

Degree Type – Bachelor of Arts (BA)
Degree Title – Mexican American Studies

The mission of the UTRGV Mexican American Studies (MASC) program is to prepare students to critically investigate community knowledge and socio-political, economic, cultural, and artistic conditions of and contributions by Mexican Americans, Chicana/os and Latina/os to the history, culture, and institutions of the United States and broader Americas. The Mexican American Studies program offers a Bachelors of Arts in Mexican American Studies, a Minor in Mexican American Studies, a Master of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies in Mexican American Studies, and a Graduate Certificate.

The goal of the BA in MASC is to recognize, validate, and engage students, faculty, and Mexican American, Chicana/o and Latina/o communities as agents of conocimiento and knowledge. Our place-based pedagogies and transdisciplinary methods provide a holistic approach to the study of complex and dynamic Mexican American experiences. We prepare students to critically investigate community knowledge and socio-political, economic, cultural, and artistic conditions of and contributions by Mexican Americans, Chicana/os and Latina/os.

Students develop the skills to engage in self-discovery and to communicate their conocimientos to produce salient applied research to effect positive social change in their comunidades. Our position en la frontera requires and enables MASC to have a simultaneous local and hemispheric concentration. This unique transcultural context shapes academic and public conversations regionally, nationally, and globally.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

1. Students will articulate an understanding of the cultural, artistic, and intellectual knowledge of Mexican American communities through skills in the areas of writing, literature, reading, oral communication, and media literacy.
2. Students will analyze and interpret a variety of texts central to the debates and issues concerning Mexican American identity, specifically as identity is related to language, race, gender, sexualities, ethnicity, and class.
3. Students will demonstrate a broad and foundational knowledge of the Mexican American experience within the larger context of the Americas and demonstrate knowledge of the Mexican American experience within a transdisciplinary context.
4. Students will demonstrate an appreciation and understanding for the scope and breadth of Mexican American history.
5. Students will apply appropriate research methodologies to demonstrate how Mexican American experiences connect to the opportunities and challenges faced by Mexican Americans in contemporary society.
6. Students will apply experiential learning to demonstrate a responsibility to the Mexican American community that enacts positive social change as part of their capstone experience.

A – GENERAL EDUCATION CORE – 42 HOURS

Students must fulfill the General Education Core requirements. The courses listed below satisfy both degree requirements and General Education Core requirements.

Recommended

Creative Arts – 3 hours

MASC 1307 Mexican Folk Music

Language, Philosophy, and Culture – 3 hours

MASC 2301 Introduction to Mexican American Studies

B – MAJOR REQUIREMENTS – 36 HOURS (12 advanced minimum)

1 – Mexican American Studies Core – 15 hours (6 advanced)

MASC 2301 Introduction to Mexican American Studies (or MCLL 2301)

MASC 3332 Mexican-American History (or HIST 3332)
 MASC 4300 Learning and Reflective Service (Capstone)
 Any 6 hours of SPAN

2 – Mexican American Studies Electives – 21 hours (6 advanced minimum)

a – Humanities Electives – 6 hours

Choose from:

MASC 1307 Mexican Folk Music (or MUSI 1307)
 MASC 2302 Border Corrido (or MCLL 2301)
 MASC 2303 Border Literature (or MCLL 2301)
 MASC 2351 Introduction to Mexican American Literature (or ENGL 2351)
 MASC 3308 Introduction to Latino/a Literature (or SPAN 3308)
 MASC 3365 Chicana and Latin American Feminisms (or PHIL 3365)
 MASC 4300 Learning and Reflective Service (may repeat once)
 MASC 4317 Mexican-American Literature (or ENGL 4317)
 MASC 4331 Mexican-American Civil Rights (or HIST 4331)
 MASC 4332 The Chicano Movement (or HIST 4332)
 MASC 4348 Sociolinguistics and Latino Health (or SPAN 4348)
 MASC 4357 Latin@ Art History (or ARTS 4357)
 MASC 4370 Introduction to Border Language (or ENGL 4370)
 MASC 4385 Topics in Border Studies (or ENGL 4385)
 MASC 4392 Special Topics in Mexican American Studies

The following courses are only allowable when topic is Chican@/Latin@:

ENGL 4395 Advanced Topics in English
 HIST 3307 Women in History
 HIST 4393 Special Topics in Latin American History
 SPAN 4317 Special Topics in Hispanic Linguistics
 SPAN 4335 Special Topics in Hispanic Literature

b – Social Behavioral Sciences, Education, and/or Health Sciences Electives – 6 hours (6 advanced)

Choose from:

ANTH 3323 Mexican American Culture
 ANTH 3375 Mexican American Folklore
 ANTH 4348 Peoples and Cultures Mexico
 ANTH 4350 Mexican-American Folk Medicine
 ANTH 4353 Folklore of the Lower Rio Grande Valley
 MASC 3322 Foundations of Bilingual Education and ESL (or EDBE 3322)
 MASC 3325 Latino Health (or HLTH 3325)
 MASC 3346 Hispanics in Global Society (or SOCI 3346)
 MASC 4316 U.S. Latin@ Politics (or POLS 4316)
 MASC 4333 U.S.-Mexico Border Relations (or POLS 4333)
 MASC 4354 Immigration, Race, and Citizenship (or POLS 4354)
 MASC 4323 The Mexican American Experience (or SOCI 4323)
 MASC 4328 Psychological Issues in the Mexican American Community (or PSYC 4328)

c – Mexican American Electives – 9 hours

Choose 9 hours of Electives from the above sections or listed below. New courses and special topics courses appear frequently. Any course with a minimum 50% MASC content may be petitioned as part of a students' degree plan to the MASC program by presenting course syllabus.

ANTH 4385 Topics in Anthropology
 ANTH 4369 Archeology of Mexico and Central America

ARTS 3350 Pre-Hispanic Mesoamerican Art and Architecture
ARTS 3356 Mexican Viceregal Art and Architecture
ARTS 4352 Latin American Art and Architecture
ARTS 4354 Modern Mexican Art, 1785-1940
ARTS 4355 Modern Mexican Art Since 1940
ARTS 4352 Latin American Art and Architecture
ARTS 4357 Latin@ Art History
ARTS 4358 Research Methods in Latin American Art and Architectural History
COMM 3336 Media, Race, and Ethnicity
DANC 2250/2349 Folklorico I
DANC 3250/3349 Folklorico II
DANC 4250/4349 Folklorico III
DANC 1249 Introduction to Folklorico I
DANC 1250 Introduction to Folklorico II
ENGL 4318 South Texas Literature
GEOG 3333 Latin American Geography
HIST 3333 Texas History
HIST 3363 Mexico Pre-Conquest to Present
HIST 3361 Colonial Latin America
HIST 4321 The Spanish Southwest to 1821
HIST 4322 The American Southwest after 1821
HIST 4362 History of Mexican Culture
HIST 4361 Contemporary Mexico
HIST 4363 History of Mexican Cinema
HIST 3364 Mexico through Independence
HIST 3365 Mexico since Independence
HIST 3362 Modern Latin America
HIST 4393 Special Topics in Latin American History
LAMS 2301 Introduction to Inter-American Studies
LAMS 3377 Latin-American Womanhood in the Modern Era
LAMS 3378 Women in Colonial Latin America
LAMS 4301 Seminar on Latin American Studies
LAMS 4391 Latin American Philosophy: Special Topics
MCLL 2301 Special Topics: Mexican American Language, Literature, and Culture
PHIL 1305 Introduction to Latin American Philosophy
PHIL 3365 Chicana and Latin American Feminisms
PHIL 4305 Special Topics in Latin American Philosophy
PSYC 4328 Psychological Issues in the Mexican-American Community
POLS 4354 Immigration, Race & Citizenship
POLS 4320 Latin American Politics
POLS 4321 Central American and Caribbean Politics
SOCI 4313 Race and Ethnic Relations
SOCI 4352 Social Stratification
SOCI 4380 Social Protest and Social Movements
SOCW 4370 Mexican American Mental Health
SPAN 1311 Spanish for Non-Native Speakers I
SPAN 1312 Spanish for Non-Native Speakers II
SPAN 2313 Spanish for Native/Heritage Speakers I
SPAN 2315 Spanish for Native/Heritage Speakers II
SPAN 2317 Spanish for Healthcare Professionals I
SPAN 2318 Spanish for Healthcare Professionals II
SPAN 3300 Advanced Spanish Grammar & Composition I
SPAN 3301 Advanced Spanish Grammar & Composition II

SPAN 3322 Masterpieces Spanish American Literature I
 SPAN 3323 Masterpieces Spanish American Literature II
 SPAN 4320 The Mexican Novel
 SPAN 3307 Introduction to Latin American Literature
 SPAN 4318 Spanish Language Media Studies
 SPAN 2320 Latina/o Culture and Civilization in Spanish
 SPAN 2340 Fundamentals of Hispanic Culture
 SPAN 3348 Advanced Spanish for Healthcare Professionals
 SPAN 4321 Mexican Literature
 SPAN 4328 Mexico's Contemporary Literature
 SPAN 4323 Spanish American Novel

The following courses are only allowable when topic is Chican@/Latin@:

ANTH 1354 The Anthropology of Expressive Culture
 ANTH 4345 Anthropological Theory and Methodology
 ARTS 4359 Seminar on Topics in Art History
 COMM 4303 Special Topics
 ENGL 4395 Advanced Topics in English
 ENGL 3370 Language and Culture
 ENGL 3337 Children's and Adolescent Literature
 ENGL 4313 Topics in Single Author
 HIST 4393 Special Topics in Latin American History
 INTS 4315 Discovering The Rio Grande Valley
 PSYC 4383 Special Problems
 SPAN 4338 Children's Literature in Spanish
 SPAN 4360 Topics Studies in Hispanic Culture
 SPAN 4352 Hispanic Theater

C – DOUBLE-MAJOR or MINOR – 42 HOURS

Credit hours should be used to attain minor and/or second major in a different discipline. After earning enough credit hours for a minor and/or second major in a different discipline, students may choose advanced MASC courses, a second minor, or use as advanced electives in other disciplines.

TOTAL CREDIT HOURS FOR GRADUATION – 120 HOURS

TOTAL ADVANCED HOURS – 42 HOURS

ADMISSION, PROGRESSION, AND GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS, if applicable:

Graduation requirements

In addition to the graduation requirements listed in the UTRGV 2015-2017 Undergraduate Catalog, demonstration of proficiency in a language other than English is required at the undergraduate level equivalent to a minimum of six credit hours. Proficiency can be demonstrated by a college credit exam, a placement test approved through the UTRGV Department of Writing and Language Studies, and/or up to six credit hours of college-level language coursework.