The program focuses on the social, historical, and cultural experience of the Mexican and Latino populations in the United States. The core courses introduce historical and literary methodologies and perspectives that represent the early colonial conquest and the assimilation of Indians and African slaves into the new societies of the Caribbean, Mexican, Central and South American peoples. Students explore germinal texts that portray the history of Cuba and Puerto Rico as well as the Mexican colonial history of the Southwest from 1598 to the present. The program allows flexibility in pursuing related work in Latin American studies, women’s studies, and Spanish studies. Students are encouraged to develop interests in other disciplines in order to pursue double majors.

**Degree Requirements**

Students must complete at least 120 credits to graduate, including 32 credits in the major. All students take the two-semester sequence, Chic 1105 and Chic 1106 in the first or second year. This yearlong survey familiarizes students with major historical figures, geography, and topics of study. Some courses at the 3xxx-level explore issues of history, literature, and gender in the study of Chicanos. Students must also complete a senior paper in Chic 5993.

**Required Courses**

*Introductory Courses*

Chic 1105—Introduction to Chicano Studies: The Beginnings to 1875

Chic 1106—Introduction to Chicano Studies: Mexico and the United States (1871-present)

*Literature*

Chic 3114—International Perspectives: U.S.-Mexico Border Cultures

Chic 3507—Introduction to Chicano Literature

*History (choose three)*

Chic 3427, 3428, 3441, 3442

*Chicana-Latina (choose two)*

Chic 3402, 3712, 3375

*Senior Paper*

Chic 5993—Directed Studies (minimum 3 credits)

*Electives—* Students may consult with the Chicano studies adviser and coordinate two or more courses in international studies, Latin American studies, Spanish studies, and/or women’s studies.

**Final Project**

Students are encouraged to start thinking about the final project during the fall semester of their senior year or immediately after completing all the course requirements. Students should begin discussions with their adviser and begin a library search that indicates a bibliographical collection supporting their topic. Students may engage in a bibliographical search through a 1-credit directed studies course (Chic 3993) and then follow up with a second directed studies course (Chic 5993).

**Minor Requirements**

- Chic 1105 or Chic 1106
- Two courses in history from:
  - Chic 3427, 3428, 3441, 3442
- One course in literature:
  - Chic 3507 or 3114
What can I do with a major in Chicano studies?

**Skills**

Chicano studies majors develop skills that are applicable to a wide variety of careers. These skills include:

- Verbal and written communication skills
- Historical and cultural understanding
- Ability to formulate clear and persuasive messages
- Listening, clarifying, questioning and responding skills
- Ability to work well with diverse groups

**Employment**

Common areas of employment for this major include but are not limited to:

- **Government**—public information, campaigns, research, elected official
- **Law**—litigation, advocacy, lobbying
- **Social Service**—social work, advocacy, program development
- **Business**—marketing, human resources, sales, consulting, recruiting
- **Education**—teaching, research, student affairs
- **Nonprofit**—fundraising, programming, management

Today’s workplace requires individuals with interpersonal skills, the ability to communicate effectively, an ability to solve problems, and adaptability. CLA graduates find that they are well-prepared in all these areas and that their education—especially when combined with experience gained through internships, volunteer positions, past jobs, and other collegiate involvement—makes them competitive.

**How do I declare a Chicano studies major?**

You will be required to declare a major by the time you have completed 60 credits.

1. Talk with someone from the department: an adviser, a professor, or a teaching assistant, to learn more about the major and its requirements.

2. When you decide upon a Chicano studies major, meet with the appropriate person from the department to complete a Major Program form.

3. Bring a copy of the form to your CLA student community.

4. If you decide to change your major, contact your CLA student community to learn more about your new major’s declaration process.

For more information

**About the Chicano studies major:**
Undergraduate Advising
2 Scott Hall
(612) 624-6309
http://www.umn.edu/chicano/

**About CLA requirements, graduation, and other information about majors:**
CLA Society and Culture Student Community
122 Johnston Hall
(612) 624-2549
http://sandc.cla.umn.edu
sac@class.cla.umn.edu

**or**
CLA Martin Luther King, Jr. Program
19 Johnston Hall
(612) 625-2300
http://www.mlk.umn.edu/
mlk@class.cla.umn.edu

**About careers, internships, and community learning opportunities in this major and others:**
Career and Community Learning Center
135 Johnston Hall
(612) 624-7577
www.cclc.umn.edu
cclc@class.cla.umn.edu

**About graduation with honors:**
Students interested in graduating with honors should contact:
CLA Honors Division
115 Johnston Hall
(612) 624-5522
www.cla.umn.edu/honors/
honors@class.cla.umn.edu

Remember!

**You have not declared a major until you have:**
- completed a Major Program Form with your major adviser
- filed a copy with the major department
- filed a copy with your CLA student community
- be sure to keep a copy for yourself