Students are admitted to UCSC with a "proposed major" in most cases, and later petition to officially declare the major. Admission to UCSC does not guarantee acceptance into a particular major. Students must be declared in a major by the end of the second year (or equivalent), so learning about and preparing for a major is a primary goal for first-year students.

**Major:** LATIN AMERICAN AND LATINO STUDIES  
This major is not highly sequential or course intensive. Although it is advisable to begin taking courses toward the major in the first year, it is not required.

**Importance of an early start:**
Completion of LALS 1 and an LALS lower division course with C grades or higher are required to declare the major.

**Qualification requirements and/or prerequisites for the major:**
- Although not required, students may choose to take the Spanish Placement Exam to identify their starting point in Spanish language: [http://language.ucsc.edu/placement/spanish.html](http://language.ucsc.edu/placement/spanish.html)
- Students who intend to pursue Portuguese language will find information about placement at [http://language.ucsc.edu/placement/portuguese.html](http://language.ucsc.edu/placement/portuguese.html). (We recommend students take Spanish or Portuguese early, since students are expected to learn to speak, read and write Spanish or Portuguese and to make use of these skills on a regular basis in their academic work.)

**Skills important for success in this major:**
- Critical reading and thinking skills, second language knowledge (or desire to learn).

**Sample first year plan:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Courses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>LALS 1: <em>Intro to Latin American and Latino Studies</em>, and Spanish or Portuguese language (for some students)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winter</td>
<td>Spanish /Portuguese language (if appropriate level available)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>Spanish /Portuguese language (if appropriate level available)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Other information:**
- Upper-division courses in Portuguese are currently not taught at UCSC and must be taken elsewhere.
- Combined majors are available with Politics and Sociology. Contact the adviser if you are interested.

**Links to More Information:**
- [http://admissions.ucsc.edu/academics/majors/](http://admissions.ucsc.edu/academics/majors/) (general info)
- [http://registrar.ucsc.edu/catalog/programs-courses/](http://registrar.ucsc.edu/catalog/programs-courses/) (major requirements, course descriptions, etc.)
- [http://lals.ucsc.edu/undergraduate/](http://lals.ucsc.edu/undergraduate/) (program website)

**Questions? Contact an Adviser!**
LALS Adviser  
459-2119 or lals@ucsc.edu
32 Merrill Acad. Bld. Merrill College  

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