Course Objectives:

LAAS 3100 is a required course for all LAAS majors, every semester that students are in residence at UMM. LAAS majors earn 1 credit per semester (A-F). The purpose of this course is to keep students, together with other LAAS majors, abreast of current developments in Latin America through film, current news events in selected “hot spots” in Latin America, and through discussion and sharing of ideas relating to these materials.
**Requirements:**

We will meet approximately every two weeks for two hours. A general topic on a current issue in Latin America will be assigned for each upcoming class. Class will consist of viewing a film related to the selected topic, discussion of the film, and presentation of current news and issues in Latin America by each student. You are expected to read a wide variety of media related to Latin America during the semester. In order to receive a passing grade for this course, students are expected to:

- Attend all classes, as noted below (Mondays, beginning at 7:00 pm):  
  **Jan. 28, Feb. 11, Feb. 25, March 10, March 31, April 14, April 28**
- Participate in discussion of the film related to the week’s topic
- Present two articles from different sources related to the week’s topic that you have researched; you may use journals, newspapers, or one of these may be from the internet; these sources should include scholarly, in-depth analysis.
- Spanish resources are especially encouraged.
- At each class, turn in a full citation (see handout) of your news source and a ¾ to 1 page summary of each article, including your own brief analysis of the article
- You are to hand in your typed article each week that class meets, and print a second copy to be added to your journal
- Each article read should be added, on a rolling basis, to a comprehensive bibliography, which will be turned in at the end of the semester
- The last semester before graduating, majors must submit a copy of their final semester’s class materials to the coordinator; this is a requirement for graduating with an LAAS major (also see Assessment Requirements).

**Evaluation:**

Students will be graded on three criteria:

- Quality of news articles and summaries handed in each class period
- Relevance of the news articles to the current topic
- Participation in class discussion

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How to cite references for LAAS 3100 news reports

Please place the reference for each article at the top of each article report. Remember to paste these into a running list for your journal. Use the following format:

Journal/newspaper article

Author
Year Title. *Journal/Newspaper name* Volume (Issue):pages.

Sparks, Samantha

Avalos Rosas, Netzahualcóyotl

Web site

Author (if available)
Year Title. Electronic document, *Name of Source*, date (if available), *web site address*, accessed date.

Spitzer, Skip

- On each report, include a paragraph with your own reaction/analysis of the article; make this clear that it is your analysis and not facts reported in the article