

On behalf of the graduating class, we would like to thank Katrina Linden and Xitlaly Estrada for the design and organization of this brochure.



Special Thanks to:

Karen Richman, Ph.D.
Director of Undergraduate Studies

The ILS Faculty and Staff



Class of 2016



Institute for Latino Studies

Graduation Certificate Ceremony
May 14, 2016

About the Institute for Latino Studies

Since its creation in 1999 the Institute for Latino studies has played a vital role in fostering understanding of the U.S. Latino experience. Building upon the history of Latinos at Notre Dame and the outstanding intellectual legacy of Julian Samora, a pioneering Latino scholar and professor of Sociology, the Institute supports scholarly initiatives in Latino studies as a key component of Notre Dame's academic mission. By teaching and preparing leaders, advancing research, and strengthening community, the Institute is true to the mission, tradition, and distinctively Catholic values of Notre Dame.

Supplementary Major: 24-credit program, which requires a gateway course, capstone/practicum course, and 18 credits/6 additional Latino Studies courses.

Minor: 15-credit program, which requires a gateway course, capstone/practicum course, and 9 credits/3 additional Latino Studies courses.



¡Felicitaciones a los Graduados!

Congratulations to all of our thirteen seniors. On behalf of the Institute for Latino Studies, it has been our pleasure to work alongside you as you have engaged your intellectual capacities while also serving those around you. You have truly embodied the mission of the Institute for Latino Studies. Through your continued hard work, you will be able to continue learning about and serving the Latino population.

Latinos are at once the oldest and the newest immigrant population in our country. They are expected to account for over 25% of the U.S. population by 2050, and even now they are one of the most significant factors for social change in our nation. The students being recognized today have begun their journey toward discovering answers that will prepare our nation to meet the future. *¡Felicidades y buen camino!*



*Spiritual Gifts in a Latino
Charismatic Community in
Whittier, California*



The Institute for Latino Studies would like to recognize Emma Nalin for writing her Anthropology Senior Thesis on Latino Spirituality under the direction of Dr. Karen Richman. Her thesis, "Spiritual Gifts in the Charismatic Community of Whittier, California," explores cultural and social meanings of gifts of the Holy Spirit in a primarily Latino Catholic Charismatic Renewal community in Whittier, CA. Inspired by Marcel Mauss's "Essay on the Gift" and anthropological scholarship that addressed his classic work, this thesis presents an anthropological analysis of the spiritual gift through the experiences of worshippers, while providing ethnographic context of the Whittier Charismatic community.

Thank You

The Class of 2016 would like to thank the leadership of the Institute for Latino Studies for their passionate teaching, research, and contribution to our understanding of Latinos in the United States. Thank you for the irreplaceable and priceless guidance throughout our educational career and personal development.



Luis Ricardo Fraga, Ph. D.
Co-Director

Arthur Foundation Endowed Professor of
Transformative Latino Leadership
Professor of Political Science

Timothy Matovina, Ph.D.
Co-Director

Professor of Theology



Karen Richman, Ph.D.
Director of Undergraduate Studies

Concurrent Faculty, Departments of
Romance Languages and Literatures,
Anthropology

Certificate Recipients



Victor Francis Benavides

Laura Elizabeth Camarata

Sean Michael Himel

Marshall Lewis Thurgood Hopkins

Bernadette Jordan

Katrina Michelle Linden

Enrique Lorenzo

Daniela Isabel Nuñez

Hannah Jean Petersen

Margaret Schmid

John VanBerkum

Celeste Sherie Villa-Rangel

Jessica Zita Zic

Jessica Zita Zic

Hometown: Nashville, Tennessee
Major: Neuroscience and Behavior,
Latino Studies Supplementary



As a sophomore, I took a community based learning Spanish class where I discovered the Institute for Latino Studies for the first time. I was instantly drawn to the community, classes, professors, and opportunities to engage with the Latino community in South Bend. Adding Latino Studies to my Neuroscience and Behavior major has been one of the best decisions of my college career. Through my Latino Studies coursework I started volunteering at El Campito, a local bilingual preschool. This experience has inspired me to pursue service in Houston next year at Casa de Esperanza de los Niños, a foster home for young children in crisis. Ultimately my goal is to go to medical school and become a physician serving in medically underserved communities. My Latino Studies experiences have helped me discover my passions, broaden my knowledge, and prepare me for my future beyond Notre Dame. Thank you, Institute for Latino Studies!



Celeste Sherie Villa-Rangel

Hometown: San Diego, California
Major: Political Science
Minor: Latino Studies

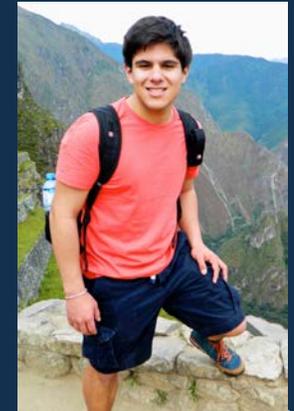


I started working for ILS my freshman year and since then it has always been a source of mentorship and opportunity. I was able to intern for National Council of La Raza in Washington D.C. through ILS, an opportunity which has since allowed me to work with that organization in other capacities. I am grateful for all of the ILS has given me, but especially for their support these last few years. The classes I have been able to take as a Latino studies minor have helped me understand what I want to do with my future.

After graduation, I will be attending UCLA School of Law and hope to become a civil rights lawyer in the future. I want to thank ILS for all of these opportunities and for the guidance you have all given me.

Victor Francis Benawides

Hometown: Flushing, New York
Major: American Studies
Minor: Latino Studies



Thank you to everyone at the Institute for Latino Studies! During my time taking classes in the minor, I have been blessed to encounter dedicated and supportive faculty who have challenged me to become a more informed citizen and to share what I've learned with others. My fondest memories in the minor are those in the US-Mexico Border Immersion Seminar taught by Prof. Kraig Beyerlein, where my classmates and I spent a whole year studying issues of the border, culminating in a week -long experience in Tucson. After witnessing some of the horrors of immigration law in Arizona with our own eyes, I've been excited to work along side my classmates and Prof. Beyerlein to figure out how to make a difference!



Laura Elizabeth Camarata

Hometown: Overland Park, KS
Major: Psychology, Latino Studies
Supplementary
Minor: Education, Schooling, &
Society



I entered Notre Dame really only certain of one thing: I had no idea what I wanted to study. I remained "undeclared" until the end of my freshman year, letting myself explore different colleges and disciplines. While the first Spanish class I took was literature-based, the second was community-based, having us integrate our class learning with experience in the South Bend Spanish-speaking community. It so happened that this second course was cross-listed with Latino Studies, and it didn't take me long after that to declare the Supplementary Major.

Being a part of the ILS has given me relationships and granted opportunities that have helped form and inform my desires to continue working with Spanish-speaking populations. I will spend at least the next year and a half as a social worker in a children's home in Honduras, and will see where my adventures take me after that! Thank you, ILS, for helping shape who I am today!



John VanBerkum

Hometown: Grosse Pointe Park,
Michigan
Majors: Philosophy and Theology
Minors: Constitutional Studies,
Latino Studies



Early in my time at Notre Dame, I found myself in El Paso, Texas, in a house of hospitality for immigrants and refugees from Mexico and Central America. Following this experience, I enrolled in a Latino Studies class to learn more about immigration in the US. The next summer, through ILS' Cross-Cultural Leadership Program, I interned with the Archdiocese of Chicago's Office for Immigrant Affairs, where I learned and participated in the faith response to immigration.

My eyes have been opened to the people and personal interactions that are often ignored when we just stick to our classroom studies. Meeting people who suffer and who suffer with others has opened my heart to ministry. I know that the people I have met and the lessons that I have learned because of the generosity of ILS will always form my life.



Margaret Schmid

Hometown: Granger, Indiana
Major: Psychology
Minor: Theology, Latino Studies



During my junior year, I found a home with the Institute for Latino Studies through my love of the Spanish language and desire to learn more about my own ethnicity. It has been through my classes that I have discovered a passion for several topics, including Latino Theology, immigration and border issue.

I have used my Latino Studies courses to inform other areas of my studies as well, including my research in clinical psychology, service immersion experiences, and now, the population I will serve through the ACE program after graduation. I am extremely grateful for the courses and faculty at ILS for truly making my Notre Dame experience special and forming me as a person.

Sean Michael Himel

Hometown: Madison, Mississippi
Major: Science Business
Minor: Science, Technology, and Values; Latino Studies



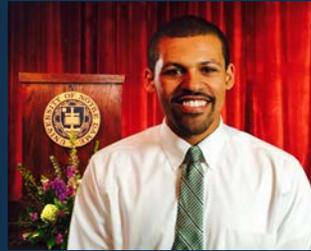
We may not have the best weather in the country, but there is no other place that has brought me as much happiness and growth as this community of people. I am the baby of six kids that my amazing, yet crazy parents raised in New Orleans, and Mississippi after Hurricane Katrina. I am heading back down South for medical school at LSU.

I fell in love with Latino culture during a couple of trips to Nicaragua during high school. Ever since, I have gravitated toward activities that would expose me to the culture. I became a part of the ILS family as I began to seriously think about my future profession. As a prospective physician, I understand the growing need for culturally adept healthcare providers that can care for the growing U.S. Latino population. ILS has prepared me without a doubt for my future endeavors, and I am truly grateful for all of the experiences that the Institute and its professors have provided me.



Marshall Lewis Thurgood Hopkins

Hometown: Anderson, Indiana
Major: Science-Business,
Latino Studies Supplementary



During my time at Notre Dame, I have seen growth in all aspects of my life--intellectual, spiritual, mental and social. I am blessed beyond measure to call Notre Dame home and grateful for all the relationships and experiences that I have had. One of my most cherished experiences was the ILS Cross Cultural Leadership Program where I interned in Chicago at Casa Juan Diego's Summer Youth Program. For 8 weeks, I lived and worked in a predominately Mexican neighborhood learning more about the culture and the obstacles that Latino children face on a daily basis. Notre Dame has shaped me into the man I am today, and has laid the foundation for what are great things to come.

After Notre Dame, I will be pursuing post-baccalaureate studies with the intentions of attending medical school, and ultimately working in a Latino community. It has always been my dream to be a physician and Notre Dame has truly shown me the importance of helping others, reassured me of my desire to serve, and to pay it forward like so many have done for me. I am grateful for the extended family that I now have because of Notre Dame and the Institute for Latino Studies.



Hannah Jean Petersen

Hometown: Los Angeles,
California
Major: American Studies
Minors: Education, Schooling,
and Society; Latino Studies



Coming from Los Angeles, I've always intended to work with Latinos in the U.S. and across borders. I am beyond excited to go into the world with a fusion of American Studies, Education, and Latino Studies, which especially in my culminating class with Professor Richman on Mexican Immigration in South Bend, provided the ability for independent research and learning inside and outside the classroom.

I've transferred knowledge from Latino Studies to the Migrant Experiences Seminar, teaching ENL to Dominican immigrants, volunteering at local El Campito, and teaching in rural Ecuador. Developing a critical and intellectual eye for the past and current Latino landscape is vital for the progress of the US. Thank you to the Latino Studies for providing me with the big questions, spaces of academic rigor, and immense support. I cannot wait to use what I've learned in ILS while participating for two years in Jesuit Volunteer International in Tacna, Peru. I want to keep learning as I embark in the world.



Daniela Isabel Nuñez

Hometown: Miami, Florida
Majors: Economics, Latino Studies
Supplementary



As a freshman at Notre Dame I had a hard time adjusting and had no idea that I'd end up a Latino Studies supplementary major. Thankfully, I went on the Latino Freshman Retreat and met upperclassmen who recommended ILS. I took up the minor and ended up loving my first ILS class "Race and Popular Culture" with Jason Ruiz. I knew I wanted to take more classes and continue understanding the world I live in as a Latina.

Not only did I take some of my favorite classes through Latino Studies, but I also received some of the best undivided attention from Karen Richman when I needed help choosing classes. I was given amazing opportunities to engage with the Latino community such as serving as a Spanish interpreter for the National Immigrant Justice Center and meeting notable Latinos such as Sonia Sotomayor. After Notre Dame, I'll be moving to San Antonio, where I will work as an entry-level buyer. My time here, both inside and outside the classroom, has helped me discover my passions and has prepared me for whatever life brings beyond Notre Dame.

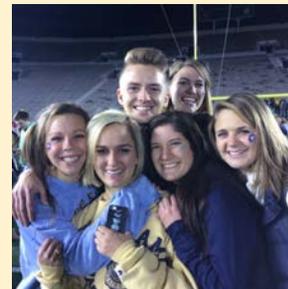


Bernadette Jordan

Hometown: Albany, New York
Major: Sociology
Minor: Latino Studies



As I think of graduation, I cannot believe how fast my time has gone here. I did my freshman year at Saint Mary's college and then transferred into Notre Dame. I started off pre-med, but I realized my greater strengths and passions were in Arts & Letters. Sociology and Latino Studies helped me realize that. At the beginning of junior year I switched to a Sociology major and Latino Studies minor. My interest in Latino Studies is rooted in the fact that I was born in Chile and lived my first two years there. Next year, I will be serving as a volunteer and mentoring youth in the greater New York area.



Katrina Michelle Linden

Hometown: Santa Ana, California
Major: American Studies, Latino Studies Supplementary



During my freshman year, Professor Matovina's mentorship brought me to my home in ILS. Later, I discovered my love for advocacy during the Migrant Experience Seminar in Immokalee, Florida. I knew I wanted to work with and support Latinos and other underrepresented minorities. My later experiences in the Arizona borderlands reinforced this desire as I realized how uneducated I was about my own people and how much still needs to be done to change negative stereotypes and uplift those facing oppressive laws.

During my time at Notre Dame, the Latino *familia* and ILS supported me through my struggles and successes. I am grateful for opportunities to perform research, to intern with the National Council of La Raza, and to work with Dr. Richman over these last four years. The Institute for Latino Studies has been my family and support system away from home. I hope to continue my work in advocacy and nonprofit work in the future. For now, I will join Vanir Development's property management team in Sacramento.



Enrique Lorenzo

Hometown: Rialto, California
Majors: Political Science
Applied and Computational Mathematics and Statistics Supplementary
Minor: Latino Studies



What brought me to Latino Studies was a need to understand my identity, especially considering my life experiences and my person in relation to others. Coming to Notre Dame, I saw an opportunity both socially and academically to understand being Latino. I've grown up discussing topics of race, culture, immigration, and music, among other things, and it's been valuable to place that knowledge in conversation with ongoing cultural, historical, local, and national dialogues.

I'm very appreciative of the relationships I have formed within the Institute for Latino Studies. Your presence was always felt. ILS is a safe place for many Latinos on campus and a center in which all can engage Latino culture and issues. I'm proud to be a part of this program and community. Thank you. I would also like to thank you my family and friends, who have supported me on my journey to graduation.

