Students may replace one of their five required content courses with an essay on a topic related to Latin America. Choosing this option requires registering for the “Area Studies Essay: Latin American Course” (AL 495), for which you need approval from the LASP office.

Students who choose this option must find a faculty advisor early in the fall semester (or during the junior year). In order to register for AL 495 students must have the faculty advisor sign an “Advisor Approval Form” and submit it to the LASP office in advance of the third week of classes.

Students should meet with their advisor regularly over the course of the semester, and the advisor will assign the final grade for the essay and the course. Final essays are due in the office no later than the first day of finals week, and will not be accepted without a “Final Grade Form” completed and signed by the advisor.

Date________________________
Student’s Name_________________________________________________________________
Essay Topic____________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

Advisor

The advisor of the essay should meet with the student periodically to make suggestions, answer questions, and review progress. There is no one model for this relationship, but the advisor should be clear about the schedule and expectations for the student. The advisor is responsible for monitoring student progress and for grading the completed essay. The grade for the essay is due to the director of the program by the first day of finals week.

Advisor’s Name__________________________________________________________
Advisor’s Signature___________________________________ Date_______________________

Students: You are responsible for printing the information “Essay Option for Latin American Studies Minor” and giving it to your advisor.