A warm welcome to Charles Golden of the Department of Anthropology as the new Chair of the Latin American and Latino Studies Program for 2014-2017!

During the 2013-2014 academic year, I had the privilege of acting as Chair of Latin American and Latino Studies. I followed up on the confident and inspiring leadership of Professor Fernando Rosenberg, who stewarded LALS for three years, during which time it has built its majors and minors and participated actively in the intellectual and cultural life of the campus.

The previous year was an eventful one, with the fiftieth anniversary of the program and the retirement, after 22 years, of Professor Silvia Arrom. Silvia’s dedication to the program has been incomparable; she directed the program for 14 years, from 1991 to 2005, and has continued to support it with her courses and her support for guiding the program both in its curriculum and in its integration with other programs and departments and with the life of the campus. In the first year of her retirement, Silvia continued her strong ties with the program, while also traveling, continuing her research, and spending time with her family. We are grateful for Silvia’s ongoing guidance and support.

The LALS curriculum this past year was enriched by courses given by Moises Lino e Silva (The Amazon Forest: Challenges, Opportunities, and Paradoxes; Latin America in Ethnographic Perspective; and the Rise of Brazil), [Continued on Page 9]

In This Issue:
- LALS Events and Jane’s Prizes 2
- Faculty Updates 3
- Alumni Updates 6
- “Strolling in the Ruins” - Faith Smith 8

City Facades by Alexander Bernstein
Jane’s Prizes

Jane’s Travel Grants

Alex Bernstein
History Major, LALS and Hispanic Studies Minor, “Privatization of Small Business in Havana: How the Catholic Church is Helping Prepare Cubans for the Future.”

Laurel Benoit
MA in Global Studies, “Tourism Growth in Small Island Developing States: Conflicts Between Tradition and Development in Grenada.”

Tomi Jaiyesimi
Health: Science, Society and Policy and Biology Majors, “Perceptions of Child Oral Health Among Latino Primary Caregivers.”

Sharan Shah, Lindsey Weiss, Matthew Schwartz
Representing the Executive Board of the Brandeis Public Health Brigades, “Brandeis Public Health Brigades: Improving Health Through Sustainability in Rural Honduras.”

Holly Doerflinger
MA Anthropology, “In the Shadows or Unafraid: Paradoxes of Undocumented Lives in the US.”

Kimberley Tellez
“A Comparative Study Using Arts-Based Research: Documenting the Impact of Social Enterprises That Engage With Disenfranchised Communities in Sao Paulo, Brazil.”

Jane’s Essay Prize

Sela Brown
“Yo Prefiero Bolivianos:” “Percepciones y Prejucios de los Inmigrantes en Arica Chile” [English]” I prefer Bolivians: “Perceptions and prejudices of immigrants in Arica Chile.”

LALS Events 2013-2014

Fall 2013

October 8th
“What’s it like to be queer in a foreign country?” a Brandeis Student panel as part of “Coming Out Week” and “International Education Week”

October 9th
Jane’s Travel Grant Presentations
Ryan Collins (Anthropology): ‘Chasing Walls and Taking ‘Breaks’, or Forming Questions in a Formative Plaza at Yaxuna, Yucatan, Mexico”

Adam Gamwell (LALS, Anthropology): “From Mother Tongue to Pachamama: Reflections and Projections on Quechua Language Training and Field Site Reconnaissance in Southern Peru”

October 14th
Fr. Ismael Moreno
“Human rights, the media and campesino/indigenous communities in Honduras”

October 22nd
Anthropology Club Q&A session
Featuring Moises Lino e Silva on his research in Brazil

October 24th
LALS Meet the Majors and Minors

October 25th
Hunt Lecture in Economic Anthropology: Michael Chibnik, “Cooperation and Competition among Oaxacan Wood Carvers”

November 1st
A Celebration of Día de los Muertos

November 13th
Andrew Scherer
“Classic Maya Bodies and Souls in Bioarchaeological Perspective”

November 20th
Maricela Aguilar
Becoming a Student as an undocumented Immigrant Brandeis Immigration Education Initiative (BIEI)

November 21st
Reading by 5th US Presidential Inaugural Poet Richard Blanco

November 21st
Edith López Ovalle
“Memory, Culture, and Political Organizing in Mexico”

December 3rd
IBS Brazil Initiative: Oded Grajew
“The Role of Civil Society, Companies, Governments, & the Academy in the Promotion of Sustainable Development”

Spring 2014

January 21st
Jane’s Travel Grant Presentation: Sharan Shah, Lindsey Weiss, Matthew Schwartz
“Brandeis Public Health Brigades: Improving Health Through Sustainability in Rural Honduras”

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January 21st
Jane’s Travel Grant Presentation: Sharan Shah, Lindsey Weiss, Matthew Schwartz
“Brandeis Public Health Brigades: Improving Health Through Sustainability in Rural Honduras”
January 29th
Struggling to Win: Anarchists Building Popular Power in Chile, Latin American and Latino Studies

February 3rd
Jane’s Travel Grant Presentation:
Alex Bernstein
"Privatization of Small Business in Cuba: How the Catholic Church is Helping Cubans Prepare for the Future”.

February 4th
AHORA Film Night
Screening "A Day Without a Mexican"

March 4th
"Global Protests, Local Realities: Understanding the Massive Brazilian Street Protests of 2013”
International Business School and International and Global Studies

March 18th
Anahi Russo Garrido
"Queer Love in Normal Times: Lesbian Intimacy in Contemporary Mexico City"

March 19th
Jane’s Travel Grant Presentation:
Oluwatomi Jaiyesimi
"Perceptions of Child Oral Health Among Latino Primary Caregivers"

April 3rd
LALS Trip to the Boston Museum of Fine Arts

April 9th
LALS Spring Speaker Series: Carlos Yushimito
"The Voluntary Dream: Latin American Cosmopolitan Writing of the 21st Century”

April 28th
Jane's Travel Grant Presentations
Mollie Kravitz
"Latino Immigration Internship Project”
Laurel Benoit
"Tourism Growth in Small Island Developing States: Conflicts Between Tradition and Development in Grenada”.

Faculty Updates
Jerónimo Arellano, Romance Studies organized a panel on Contemporary Realisms in Literature and Cinema at NEMLA (Northeast Modern Language Association Convention), and co-organized a panel on New Formalisms, Aesthetics, and Cultural Critique in Latin America at LASA. He presented a paper on televisual realism at NEMLA and at LASA read a paper on blunted
Congratulations!

2014 Graduating Seniors

Majors:
Benjamin Hill – LALS Major, Peace, Conflict and Coexistence Studies Minor

Jacob Lurie – Neuroscience, Biology, and LALS Majors, African and Afro-American Studies and Chemistry Minors

Isabela von Wachter – LALS and International and Global Studies Majors, Hispanic Studies Minor
Lindsey Weiss LALS and Health: Science, Society and Policy Majors

Minors:
Alexander J. Bernstein – History Major, LALS Minor

Asia Garcia – International and Global Studies and Italian Studies Majors and LALS Minor

Abigail Simon – Education Studies Major, LALS and Social Justice and Social Policy Minors

Ida Halman – Sociology, Anthropology, and International and Global Studies Majors, LALS Minor

Reyna Plana – Anthropology and International and Global Studies Major, LALS, Hispanic Studies, and Women’s and Gender Studies Minors

Ivan Ponieman-Ferradas – International and Global Studies and Economics Majors, LALS and Business Minors

Emily Zoller – International & Global Studies and Anthropology Majors, LALS Minor

Photo: Ben Gebo Photography

Faculty Updates, cont’d.

Cristina Espinosa, Heller School for Social Policy traveled to Cusco in June 2014 with support of the LALS program to explore research collaboration with the Centro de Estudios Andinos Bartolomé de las Casas, one of the major NGOs in Cusco, Peru. The visit included several meetings with the board and with individual Program Coordinators, a plenary meeting with all the technical staff to discuss research priorities and possible collaboration, two field visits to the communities where the teams were working as well as attending a bilingual workshop on Traditional Medicinal Plants at La Casa Campesina in Cusco, mostly attended by members of the indigenous communities who were in Cusco taking care of community or personal affairs. She was also invited to give a lecture open to the public on June 12, at the Centro Bartolomé de las Casas on the topic “Negotiating modernity, ethnicity and gender in the context of neoliberal globalization.” The lecture was well attended and fostered good participation from the public.

This trip built up good collaborative relations with the board and technical staff of Centro Bartolome de las Casas and a collaborative framework agreement with Brandeis was agreed to be pursued as well as an engagement in writing some reports based on field experience, around the topics of gender empowerment, sustainable livelihoods and cultural identity and participation in the district government.

Elizabeth Ferry, Anthropology
Faculty Updates, cont’d.

Charles Golden, Anthropology
Golden co-authored six journal articles and book chapters published in the past year, covering issues of environmental dynamics, warfare, political collapse and the application of remote imaging technologies to studies of the ancient Maya. He presented or co-authored five papers at conferences in the United States and Mexico, and has also been awarded a Marion and Jasper Whiting Fellowship to visit early human archaeological sites in France, travel that he plans to complete in May 2015. During the summer of 2014, he continued his research along the Usumacinta River in Guatemala and Mexico, identifying previously undocumented archaeological sites on both sides of the modern border and laying the foundation for a new long-term research project in the region.

Fernando Rosenberg, Romance Studies
completed a book manuscript provisionally entitled “After Human Rights. Literature, Film and Visual Arts in Latin America (1990-2010)”. He also gave a keynote conference at the Montevideana conference in the Fine Arts Museum in Montevideo, Uruguay (June 2013), and presented a paper on visual representations of “the disappeared” at the American Association of Comparative Literature in NY (March 2014).

Laurence Simon, Heller School for Social Policy
returned from two weeks in Brazil for consultations with universities and research institutes for a briefing on current issues of Brazilian development. These included a one and a half hour meeting with former President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, a meeting with Sergio Rezendes, former Minister of Science and Technology, a meeting with Israel Klabin, president of the Foundation for Sustainable Development, a meeting with the son of Paulo Freire at the Instituto Paulo Freire, and numerous others. Displayed are photos with President Lula (the woman in the middle is a translator) and with Freire’s son Lute. Accompanying Professor Simon on this trip was Dr Joan Dassin, whose appointment to the Brandeis faculty begins this July as professor and director of the Master of Arts Degree program in Sustainable International Development. He is stepping down to begin a new research group at Brandeis on global development and sustainability.

Javier Urcid, Anthropology
Highlighted Alumni Updates

Sarah Farhadian
became engaged to Cary Adickman on April 27th and was admitted to the Bar of the State of New York on April 28th. She is now working as an Associate at Akerman LLP, where her practice is focused on real estate law.

Sarah Light
is currently a graduate student at Oregon State University in Corvallis, OR studying Soil Science and Plant Pathology.

Sandhya K. Narayanan (BA ’10)
is currently a doctoral student at University of Michigan-Division of Anthropology. Summer of 2014, she received a National Geographic Young Explorer Grant and is doing preliminary fieldwork on Quechua/Aymara language use and ideologies in Puno, Peru.

LT Loretta L. Stein, MD, MSc, MC, USN
Since her time at Brandeis, she earned a Master’s of Science in Global Health at Oxford University (2007) and graduated from Tufts Medical School (2011). She is currently a senior resident in the Department of Ophthalmology at Naval Medical Center San Diego, as well as an officer in the US Navy. She has been putting her background in Spanish language and Latin American and Latino Studies to good use taking care of patients in Southern California.

Chiara Bercu
is currently a Global Health Corps Fellow living in Kasese, Uganda where she is the Partnerships and Fundraising Fellow for Action for Community Development (ACODEV) Uganda—a grassroots non-profit that works to empower communities.

Luis Rubio
is chairman of Mexico’s Center of Research for Development (CIDAC—Centro de Investigación Para el Desarrollo AC) and published a piece on Project Syndicate titled “The Two Mexicans”

Read more at http://www.project-syndicate.org/columnist/luis-rubio#htQIzH8m1Hy6yTFw.99

Faculty Development Grants
This year we are happy to announce that a number of LALS faculty received Faculty Development Grants for continued research, scholarship, and presentations:

Jeronimo Arellano to present at the Latin American Studies Association
Charles Golden for research in Guatemala and Mexico
Elizabeth Ferry
Fernando Rosenberg to edit and complete his new manuscript
Christina Espinosa for project development in Cusco, Peru
Faith Smith to present at the Caribbean Studies Association
Javier Urcid for field and archival research in Mexico
Estela Lozano ’16
San Francisco District Attorney’s Office, San Francisco, CA

interned at the San Francisco District Attorney Office, which is committed to achieving justice for residents in the city of San Francisco. She paired with a Victim Witness advocate in order to learn about the U-Visa for immigrants. Her goal was to learn about the legal system especially how families recover after the crime has been committed. She says, “Sometimes, we only focus on the crime and its severity but not enough on the victim’s families that are involved. What happens to them after sentencing? To me, this is an essential question.” Another goal was to work with victims in the legal system while being able to use her bilingual skills to communicate and establish trust with the Hispanic community. Ultimately, she seeks to be a community lawyer to offer the immigrant population the chance to have better mobility in society.

Liset Hernández ’16
CECYTE - EMSAD, Poturo, Churumuco, Michoacán, Mexico

CECYTE EMSAD is Secretaria de Educación Gobierno del Estado located in Poturo Michoacán, a small rural town in Mexico. The mission of this organization is to educate and provide health care assistance to people in need. There are about 500 inhabitants in this town who live in impoverished conditions. Eight staff run the two different projects, a clinic and a school at this organization. At the clinic they perform basic patient vitals as well as immunizations for children and adults. At the school they are beginning to provide information about health education and family planning. She provided assistance at the local clinic as well as school, performed basic medical functions and provided comprehensive reproductive and sexual education. She also taught English as a second language. Her career goals including opening an occupational therapy non-profit to help children and families with special needs.

Amanda Pereira ’15
ETE Camp, Hinche, Haiti

Empowering Through Education (ETE) Camp seeks to prepare Hinche, Haiti’s most vulnerable youth to become future community leaders for social change by strengthening their academic skills, increasing self-confidence, and actively building community and parental support. During her time in Hinche, Haiti, Amanda taught classes for youth ages 8-11 in the areas of Math, Literacy (English) and Leadership Building. Educational sustainability is also one of the goals of ETE Camp, Amanda developed skills with grassroots organization and community empowerment and plans to apply these new found skills.

Linda Phiri ’15, World Vision Brazil, Recife, Pernambuco, Brazil

World Vision Brazil is a not-for-profit non-governmental organization. whose main aim is poverty alleviation regardless of race, gender, religion, or ethnicity. It is a humanitarian organization that is focused mainly on children, but believes that a child cannot fully develop if their surroundings are not conducive for them to reach their full potential. Communities are helped to deal with poverty and injustice, through tools such as agricultural training, and education. They provide emergency assistance with people affected by natural disasters and civil conflict, and develop models for long-term solutions to poverty. Linda conducted work in the department of People and Culture. As a bilingual speaker, she helped orient new visitors to the headquarters as well as developed plans to facilitate employee well-being at World Vision. Her personal and career goals align in the field of Organizational Behavior through which Linda seeks to encourage and foster multi-cultural dialogue while studying new models of global development.
Strolling in the Ruins

by Faith Smith

This summer I have been thinking about ruins. Funded by a LALS Faculty Development grant, I was able to attend this year’s meeting of the Caribbean Studies Association in Mérida, Mexico. I delivered a paper entitled "Walking Razors: Kingston’s Flânerie, 1900 and 2010" on a panel on "Caribbean Cartographies: The Project and Promise of Modernization." The grant allowed me to remain in Mérida for an additional week to study Spanish. But it was the opportunity to visit what I would call three types of ruins that has really proved generative for my work: one of the chapters of the book I am working on is now entitled "Strolling in the Ruins."

I visited Uxmal, which I would classify as the sort of ruins that, like Chichen Itza, the nation wants to memorialize: restored, and with the sort of official access and narrative that has been wiped clean of ongoing contention. I also visited Izamal, where there are five ruins of pyramids around the town, and the sixteenth-century Monastery of San Antonio de Padua was actually constructed on top of one of them; here the scene of past conflict is ubiquitous, and part of daily life.

Finally I was fortunate enough to be able to visit Tihosuco, where Professor Deborah Thomas, my colleague from the conference who teaches Anthropology at the University of Pennsylvania, introduced me to Professor Richard Leventhal, who directs an excavation site there for that institution. He collected us from the Valladolid bus station and drove us to the site, which was the scene of intense Mayan conflict in the late nineteenth century. Mayans in this region were violently quelled by the federal government early in the twentieth century, and they seem to have deserted their community. Here is a site that was definitely not included in any of the brochures. Such sites – and not just in Mexico, of course – tend to generate national amnesia.
Letter from the Chair, cont’d

Rodolfo Fernández (Borderlands: Mexico and the U.S., 1848 to the present; Empire and Its Discontents: Latin America from Conquest to Independence) and Jillian Powers (Race, Ethnicity and Immigration in American Culture). In addition, Anahi Russo Garrido, the Allen-Berenson postdoctoral fellow in Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies gave exciting courses with substantial Latin American content. On March 18, she presented on her research on queer communities in Mexico City as part of the Sexuality and Queer Studies Speaker Series. We are delighted that Professors Powers, Lino e Silva, and Russo Garrido are all joining us again this year.

In addition, we are elated that Gregory Childs will be joining Brandeis this fall as an assistant professor in History and African and Afro-American Studies. His research on black political life and public space in late 18th century Salvador, Brazil brings new content and perspectives to LALS and also forges exciting connections between departments and programs. Welcome, Professor Childs!

The 2013-2014 year was full of exciting and varied LALS programming, of which I can only point out a few highlights.

On October 25th, anthropologist Michael Chibnik gave a presentation on the recently invented artisanal production of fanciful wooden figures called alebrijes, in Oaxaca, Mexico. He focused on the emergence and maintenance of markets for these figures, and the ways that artisans both competed and cooperated with each other.

On November 1st, the program sponsored a new event in the fall celebrating the Day of the Dead with a small
Letter from the Chair, cont’d

exhibit in the atrium of Schwartz Hall, a decorated altar, and an activity decorating sugar skulls. The event was well-attended and very enjoyable, and we hope to make it a yearly occurrence.

On March 10, LALS Undergraduate Department Representatives Mollie Kravitz and Jacob Lurie joined UDRs from the Hispanic Studies Program to host the first annual Latin American Study Abroad Fair which brought together returnees and applicants to Latin America from both programs. Returnees had studied in Brazil, Bolivia, Nicaragua, Chile, and the Caribbean (this last experience on a study abroad program held on a boat and focusing on marine biology). Students spoke about the highlights of their trips and made connections to other’s experiences, and answered questions about all aspects of study abroad and its different programs. Prospective students left more informed about study abroad options and with a feel for possible experiences overseas, while returnees made connections back to Brandeis through comparing their experiences.

On April 9, the Peruvian novelist Carlos Yushimito del Valle gave a reading of his work and discussion with LALS and Hispanic Studies students. Yushimito discussed the role of real and imaginary places in his writing, and about the appeal of a novel or story’s continuity over multiple readings. A lively discussion conducted in both Spanish and English followed the presentation.

None of these events, nor the other presentations, films roundtables, museum trips, and other activities sponsored or co-sponsored by the program would be possible without the generous support of our donors through the Philanthropic Initiative, Inc. In addition, the Jane’s Travel Grant and Jane’s Essay Prize programs, and the Annual LALS photography prize are central parts of the program because of this support. We are immensely grateful to be able to build and maintain this small but vibrant program.

I would like to thank Adam Gamwell for his excellent work as departmental administrator, providing both students and faculty with strong support, always with a calm demeanor and a friendly twinkle in his eye. Thanks also to our committed and imaginative UDRs, Jacob Lurie and Mollie Kravitz, who have done a great job reaching out to students with imaginative new programming. Many congratulations to Jacob on his graduation – please stay in touch, Jacob! This year we welcome Petra Nelson as a new UDR, back from study abroad in Chile, and we welcome back Mollie as returning UDR.

Unfortunately for me, I will not be chair of LALS this coming year. However, the program is lucky to have Charles Golden, also from Anthropology, entering as chair. I am excited for another year of rich courses, programming, and connections on and off campus.

Special Thanks

to our dedicated and energetic faculty Jerónimo Arellano, Cristina Espinosa, Elizabeth Ferry, Ricardo Godoy, Charles Golden, Donald Hindley, Ricardo Lopez, James Mandrell, Wellington Nyangoni, Lucia Reyes de Deu, Fernando Rosenberg, Laurence Simon, Faith Smith, and Javier Urcid and to our UDRs, Jacob Lurie and Mollie Kravitz for all their hard work in keeping the LALS program vibrant and growing!

Theses and Doctoral Dissertations

Melanie J. Kingsley, PhD’14, Archaeology
"In the Wake of “Collapse”: Life at El Zotz, Guatemala in the Early Postclassic Period”

Ryan Nicoll, Undergraduate Thesis, Comparative Literature and Culture
"Underneath the Water: English Translation with Introduction of Fernando Zamora’s Por debajo del agua."

Donald A. Slater, PhD’14, Archaeology
"Into the Heart of the Turtle: Caves, Ritual and Power in Ancient Central Yucatan, Mexico”

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## LALS Courses 2013-2014

### Fall

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<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Instructor</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AAAS 123A</td>
<td>Third World Ideologies</td>
<td>Nyangoni</td>
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<tr>
<td>AAAS 126B</td>
<td>Political Economy of the Third World</td>
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<td>AMST 55A</td>
<td>Race, Ethnicity and Immigration in American Culture</td>
<td>Powers</td>
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<td>ANTH 131B</td>
<td>Latin America in Ethnographic Perspective</td>
<td>Lino e Silva</td>
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<td>ANTH 136A</td>
<td>Archaeology of Power: Authority, Prestige, and Inequality in the Past</td>
<td>Golden</td>
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<td>FA 178A</td>
<td>Frida Kahlo: Art, Life and Legacy</td>
<td>Ankori</td>
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<td>FREN 164A</td>
<td>Haiti, Then and Now</td>
<td>Hale</td>
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<td>Introduction to Hispanic Cultural Studies</td>
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<td>Introduction to Latin American Literature and Culture</td>
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<td>Contemporary Latin American Fiction</td>
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<td>HISP 193B</td>
<td>Topics in Cinema: Contemporary Mexican Cinema</td>
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<td>HIST 71A</td>
<td>Empire and Its Discontents: Latin America from Conquest to Independence</td>
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<td>IGS 170A</td>
<td>The Rise of Brazil</td>
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<td>POL 144A</td>
<td>Latin American Politics I</td>
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<td>ANTH 156A</td>
<td>Power and Violence: The Anthropology of Political Systems</td>
<td>Ferry</td>
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<tr>
<td>FA 77B</td>
<td>Twentieth-Century and Contemporary Latin American Art</td>
<td>Cole</td>
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<td>HISP 108A</td>
<td>Spanish for Heritage Speakers</td>
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<td>HISP 111B</td>
<td>Introduction to Latin American Literature and Culture</td>
<td>Reyes de Deu</td>
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<td>HISP 164B</td>
<td>Studies in Latin American Literature: Educating the Nation Literature, Education, and National Identity in Argentina</td>
<td>Reyes de Deu</td>
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<td>HIST 175A</td>
<td>Topics in Latin American History: Borderlands: Mexico and the U.S., 1848 to the Present</td>
<td>Fernández</td>
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<tr>
<td>IGS 165A</td>
<td>The Amazon Forest: Challenges, Opportunities, and Paradoxes</td>
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<td>POL 146B</td>
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<td>Hindley</td>
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Photo: Ryan Collins