

CHICANA/O AND LATINA/O STUDIES, DOCTORAL MINOR

In 2007, the University of Wisconsin–Madison Graduate School approved the Chicana/o and Latina/o Studies doctoral minor. It became the first such program to be offered in this field at UW–Madison as well as the University of Wisconsin System. The Chicana/o and Latina/o Studies minor program offers a comparative and transnational approach to the study of Mexican- and Latin-American-origin communities in the United States, including the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. The curriculum offers students the opportunity to study issues of race, ethnicity, class, gender, and sexuality from both historical and contemporary perspectives. The interdisciplinary program is designed to provide students with an extensive knowledge base and the intellectual tools to understand the unity and diversity of US Latina/o populations. The primary objective of the program is to offer students a multidisciplinary, broad-based perspective on the study of Chicana/os and Latina/os, as well as to introduce them to the central questions, topics, and applications within this field of inquiry. Chicana/o and Latina/o studies maintains a central focus on US Chicana/o and Latina/o populations, offering a variety of courses, some focusing on particular national-origin groups or specific academic disciplines, and others organized comparatively and across disciplinary boundaries.