The Argentine and Latin American Studies Program (PEAL) offers a boreal summer/austral winter five week term (June 24 - July 25) consisting of two upper division survey courses in Latin American Studies at the 300 level. Courses meet four times per week for 150 minutes each class, and take a total of 60 hours to complete. All students must take a written placement test online which will determine if they are eligible for this program. A minimum of ten students is required to open the program. Course syllabi are available online at http://www.ub.edu.ar/studies-abroad/studies-abroad.php

For students that require a Spanish Language course, Summer PEAL can be combined with our intensive four week language program (May 27 - June 21). This combination lasts nine weeks.

(PEAL 322S) Literatura argentina
This course will explore artistic movements that have challenged the very notion of culture in Argentina. First, it will study the construction of national identity through the dilemma between civilization or barbarism as formulated in 19th century canonic texts (Hernández, Echeverría, Alberdi, and Sarmiento). The literary avant garde of the 1920s (Girondo, Storni, Borges, Arlt) will be examined in relation not only to the city of Buenos Aires, but also to psychoanalysis and tango. It will look at the Peronist movement and analyze the myths of Eva Perón and Che Guevara in national discourse, also study the Argentine dictatorship and look into two infamous wars: the “Dirty war,” a term used to describe the forced disappearance of political opponents during the last military dictatorship and the “clean war” in the Southern Atlantic conflict (1982). Finally, through the figure of the scavenger, the course will focus on the 2001 crisis and analyze the implications for the notion of “the people”. To conclude, the course will briefly consider feminist literature today.

(PEAL 329S) Cultura y civilización en Latinoamérica
Since its discovery until the present, America has been imagined and conceived as the “New Continent”, a place for utopia, but also as a space of inequalities and extreme forms of violence. The course explores distinctive cultural aspects of Latin America by looking at the ways it has been represented in readings spanning from the diaries written by Christopher Columbus to the texts of the Cuban Revolution, the iconography of Peronism, or the recent debates on Neoliberalism, Globalization and Populism. Drawing on essays, but also on short-stories, paintings, photographs, murals and film, the course addresses a set of questions that lie at the heart of how we think about Latin America. The purpose of the course is threefold: to introduce students to problems central to Latin America, to familiarize students with a variety of non-fictional writings in Spanish, such as essay, chronicle, journalism and documentary films, and to sharpen student’s skills as analytical readers.

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