges about the United States and an increasingly interconnected world beyond the limited scope of Eurocentric or other ethnocentric perspectives and disciplinary constraints. Courses in the program include the social sciences, geography, history, literature, visual cultural studies, performance arts, public policy, education, health, theater, film, media, religion, and philosophy. In addition, we offer practicum courses in creative writing, research methods, visual and performance arts and field studies/internship experience in various community organizations.

AMPLIFY YOUR MAJOR

- Enrich your studies with a summer minor in Race and the Law.
- Enrich your studies with a Summer Abroad course (ETHSTD N180) in Barcelona or Mexico City.
- Get involved with community-facing student groups such as the La Raza Workers' and Tenants' Rights Clinic.
- Complete a senior honors thesis in the major.

"Chicanx Latinx Studies is an attempt at uncovering the silences in history that have continuously left out the contributions and actions of communities of Mexican descent. It is the critical study of Chicano Mexican and Latinx communities across and in spite of borders."

– Pablo Gonzalez, Continuing Lecturer
CHICANX LATINX STUDIES
Bachelor of Arts

FIRST YEAR

Explore your major
Meet with your major and college advisor to discuss your academic plans. Familiarize yourself with major and college requirements. Enroll in ETH STD 10AC: Introduction to Ethnic Studies.

Connect and build community
Get involved mentoring with Berkeley Connect in Ethnic Studies and L&S Mentors Program. Find study groups, tutoring, and academic support at the Student Learning Center. Enroll in UGSS 98: College Success in L&S.

Discover your passions
Discover new interests in a Freshman Seminar, L&S 1, or a student-run DeCal course. Attend the Undergraduate Research and Scholarships Fair in October. Visit the Ethnic Studies Library in Stephens Hall and explore its collections.

Engage locally and globally
Attend the Calapalooza student activities fair and get involved with a student organization. Find service opportunities through the Public Service Center. Explore study, internship, and research abroad options with Berkeley Study Abroad.

SECOND YEAR

Explore your major
Satisfy two elective courses: CHICANO 20, 40, 50 or 70 if you haven’t done so yet. Complete the three lower division prerequisites and declare the major. Review major guidelines for study abroad.

Connect and build community
Join a student organization such as Raices Recruitment and Retention Center. Check out resources from Chicana Latina Student Development. Get to know professors and graduate student instructors during their office hours.

Discover your passions
Continue with a Sophomore Seminar, Big Ideas Course, or Discovery Course. Assist faculty and graduate students in their research through URAAP and SURF-SMART. Find research and funding opportunities in the OURS database. Enrich your studies with a certificate, course thread, or summer minor like Race and the Law.

Engage locally and globally
Work with a community organization in an American Cultures Engaged Scholarship course. Consider a Berkeley Global Internship in the United States or abroad. Get involved with community-facing student groups such as the La Raza Students’ and Tenants’ Rights Clinic.

THIRD YEAR

Explore your major
Enroll in methods courses ETH STD 10IA or ETH STD 10IB. Focus on upper division requirements and electives. Review your degree progress with your major and college advisor. Ask the major advisors about the honors program.

Connect and build community
Attend Department of Ethnic Studies program events. Check out events sponsored by the Multicultural Community Center. Consider becoming a Golden Bear Orientation Leader and welcome new students to UC Berkeley.

Discover your passions
Planning a senior thesis or project? Apply to the Haas Scholars Program or SURF. Explore campus centers and institutes like the Center for Race & Gender, Center for Research on Social Change, Institute for the Study of Societal Issues, Latinx Research Center and Othering & Belonging Institute. Teach your own DeCal course.

Engage locally and globally
Experience life at another UC or college on a visitor and exchange program. Study and intern in Washington D.C. with UCDC or Cal in the Capital. Support underrepresented communities through a field study internship.

FOURTH YEAR

Explore your major
Do a degree check to ensure you are on track to graduate. Complete any “bucket list” courses and remaining major, college, and campus requirements. Satisfy the CHICANO 99 field study requirement if you haven’t done so already.

Connect and build community
Join a professional association such as the National Association for Chicana and Chicano Studies. Connect with alumni groups like the Chicana Latina Alumni Association and build your network as you prepare to graduate.

Discover your passions
Teach your own DeCal course. Undertake an optional honors thesis or independent study and submit your work to the Berkeley Undergraduate Journal. Keep pursuing your interests through a fellowship or gap year after graduation.

Engage locally and globally
Hone your leadership skills with the Peter E. Haas Public Service Leaders program. Interested in a public service career? Apply for the John Gardner Fellowship. Explore service opportunities after graduation, such as Peace Corps, Teach for America, or U.S. Department of State.

WHAT CAN I DO WITH MY MAJOR?

The Chicano/Latino Studies major prepares students for incorporation into the world of work and for a wide range of advanced graduate work and/or professional training in various fields, such as teaching, counseling, law, journalism, marketing, community and housing development, radio and television, health and medicine, community and union organizing, social work, and positions in federal, state, and local governments as well as those at the city and county levels.

Jobs and Employers
Administrative Coord., Legal Services for Children CA State Govt., Assembly Member DOJ Accredited Rep., East Bay Sanctuary Covenant Director, Ronald E. McNair Scholars Pgm. Executive Asst., Chappellet Vineyard Executive Director of Public Safety and Transportation, Saint Mary’s College Health Navigator, Ctr. for Human Development Project Specialist, UCSF Student Svcs. and Support Pgm. Specialist, Sacramento City College

Graduate Programs
Counseling, Masters Education, Masters, PhD Law, JD Medicine, MD Public Administration, Masters Public Health, Masters Public Policy, Masters Social Work, Masters

Examples gathered from the First Destination Survey of recent Berkeley graduates.

Updated Last: 07.12.2022

Examples gathered from the First Destination Survey of recent Berkeley graduates.

Updated Last: 07.12.2022