**ACADEMIC PLAN**

### FOURTH YEAR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course (cr.)</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MASC 4301</td>
<td>Service Learning and Reflective Service (Capstone)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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### THIRD YEAR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course (cr.)</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HIST 3332</td>
<td>Mexican American History (Core)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPAN X3XX</td>
<td>Elective</td>
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</tbody>
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### FIRST YEAR

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<th>Course (cr.)</th>
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<tr>
<td>MASC 2301</td>
<td>Introduction to Mexican American Studies</td>
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<tr>
<td>MASC electives</td>
<td>Social and Behavioral Sciences, Societal Influences on Mexican American Studies (SMA)</td>
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</tbody>
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**Additional Info**

- Take MASC 2301: Introduction to Mexican American Studies in your first year as part of your core curriculum requirements.
- Visit the Center of Mexican American Studies as soon as possible and make an appointment to speak with a MAS coordinator/advisor to learn as much as you can about the major and CMAS resources available to you.
- Follow MAS on Facebook and Twitter to keep up with all of the great events and news that MAS and CMAS has going on.
- Get ready for your capstone service learning experience your senior year and where/with what organization you may like to carry it out in the community.

**Contact Info**

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956-665-3212  
@UTRGV_MAS

**Degree Info**

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 consciousness 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/o and Latina/o. 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 on the 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.
## Blueprint Experiences

### First Year
- **Milestones**
  - Complete your core English classes (section 010) during your first year.
  - Complete 30 credit hours every year in order to graduate in 4 years.
  - Shoot for a GPA of 3.5.
  - Take MASC 2301 in your first year. Complete your History Core Classes with HIST 2327 & 2328 your first year.
  - Meet with your academic advisor and bring your orientation folder with you to every session!
  - Choose a major with confidence—Visit my.utrgv.edu and check out the Kuder Journey.
  - Visit a faculty member during their office hours and ask a question about class.
  - Classes fill up fast. When registration opens, be sure to register on the first day for your group.
  - Cold or flu getting you down? We have Student Health Services on campus with free office visits.
  - Visit the Communication Hauser Lab for help with your speeches.
  - Trouble making your tuition payment? The Financial Aid Office can help. Payment plans and emergency loans are also available.

### Second Year
- **Milestones**
  - Want to explore different careers? Check out Kuder Journey!
  - Come ready with course suggestions and questions when you visit your academic advisor in CMAS.
  - Visit the Communication Hauser Lab for help with your speeches.
  - Trouble making your tuition payment? The Financial Aid Office can help. Payment plans and emergency loans are also available.

### Third Year
- **Milestones**
  - To find undergraduate research opportunities, visit the Engaged Scholarship & Learning Office.
  - Consider attending the LeaderShape Institute or visit the Engaged Scholarship & Learning Office.
  - Consider engaging in an independent study project or an academic internship.
  - Apply for internship and/or job shadowing opportunities. Discuss this with your advisor, faculty mentor, or Career Center.
  - Set up an informational interview with an individual such as the Engaged Scholar Institute or at NACCS Tejas Regional Conference.
  - Attend the Engaged Scholar Symposium. Create a résumé and set up your profile on the Career Center portal! Look at study abroad opportunities! Consider going to Mexico or Latin America.
  - Check out a campus event that offers free lunch such as HESTEC or FESTIBA.
  - Join another student organization. Perhaps the La Unión Chicanx Hijxs. Consider attending the LeaderShape Institute or visit the Engaged Scholarship & Learning Office.
  - Consider serving on a campus life/community committee or become a student leader and make a difference. Visit Vunik or speak with your Student Government Association for more information!
  - Travel the world! Look into study abroad opportunities at Office for International Programs & Partnerships.

### Fourth Year
- **Milestones**
  - Complete 30 credit hours.
  - Have you landed an internship or acquired research experience? This is the year to make it happen.
  - Shoot for a GPA of 3.5.
  - “I have a plan for after graduation.” If this describes you, great! If not, visit your Faculty Advisor or Career Center!
  - Register for your Capstone/thesis/portfolio project: MSCA 4300: Learning & Reflective Service.
  - Complete at least 30 credit hours to graduate.
  - Submit your application(s) for graduate school, an apprenticeship, or for full-time employment.
  - Engage in an independent study project or an academic internship to complement your major, such as MASC 4300 or Engaged Scholar Symposium.
  - Complete major foundation classes, such as MASC/HIST 3332: Mexican American History, 6 hrs. SPAN, 3 hrs. MASC Humanities.
  - Complete 30 credit hours.
  - Shoot for a GPA of 3.5.
  - Complete 30 credit hours.

### Life After Graduation
- Create a résumé and set up your profile on the Career Connection icon (My.utrgv.edu).
- Got summer plans? Visit Career Center and ask about places to do some job shadowing.
- Research shows that students who work on campus perform better than those who work off campus. Look for a job on the Career Center portal!
- Check your UTRGV email for the daily Messenger - locate and attend one student workshop.
- Update your resume in Career Connection and have it reviewed.
- Check out the MASC department website for postings on career/graduate school.
- Check out the MAS department website for postings on career/g Graduate school.
- Think about three people you can ask for letters of recommendation (professors, mentors, advisors, supervisors, etc.). Give them at least two weeks’ advance notice!
- When is the deadline for your graduate school application? Visiting the program admissions webpage. Most do not accept late applicants!
- Have you received your acceptance for graduate school or an employment offer? If not, network: talk to faculty, the Career Center, and get on LinkedIn.
- Formulate and implement a strategy for life after graduation: attend career fairs, graduate fairs, apply to fellowships, etc.
- Update your Information with Alumni Relations. Enjoy alumni mixers, events and continued access to Career Center services!
- Remember to do your exit loan counseling on studentloans.gov

### Careers
- **Higher Education**
  - Teaching
  - Research
- **Student affairs**
  - Administration
- **International student services**
  - Study abroad
- **Multicultural programming**
  - Student support services
  - Information/Library science
- **Primary and secondary education**
- **Language services**
  - Private tutoring
  - Interpreting
  - Translating
- **Community education:**
  - Literacy
  - English as a second language
  - GED preparation

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For additional info, visit the Career Center website and check out "What Can I Do With This Major?" **www.utrgv.edu/careercenter**