This MA offers students the opportunity to develop an understanding of the diverse societies of both the South American continent and the Caribbean from a multidisciplinary and comparative perspective. The programme's graduates have established careers in research, journalism, teaching and policy formulation and implementation in both government agencies and NGOs.

### Degree summary

Students will gain a broad empirical knowledge of the diverse societies of Latin America and the Caribbean from the perspective of at least two disciplines, together with an awareness of the general patterns of differences and commonalities in the histories, politics, economies and cultures of the different linguistic territories of the region.

- The Institute of the Americas occupies a unique position at the core of academic study of the region in the UK, promoting research and postgraduate teaching on the Americas, including Canada, the Caribbean, Latin America and the United States.
- The institute actively maintains and builds ties with cultural, diplomatic, third sector and business organisations with interests in the Americas, and provides resources to the wider academic community, serving and strengthening national networks of North Americanist, Latin Americanist and Caribbeanist scholars.
- Students benefit from tuition by world-leading scholars in an academic environment at the cutting-edge of research in the humanities and social sciences.

The programme is delivered through a combination of seminars, lectures, presentations, independent reading and research. Assessment is through varied assignments including essays, an oral presentation and the dissertation.

### Degree structure

**Mode:** Full-time: 1 year; Part-time: 2 years  
**Location:** London, Bloomsbury

Students undertake modules to the value of 180 credits. The programme consists of two core modules (30 credits), four optional modules (60 credits), and the research dissertation (90 credits). Please note: All optional modules are subject to availability.

Please note that the list of modules given here is indicative. This information is published a long time in advance of enrolment and module content and availability is subject to change.

#### COMPULSORY MODULES

- The Caribbean from the Haitian Revolution to the Cuban Revolution
- Researching the Americas: Latin America and the Caribbean

#### OPTIONAL MODULES

Students choose four optional modules from a selection that includes the following:

- Politics, Society and Development in the Modern Caribbean
- Democratization in Latin America
- Histories of Exclusion: Race and Ethnicity in Latin America
- Money and Politics in Latin America
- The Politics of Human Rights in Latin America: Transitional Justice
- The Politics of Human Rights in Latin America: Challenges to Democratization
- Sustainable Development in Latin America and the Caribbean
- Latin American Economics
- Globalisation and Latin American Development
- The International Politics of Latin America
- State and Society in Latin America: Ethnographic Perspectives
- The Latin American City: Social Problems and Social Change in Urban Space
- From Slavery to Freedom? Race, Class and Gender in the Nineteenth Century United States
- The Making of Modern Latin America: History, Politics and Society

Students may choose elective modules up to a maximum of 30 credits from other UCL departments or University of London colleges, subject to the Programme Director's approval.

#### DISSERTATION/REPORT

- All students write a dissertation of 15,000 words (90 credits) on a topic relating to the Caribbean, or Latin America and the Caribbean.

Many of our Master's students undertake fieldwork in order to carry out research for their dissertation projects.

There may be travel costs associated with fieldwork. The institute has limited funds available to students to help towards the costs of fieldwork. These funds are awarded on a competitive basis on the criteria of academic performance to date, the quality of the research proposal and the importance of fieldwork for completing the research.
Your career

Graduates of this programme will be well placed to use their skills and knowledge to find employment in government, business, journalism, finance and international NGOs, teaching, or for further research in this field.

Employability

Students will have excellent opportunities to expand professional networks enhancing their future employability. Through institute staff members’ extensive contacts in the region, and through participating in the institute’s extremely active events programme, students will meet potential colleagues in government and the diplomatic service, development agencies and the international NGO community, business and finance, and print and electronic media. On the basis of such contacts, recent graduates have found employment in government (Foreign & Commonwealth Office), NGOs (Amnesty International, Caritas) and political risk-analysis firms, while others have undertaken PhD research.
Entry requirements

Normally an upper second-class Bachelor's degree in a relevant discipline from a UK university or an overseas qualification of an equivalent standard. A basic reading competence in Spanish, French or Portuguese is desirable. Students without such skills may be considered but are advised to undertake a separate language course prior to or during their programme.

English language proficiency level

If your education has not been conducted in the English language, you will be expected to demonstrate evidence of an adequate level of English proficiency.

The level of English language proficiency for this programme is: Good.

Information about the evidence required, acceptable qualifications and test providers is provided at:

www.ucl.ac.uk/graduate/english-requirements

Your application

Students are advised to apply as early as possible due to competition for places. Those applying for scholarship funding (particularly overseas applicants) should take note of application deadlines.

When we assess your application we would like to learn:

// why you want to study Caribbean and Latin American Studies at graduate level
// why you want to study Caribbean and Latin American Studies at UCL
// what particularly attracts you to this programme
// how your academic background meets the demands of this challenging programme
// where you would like to go professionally with your degree

Together with essential academic requirements, the personal statement is your opportunity to elaborate on your reasons for applying to this programme and how your interests match what the programme will deliver.

There is an application processing fee for this programme of £75 for online applications and £100 for paper applications. Further information can be found at:

www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/graduate/taught/application.