What competencies do Latin American studies students gain?

Latin American Studies
Program-specific competencies

**Competencies** are the skills, knowledge and attributes gained through every work, educational, volunteer and life experience. UVic students in the *Latin American Studies* program develop the following program-specific competencies.

### Spanish language

*Communicates effectively in Spanish*

- Reads and writes effectively in Spanish
- Engages in conversations in Spanish
- Uses appropriate Spanish grammar, syntax, pronunciation and vocabulary
- Prepares and delivers presentations in Spanish
- Demonstrates awareness of the diversity and global dispersion of contemporary varieties of Spanish

### Literature in Latin America

*Demonstrates knowledge of Latin American literature from the sixteenth century to the present*

- Demonstrates knowledge of the literary traditions, genres and styles in Latin America
- Demonstrates awareness of Latin American literary history and literary movements

### Literary interpretation

*Critically reads works of literature and describes how literary texts generate meaning*

- Demonstrates awareness of major issues in literary criticism
- Demonstrates knowledge of, and ability to read literature, in relation to literary theory
- Exercises close reading skills and demonstrates an ability to read a text using appropriate literary terminology
- Determines the critical questions to be asked of a body of material

### Historical, social and cultural perspective

*Understands works of literature in their historical, social and cultural contexts*

- Identifies the historical, social and cultural contexts in which a text is produced
- Understands how historical, social and cultural contexts impact the production and interpretation of literary texts
- Demonstrates intellectual curiosity to explore historical, social and cultural perspectives
- Reflects on issues such as nationalism, imperialism, militarism, politics, religion, ethnicity, race, gender and class in the context of literary production

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UVic Co-op and Career worked with the Latin American Studies Program to develop this competency document.

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