



North Carolina Essential Standards Social Studies Elective Latin American Studies

Latin American Studies is a conceptually driven course that aims to provide a broad framework for students to gain a historical and contemporary understanding of the individuals, groups, events, trends and ideas surrounding Latino peoples living in the United States, Mexico, Central America, South America and the Caribbean. The course should provide students with an opportunity to engage with the social, economic and political activities of Latin America and Latino Americans in a way that allows them to make deep connections across the content. The historical content of this course should be taught with relevance to contemporary issues in order to ensure a deeper understanding for students.

The standards are organized around five strands: history, geography and environmental literacy, economics and financial literacy, civics and government and culture. The strands should not be taught in isolation, but woven together in an integrated study that helps understand the world in which we live. Additionally, the course includes two types of essential standards – one that identifies the skills that students should master during the course of the year and another that identifies the knowledge and understandings. The skills should be taught within the context of Latin American Studies, applying the knowledge and understandings of the course.

Note on Strands: **H**–History, **G**–Geography and Environmental Literacy, **E**–Economics and Financial Literacy, **C&G**–Civics and Government, and **C**–Culture



History			
	Essential Standard	Clarifying Objectives	
LAS.H.1	Apply historical thinking to understand Latin American societies over time.	LAS.H.1.1	Use primary and secondary sources to interpret various historical perspectives.
		LAS.H.1.2	Deconstruct competing historical narratives to determine point of view, perspective, bias, credibility, and authority.
		LAS.H.1.3	Integrate evidence from multiple relevant historical sources and interpretations into a reasoned argument about the past.
LAS.H.2	Understand the role conflict has played in the shaping of Latin American societies over time.	LAS.H.2.1	Explain the consequences of conquest, settlement, and migration upon Latin American societies over time.
		LAS.H.2.2	Analyze political and economic rivalries to understand the impact on Latin American societies over time.



Geography and Environmental Literacy

	Essential Standard	Clarifying Objectives	
LAS.G.1	Apply geographic tools to understand Latin American societies.	LAS.G.1.1	Use maps, charts, graphs, geographic data and available technology tools to make inferences about Latin American societies.
		LAS.G.1.2	Use geographic data in order to understand economic, political, cultural and social patterns within Latin American societies.
LAS.G.2	Understand the causes and consequences of movement within Latin America and across various regions.	LAS.G.2.1	Explain how migration has impacted the physical and human geography of Latin American societies.
		LAS.G.2.2	Explain how and why Latin America societies have adapted to, used and modified their environments.
		LAS.G.2.3	Analyze how global events and the spatial diffusion of ideas, technologies, and cultural practices have influenced Latin American migration patterns and population distribution across various regions.



Economics and Financial Literacy

	Essential Standard	Clarifying Objectives	
LAS.E.1	Understand the ways in which Latin American societies address opportunities, challenges, and strategies concerning standard of living over time.	LAS.E.1.1	Analyze the economic development of Latin Americans in terms of challenges to standard of living.
		LAS.E.1.2	Distinguish the factors that lead to Latin American economic mobility.
		LAS E.1.3	Attribute how changing technology and trade patterns have transformed economic systems within Latin American societies over time.
		LAS E.1.4	Use cost-benefit analysis to assess the effectiveness of various approaches Latin Americans used to solve economic issues.



Civics and Government

	Essential Standard	Clarifying Objectives	
LAS.C&G.1	Analyze the influence of government structures, policies, decisions, and agreements on contemporary issues within Latin American societies.	LAS.C&G.1.1	Analyze various political ideologies to understand their influence on contemporary issues within Latin American societies.
		LAS.C&G.1.2	Analyze colonial and post-colonial systems of government to understand the impact on various Latin American societies.
		LAS.C&G.1.3	Analyze various international policies, decisions, and agreements in terms of their impact on Latin American societies.



Culture			
	Essential Standard	Clarifying Objectives	
LAS.C.1	Analyze the lives of Latin Americans to understand the impact of shared and differing experiences and identities.	LAS.C.1.1	Explain how demographics shape social status within Latin American societies.
		LAS.C.1.2	Analyze the socio-economic status of various groups within Latin American societies to understand access to political and economic opportunity, equality, and social status.
		LAS.C.1.3	Compare how various Latin American groups have preserved cultural identity.
		LAS.C.1.4	Explain how regional differences impact cultural practices within Latin American societies.