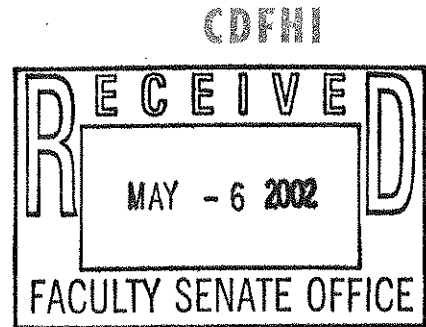
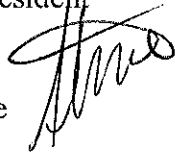


UNIVERSITY OF
Miami
FACULTY SENATE
MEMORANDUM



To: Donna E. Shalala, President

From: Steven Green
Chair, Faculty Senate



Date: 29 April 2002

Subject: Faculty Senate Legislation #2001-22(C) – Five-year dual degree (B.A. and M.A.) program in Latin American Studies

The Faculty Senate, at its 24 April 2002 meeting, voted unanimously to approve the establishment of a five-year, dual degree (B.A. and M.A.) program in Latin American Studies. The degrees are currently approved degrees; this proposal is for a different curriculum that permits awarding both degrees simultaneously on completion of a successful course of study. The proposal is attached for your information.

This legislation is now forwarded to you for your action.

SG/kl

cc: Luis Glaser, Executive Vice President and Provost
Rebecca E. Biron, Degree Coordinator
Dan Pals, Interim Dean of the College of Arts and Science
Andy Gomez, Interim Dean of the School of International Studies
Steven Ullmann, Dean of the Graduation School


SG/kl

Enclosure

Faculty Senate
325 Ashe Admin. Bldg.
Coral Gables, Florida 33124
Phone: (305) 284-3721 Fax: (305) 284-5515
<http://www.miami.edu/FacultySenate>
e-mail: facsen@miami.edu

CAPSULE: Faculty Senate Legislation #2001-22(C) – Five-year dual degree (B.A. and M.A.) program in Latin American Studies

PRESIDENT'S RESPONSE

APPROVED:  DATE: May 4 2002
(President's Signature)

OFFICE OR INDIVIDUAL TO IMPLEMENT: Provost

EFFECTIVE DATE OF LEGISLATION: _____
(if other than June 1 next following)

NOT APPROVED AND REFERRED TO: _____

REMARKS (IF NOT APPROVED): _____

The sections in bold reflect changes made to the proposal related to the disestablishment of the School of International Studies

**PROPOSAL FOR THE CREATION OF
A FIVE-YEAR, DUAL (BA/MA) DEGREE
IN LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES**

Submitted by Dr. Rebecca E. Biron, Degree Coordinator¹

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¹ Appointed by the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and the Dean of the School of International Studies. This document is based on an original proposal submitted for the Provost's IERI grants by Robert M. Levine, Director, Center for Latin American Studies and the Center's Executive Board: Felipe Agüero, Bruce Bagley, Rebecca Biron, Caroline Bradley, Max Castro, Christina Civantos, John Daniel, Leonardo Ferreira, René González, Diane Just, Robert M. Levine, William C. Smith, Steve J. Stein.

PROPOSAL FOR THE CREATION OF A FIVE-YEAR, DUAL (BA/MA) DEGREE IN LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES

OVERVIEW

- This innovative five-year, dual (BA/MA) degree in Latin American Studies will launch highly-skilled students into careers or further graduate study involving Latin America.
- Featuring a rigorous curriculum designed to maximize the benefits of *existing UM courses* on Latin America, the program includes a *study abroad requirement*, a *co-op/internship requirement*, *seminars* with visiting Latin American scholars hosted by the Center for Latin American Studies, and a *capstone seminar paper/thesis*. The tightly structured set of core requirements in the first three years prepares students to explore interdisciplinary fields in advanced courses during the last two years. In order to ensure coherence along with the breadth that interdisciplinary work offers them, students will choose from among three available focus tracks for their most advanced courses: Social Science, History, or Literature & Culture. **Students must declare a track before they complete two years, or 60 credits.**
- The program will recruit the highest caliber domestic and international students to the University of Miami. **All students accepted into the program will have met the following requirements: an SAT1 composite score of 1360 or ACT 31 (students applying from abroad will meet an equivalent standard, as determined by the Office of International Admission); placement in the top 10% of high school graduating class; recommendations from three high school teachers. Successful applicants must show clear evidence of commitment to studying Latin America, through prior language or area study and a statement of interest. To continue through the Master's level, students must maintain at least a 3.4 GPA.²**
- The College of Arts & Sciences will administer the program. The dean of CAS will appoint to a steering committee one faculty member from each of the departments most identified with the tracks: International Studies (Social Sciences track), History (History track), and Foreign Languages and Literatures (Literature and Culture track) (see Appendix II). The dean will also appoint a degree director, who will lead recruitment efforts, seek scholarship funding, serve as academic advisor, and coordinate the study abroad and internship options for students. The Center for Latin American Studies will support the degree program through its speaker series, Visiting Latin American Scholar program, assistance with grant-writing, contacts with Latin American universities for exchange or research opportunities, and coordination of joint research projects involving students and faculty across disciplinary boundaries (see Appendix II.)

² These requirements match those currently in place for the UM dual degree programs in Physical Therapy, Biomedical Engineering, and Medicine.

RATIONALE

Several University of Miami programs offer discipline-specific graduate degrees with concentration on Latin America. In International Studies, masters and doctoral programs emphasize political science, economics, and hemispheric relations.³ The department of History offers master's and Ph.D. degrees, and the department of Foreign Languages & Literatures offers a Ph.D.⁴ The School of Law has programs in international law for students from abroad, including LL.M. programs in comparative law, inter-American law, international law, and ocean and coastal law.⁵

However, the University of Miami has never created an integrated, broad-based interdisciplinary degree program in Latin American Studies *per se*. The proposed BA/MA differs significantly from other graduate degrees:

- 1) It recruits students as freshmen⁶ and guides them through an efficient, accelerated curriculum toward a master's degree.
- 2) It includes the equivalent of a minor in Foreign Language, exceeding language competency requirements in other (non-FLL) degrees focused on Latin America.
- 3) Study abroad provides first-hand experience of students' regions of focus.
- 4) Students intern in public or private organizations dealing with Latin America.
- 5) Students take advanced courses in several disciplines, learning to use interdisciplinary approaches in their research.

Graduates of the five-year BA/MA program will complete their studies with a master's degree a year earlier than students in most university Latin American Studies programs. At the same time, they will finish with intense training in research and practical work experience. The highly selective group of students will enjoy close faculty mentoring and the opportunity to engage in specialized research projects with faculty. Students interested in careers in international business or finance, the foreign service, the armed forces, cultural and philanthropic activities, NGOs and international developmental agencies, Americas-focused broadcast and print journalism, film production, translation, and related fields will gain the practical experience necessary to succeed. Similarly, students wishing to pursue professional or doctoral study with a focus on Latin America will be better prepared than their peers from other undergraduate institutions, placing them at a distinct advantage when applying for scholarships or seeking employment.

Both the South Florida community and the UM community offer a wealth of resources for this program. As the crossroads of the Americas, South Florida boasts a multi-cultural, multi-ethnic and economically diverse population (well more than fifty percent Hispanic), that can itself serve as a research laboratory for students. In addition, UM faculty dedicated to Latin American Studies will be encouraged by the demands of superior students in the BA/MA program to cross disciplinary boundaries as teachers and scholars, to create linked course sequences, and to team-teach.

³ See www.miami.edu/international-studies/malas.html

⁴ See www.as.miami.edu/las

⁵ See www.law.miami.edu/admissions/llm/

⁶ Students already attending UM may apply for admission to the program before their third year. To be admitted, they must submit three letters of recommendation, have already maintained a 3.4 GPA, have completed 15 credit hours per semester, and prove ability to meet all program requirements within five years after beginning at UM.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

Coursework

The dual degree program *adds no new courses to current UM offerings*. Rather, it provides a map through existing UM courses from a variety of departments, requiring participants to follow a rigorous curricular path toward the most challenging and efficient use of UM resources in Latin American Studies. Fundamental to this goal is the admission of top incoming freshmen students, many of whom would bring with them AP or similar pre-college credits and perhaps significant foreign-language abilities that would enhance their quick advancement through the basic courses. By the time students reach the second or third year of the program, they should be eligible to take many upper-level classes and seminars in Latin American Studies.

The General Education Requirements (53 credits) reflect the same goals and standards as those included in current Arts and Sciences BA and BS degrees. The course distribution, however, will be adjusted slightly to ensure that students take the prerequisites needed for the more advanced courses focused on Latin America. For example, ECO 211 and POL 212 will be required rather than merely optional. Upon completion of 120 credit hours, students will be admitted to graduate status.

Requirements in the major/master's level (97 credits) encourage students to pursue advanced courses in a variety of disciplines, with a minimum of 30 credits in one of the three tracks (Social Science, History, Literature & Culture). Of the 97 credits, at least 30 credits must be at the 500-level or above in approved courses. Students may take up to four of these 500-level courses (12 credits) outside their chosen track (provided they have met the prerequisites) for two reasons: 1) the program seeks to encourage genuinely interdisciplinary excellence, 2) important study abroad opportunities and independent study topics may not necessarily fall within the approved track course lists.

See Appendix I.

Study Abroad

Students will spend a minimum of one semester plus one summer in study abroad, and will be encouraged to spend a complete year abroad. Most students will fulfill this requirement in the third or fourth year. In addition, they may participate in independent study research projects or internships abroad, as arranged through the program.

Students will elect one of the existing University of Miami study abroad programs in Argentina, Chile, Mexico, Spain, and Brazil. Other programs and/or exchanges tailored to individual student interests may be possible in the future.

Co-op/Internship

In the fourth or fifth year, students will work for a minimum of one semester at a business, non-governmental or governmental organization dealing with Latin America. The degree director, in consultation with the steering committee and with support from the UM Center for Latin American Studies, will assist students in acquiring these positions either abroad or in the Miami area, depending on individual students' research interests and curricular needs.

For example, The Nature Conservancy office in Brazil annually seeks two students for salaried internships. Interns in recent years have worked on such projects as a survey of the environmental activities of multilateral banks and United Nations' institutions in Brazil, and on forestry and agricultural issues in the Amazon. Hundreds more internship opportunities exist now. Some of the institutions offering internships include the Inter-American Dialogue, the World Bank, the Department of State, and the Pan American Health Organization. The affiliate faculty members of the Center for Latin American Studies have many professional contacts in Latin America and in the local community, which we will use to develop further internship opportunities.

The internship requirement of the BA/MA in LAS degree will provide the practical experience that students need when preparing for their first professional position. The location of the University of Miami in South Florida makes such a requirement much more viable than in other areas of the United States. Many large international corporations have headquarters or branch offices in South Florida that offer them optimal access to Latin America and the Caribbean. Such contact will benefit both the individual students and the University of Miami in general, as ties to the business community grow.

Seminars

Students may take any of the approved 500-level courses and seminars focused on Latin America, provided they have met the prerequisites. They will also be encouraged to take seminars offered by the Center for Latin American Studies annual Visiting Latin American Scholar program. These visiting scholars, selected through intensive international searches, teach one undergraduate and one graduate course in Fall semesters, and may be invited to return for one semester per year for up to three consecutive years. They will facilitate links for UM faculty and students to the best Latin American institutions, helping to develop exchange and collaborative research projects in Latin American Studies.

Students must write a seminar paper/thesis in either the existing LAS 501 (Program Seminar in Latin American Studies) or a 500-level Independent Study course in one of the three tracks. In Spring semester of the fifth year, they will give an oral presentation based on that paper/thesis for the Center for Latin American Studies (with the dual degree steering committee and the other dual degree students in attendance).

FELLOWSHIPS

The dual degree program is designed to attract top students to the University of Miami by providing every student in the program with substantial financial assistance through a combination of UM scholarships and external funding targeted to programs in area studies. The provost has guaranteed funds to support small, partial scholarships for the first few incoming classes. The long-term goal is that the degree director, with grant-writing support from the Center for Latin American Studies, will procure external funding for full five-year fellowships for all students in the program. In their final year, students in the program would be eligible to apply for travel research funding from the existing Center for Latin American Studies program that awards a total of \$12,000 annually to graduate-level students from any part of the university.

As the program develops, a maximum of six students per year will be admitted. After five years, the program will have thirty students. We expect that the originality of the program, as well as our university's advantageous location in South Florida, will enable us to attract truly exceptional students, in terms of attitude and motivation.

A PRIORITY FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI

This novel and innovative five-year, dual BA-MA degree program in Latin American Studies will become an important magnet for honors-level students. The program can likely attract significant external financial support for an important element of the University of Miami's academic mission with an innovative and first-rate academic curriculum to recruit top students and to prepare them for prominent careers in business, government, or academic fields focused on Latin America. Such a showcase program will focus the direction and definition of UM's contributions to the field of Latin American Studies. It promises to hone UM's competitive edge in the national and international arena of truly interdisciplinary area studies.

APPENDIX I

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS FOR DUAL BA/MA DEGREE IN LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES	
GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS	
Hours	Courses
6	English
12	Humanities (Music, English, Philosophy or Religion)
3	Mathematics
11	Natural Sciences
6	Sociology, Anthropology, Geography, Interdisciplinary or Communication
6	History (HIS 161 and 162)
3	Economics (ECO 211)
3	Political Science (POS 212)
3	Foreign Languages and Literatures (200+)
53	Sub-total of general education required course hours for all BA/MA in LAS dual degree majors
<p>In addition to the courses listed above, each student will complete a total of 97 hours, at least 30 of which must be at the 500-level or above:</p>	
3	Latin American Studies (LAS 494 or LAS 501)
6	History (HIS 351,353, 355, 357, 358, 451, or 491)
6	International Studies (INS 301 and 360)
6	Economics (ECO 212), and (ECO 351) or (ECO 371)
9	Foreign Languages & Literatures (300+ level)
21	One semester plus one summer abroad (300+, any LA field)
6	Co-op/ Internship credits
10	Hours of work in courses above the 300-level focused on LA from any/several department(s) (which may include coursework beyond the 30 hours required in the focus track, if available).
30	Hours in <u>one</u> of the three tracks (Social Sciences, Literature & Culture, or History)
97	Sub-total of BA/MA degree requirements
150	Total hours required for BA/MA in LAS

**REQUIREMENTS FOR EXISTING DEGREES
COMPARED TO PROPOSED BA / MA:**

General Education Requirements

	BA (CAS)	BS (CAS)	BA/MA
Eng. Comp	6	6	6
Humanities	15	12	12
Math	3-6	11-12	3-6
Nat. Sci.	11-12	4-8	11-12
Soc. Sci.	9 (inc. ECO, GEG, POL, SOC)	12 (inc. HIS)	6(SOC,ANT,COM, GEG,INTERDIS)
History	6		6 (161 & 162)
ECO			3 (211)
POL			3 (212)
For. Lang.	3 (200+)	3 (200+)	3 (200+)
Total G.E.R.	57	53	53

	International Studies MA in LAS	MA in History	Proposed BA/MA
Credits	30	30	30
Core Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • INS680 • 6 credits: INS 600, 621, 630, or 650 • 21 elective credits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HIS695 • 12 major area credits • 12 minor area credits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LAS494 or 501 • 30 track credits
Comprehensive Exam (written)	Yes	No	No
Thesis	No	Yes (if not taking oral)	Optional
Expanded Seminar Paper	No	No	Yes
Oral Exam	No	Yes (if not writing thesis)	No
Presentation Of Thesis Or Seminar Paper	No	No	Yes
Foreign Languages	Proficiency in one language (exam administered by Continuing Studies)	Reading knowledge in one or more languages (written exam administered by FLL)	9 credits at 300-level or above taught in the language

TRACKS

**Social Science: List of available courses focused on Latin America.
(Students will choose 30 hours from among these courses)**

3	APY345	Mayan and Aztec Archaeology
3	APY350	New World Archaeology
3	APY385	Caribbean Cultures
3	ECO641	Problems of Economic Development
3	ECO642	Inflation and Financial Markets in Developing Countries
3	ECO660	International Economics
3	ECO661	International Economics II
3	ECO675	Economic Problems of Latin America
3	GEG212	Geography of Middle America and the Caribbean
3	GEG222	Geography of South America
3	INS360	Democracy and Globalization in Latin America
3	INS365	Cuban Revolution
3	INS530	International Political Economy
3	INS580	Latin American Topics
3	INS581	Latin American Topics II
3	INS582	U.S.-Latin American Relations
3	INS583	Latin American Development
3	INS584	Latin American Thought
3	INS622	Economic Development
3	INS630	Comparative Analysis
3	INS631	Comparative Political Economy
3	INS632	Political Economy of Latin America
3	INS636	Political Sociology of Cont. Latin American Societies
3	INS637	Advanced Seminar in Comparative Development
3	INS680	Latin America Since Independence
3	INS684	Civil-Military Relations
3	INS685	Comparative Political Regimes
3	INS686	Drug Trafficking in the Americas
3	INS689	Advanced Seminar on Latin America
3	POL346	U.S.-Latin American Relations
3	POL385	Politics and Society in Latin America
3	POL582	Political Economy of Latin American Development
3	POL584	Topics in Contemporary Latin American Politics
3	POL585	Comparative Analysis of Latin American Politics
3	POL592	International Political Economy
3	POL595	North-South Relations
3	SOC342	Contemporary Latin American Societies

Literature and Culture: List of available courses focused on Latin America. (Students will choose 30 hours from among these courses)

3	ARH 505/605	Andean Art
3	ARH 506/606	Mesoamerican Art
3	ENG 361	Caribbean Literature
3	ENG 667	Caribbean Literature
3	MCY 333	Introduction to Cuban Music
3	MCY 553	Miami's Musical Heritage
3	POR 301	Introduction to Literary Genres
3	POR 353	Brazilian Poetry from colonial times to the present. Emphasis on major figures.
3	POR 354	Brazilian Prose Fiction from Romanticism to the contemporary period.
1-3 each	POR 391- 393	Directed Readings
3	SPA 301	Introduction to Literary Genres
3	SPA 303	Latin American Culture and Civilization
3	SPA 321	Introduction to Literary Themes . Topics vary.
3	SPA 332	Business and Diplomatic Spanish
3	SPA 353	Introduction to Colonial through 19th Century Latin American Literature.
3	SPA 354	Introduction to 20th Century Latin American Literature.
3	SPA 440	Phonetics.
3	SPA 442	Stylistics and Composition.
3	SPA 444	Introduction to Translation.
3	SPA 446	Introduction to Interpreting.
3 each	SPA 521, 522	Special Topics In Hispanic Literature May be repeated for credit if topic is different.
3	SPA 553	Studies in Colonial Literature.
3	SPA 555	Studies in 19th Century Latin American Literature.
3	SPA 556	Studies in 20th Century Latin American Literature,
3	SPA 571	Women in Spanish and Latin American Literature. May be taken more than once, if topic is different.
3	SPA 573	Problems in Cultural Analysis.
1-3 each	SPA 591- 593	Directed Readings
3	SPA 633	Topics in Colonial Literature.
3	SPA 635	Topics in 19 th Century Latin American Literature.
3	SPA 636	Topics in 20 th Century Latin American Literature.

**History: List of available upper-level courses on Latin America.
(Students will choose 30 hours from among these courses)**

(6)	HIS 353	Students may complete the other two of these four courses not completed during fulfillment of general requirements.
	HIS 357	
	HIS 451	
	HIS 491	
3	HIS 351	History of the Maya
3	HIS 355	Modern Brazil
3	HIS 358	Women and Gender in Latin American History
3	HIS 551	Studies in Latin American History
3	HIS 553	Studies in Colonial Latin American History
3	HIS 554	Studies in Modern Latin American History
3	HIS 591	Studies in Comparative History
3	HIS 599	Independent Research
3	HIS 651	Directed Readings in Latin American History
3	HIS 653	Seminar in Latin American History
3	HIS 695	Historiography (Departmental Requirement for all History grads)
3	HIS 691	Directed Readings in Comparative History
3-6	HIS 693	Seminar in Comparative History
3-6	HIS 710	Master's Thesis
3	ARH 505/605	Andean Art
3	ARH 506/606	Mesoamerican Art

APPENDIX II

Dual Degree Program Steering Committee

The Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences will appoint three faculty members to the steering committee for three-year terms (which may become staggered terms in the future, depending on program needs).

Working with the degree director, the steering committee will provide structure and ongoing oversight for the program in the following ways:

- Review and approve student applications to the program.
- Establish guidelines for the distribution of scholarship funds among admitted students.
- Oversee curricular changes for the program (eg: approve new courses, etc.)
- Assist the Director and the Office of International Education and Exchange in establishing contacts with potential Study Abroad and Coop-Internship sources.
- Review and approve Internship arrangements specific to each student, in order to ensure equity among students, quality, and academic integrity.
- Attend and evaluate the students' fifth year oral presentation to the Center for Latin American Studies.
- Address any issues as they arise regarding the cooperation of College departments in this program. (eg: distribution of students across the three tracks).
- Assist the Director in advertising and recruitment efforts.
- Assist the Director in procuring external scholarship funds.

The proposed steering committee members for 2001-2002

IS: Felipe Agüero or Joaquín Roy
HIS: Steve Stein
FLL: Lillian Manzor

APPENDIX III

The Center for Latin American Studies (CLAS) currently sponsors a wide range of activities for Latin Americanist scholars on campus. In academic year 2000-01, it housed nine modestly-funded interdisciplinary seminars (niche groups) involving dozens of faculty, students, and in some cases, faculty members from other institutions: the State and Society in the Andes Niche Group; the Political Economy of Latin America; Latin America, Latinos/as and Spain: A Postcolonial Dialogue; Visual Images of Latin America; Cuba: History, Culture and Identity on the Island and in the Diaspora; Caribbean Literary Studies; Brazil; Alternative Communities in Latin America; Latin American film. Many of these research activities are expected to lead to applications for external funding for research. A weekly bag-lunch informal talk series by University of Miami research faculty complements the Center's series of visiting speakers (more than two dozen in 2000-01), Latin American films, and panels and conferences on subjects ranging from Colombian politics to Haitian Creole literature. The CLAS offers prizes to undergraduate students for work relating to Latin America and stipends for graduate student research travel. It has facilitated short-term researcher visits to the campus of scholars from across the United States and Puerto Rico, Finland, Indonesia, Britain and other areas. For more extensive information on CLAS, see www.as.miami.edu/las.



MEMORANDUM

April 11, 2002

TO: Dr. Steven Green, Chair
Faculty Senate

FROM: Steven G. Ullmann, Dean *SGU*
The Graduate School

SUBJECT: Proposal for a Dual Degree (BA/MA) in Latin American Studies

Dr. Rebecca Biron presented to Graduate Council, at its April 10th meeting, a Proposal for a Dual Degree (BA/MA) in Latin American Studies.

The proposal was approved.

The Council requested that budget material for the program be provided to Graduate School Council for information purposes and to the Faculty Senate as part of the package.

For your information, I am enclosing a copy of the proposal.

SGU:nb
Enclosure
Copy to:

Dr. Rebecca Biron

Graduate School
P.O. Box 248125
Coral Gables, Florida 33124-2220
305-284-4154
Fax: 305-284-5441
E-mail: graduateschool@miami.edu

School of International Studies

MEMORANDUM

Date: April 16, 2001
To: General Welfare Committee
Faculty Senate
From: Dr. Andy S. Gomez *ASG*
Interim Dean
Re: Joint Degree in Latin American Studies

On Friday, December 7, 2001 the two academic departments of the School of International Studies (Geography and International Studies) voted unanimously to approve the joint BA/MA degree in Latin America Studies between the College of Arts and Sciences and SIS.

Given the announced transition of SIS into CAS the full structure of the program will be under CAS under the leadership of Dr. Rebecca Biron.

ASG/sp

cc: Dr. Luis Glaser
Dr. Steve Ullmann
Dr. Dan Pals
Dr. Steve Green
Dr. Perry Lee Roberts
Dr. Rebecca Biron



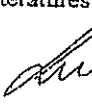
BOLD BEGINNINGS  BRIGHT TOMORROWS

MEMORANDUM

April 17, 2002

To: Professor Steve Green, Chair
Faculty Senate

Via: Professor Rebecca Biron
Professor of Foreign Languages and Literatures

From: Luis Glaser, Ph.D.
Executive Vice President and Provost 

Subject: Combined BA/MA in Latin American Studies

Professor Biron has asked me to confirm the fact that we have allocated \$300,000 for the first three years of this exciting program, which I believe, is going to be of extreme interest to students interested in Latin America.

The academic credentials of the students expected to enroll in the program are such that all of them will be eligible for appropriate academic scholarships.

At the end of three years, the program will be assessed based on its success in attracting and retaining these wonderful students at the University of Miami, and at that time, should become part of the major initiative in International Studies, focused on Latin America, that we hope the new Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, Dr. Wyche, will foster.

The \$300,000, under the guidance of the Director, Professor Biron, and the Steering Committee, can support any activities related to the Program, including, but not restricted to, providing additional support for some students who may require it, and for expenses associated with special recruiting efforts by the Director for this period.

I am certain that Dean Wyche will be extremely supportive of this program as we move forward, and I very much look forward to its implementation. Under the current circumstances this will be in a single unit, in the College of Arts and Sciences, which greatly simplifies the administrative issues related to the program.

LG/ld

Cc: Dr. James Wyche




Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost • P.O. Box 248053 • Coral Gables, Florida 33124-4623 • 305-284-3356 • Fax: 305-284-6758

RX TIME 04/17 '02 12:14



COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES

TO: To whom it may concern
FROM: Dr. Lillian Manzor 
Director of Graduate Studies
DATE: August 13, 2001
RE: Dual (BA/MA) Degree in Latin American Studies

I am writing as Director of Graduate Studies to offer my strong endorsement for the proposed five-year, dual BA/MA degree in Latin American Studies.

The general requirements and those that specifically pertain to the Literature and Culture track are equivalent to the degree requirements of our previous MA (please see University of Miami, Graduate Bulletin, 1999-2000, p. 94):

- 30 credits beyond the BA (a minimum of 15 credits at the 600-level)
The 15 credits at the 600-level is only specific to FLL; LAS students in this track will end up taking the same number of credits whether in Spanish, Portuguese and in their other area of studies.
- Specific literary period requirements
This requirement was in place to ensure that students had period and area coverage in their literary studies. Area coverage is satisfied in the proposed dual degree by the 67 hours of required courses in History, Economics, International Studies, study abroad and internship.
- A second language other than English and the language of study
Specific to a literature and culture program but not necessary for a LAS degree.
- MA comprehensive exam
Equivalent to the proposed final paper/thesis.

Both the study abroad and the internship requirements are excellent requirements that our MA did not have.

Overall, this is an innovative degree that could attract top national and international students and would bring prestige to the University of Miami.



August 11, 2001

Dr. Rebecca Blon
Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures
University of Miami
Coral Gables, FL 33124-4650

Dear Rebecca:

I have read carefully the proposal for the creation of a five-year Dual (BA/MA) Degree in Latin American Studies. I find the program to be an extremely attractive academic option for students interested in Latin America. It is the kind of diverse and rigorous program that will attract top students to the University. I only regret that we haven't had a program of this type sooner.

As outgoing Director of Graduate Studies and a Latin Americanist in the History Department, I have paid particular attention to the graduate offerings. I am glad to confirm that the program will permit students in History to fulfill their M.A. requirements.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "S. Stein".

Steve Stein, Ph.D.
Professor of History



August 7, 2001

MEMORANDUM:

To: Dr. Rebecca Biron
From: Dr. Robert Levine, ^{RML} Director, Arts & Sciences Latin American Studies Major
Re: Proposed five-year BA/MA program

This is to acknowledge that the proposed five-year program leading to a Master's degree in Latin American Studies meets and in fact exceeds the current requirements for the Arts & Sciences L.A.S. major.

Good luck!