Center for Latin American Studies

The University of Florida’s Center for Latin American Studies (UFLAS) Outreach Program promotes the integration of the study of Latin America, its cultures and its languages across the K-16 curriculum. UFLAS also advances knowledge of Latin America and its cultures in the community at-large.

Outreach Program Priorities

Focus areas:

- Latin American Studies in the K-16 classroom
- Less Commonly Taught Languages (LCTL)
- Languages for Specific Purposes (LSP)
- Connections between education, industry, and the community

Priority audiences:

- K-16 educators and students
- Non-Profits
- Community
- Industry

UFLAS Program is a Title VI National Resource Center with funding from the U.S. Department of Education.
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K-16 Classroom Support

Through collaboration with UF Latin Americanists, UF alumni, Projects for Haiti, and professional teacher organizations, UFLAS has enhanced K-16 classrooms and teaching experiences in Florida and across the United States.

Virtual Guest Visits
UFLAS continues its Virtual Guest Visit program that offers teachers the opportunity to bring an expert into their classroom to provide context on topics surrounding Latin America. The program reached over 251 students during the 2016-2017 academic year.

Topics included:
- Human Rights and the Dirty War in Argentina
- Day of the Dead
- Afro-Cuban Music
- Latino Identities
- Coffee and Fair Trade in Central America
- Contemporary Challenges in Latin America

Traveling Suitcases
UFLAS ships suitcases of Latin American cultural artifacts for teachers to use as learning centers. Suitcase themes include, but are not limited to: Afro-Latin America, Latin American indigenous peoples, as well as travel, economy, and education in Latin America. UFLAS shipped out 31 suitcases throughout the year to 25 patrons in 13 different states.

Lending Library
UFLAS continues to partner with Tulane University to offer over 3,000 educational materials about Latin American topics. These materials were used across the United States.

Traveling Suitcase Destinations (2016/17)
K-16 Professional Development

UFLAS reached over 865 educators through professional development opportunities both virtually and at conferences across the country to empower and inspire educators to integrate LAS content and innovative pedagogies.

Webinars

UFLAS continued to offer Webinars on LAS and career-related topics this year:
- Afro Latino/Afro Francophone Cultural Heritage
- Exploring Latin America Through Digital Gaming

Workshops

UFLAS sponsored two post-secondary workshops reaching 93 educators.
- Globalizing the Curriculum: Brazil Today (Clayton State University; Consortium of Colleges in Georgia)
- Launching Languages into the Future (Eastern Florida State College)

Summer Teacher Institute

In June 2017, UFLAS organized the Global Teacher Leader Institute in Costa Rica in collaboration with Holbrook travel. It introduced global competencies to help educators integrate global themes into their curriculum. The 11 participants learned about comparative education, identity and belonging, and sustainable development.
Since 2009, NOBLE has supported K-16 educators and graduate students around the world to disseminate their work and to develop Languages for Specific Purposes (LSP) curriculum. NOBLE helps integrate the study of world languages and cultures across disciplines, in higher education professional schools, career academies, and K-12 classrooms.

Sample NOBLE Activities:

K-12 Teacher Support:
- Katrina Beeck, Muskego High School, WI presented “Spanish for the Community & the Workplace” at the annual American Association for Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese (AATSP) conference.
- Michelle Josey attended the Spanish for Medical Professionals program at the Pop-Wuj Clinic in Guatemala.

UFLAS half-day workshop:
- “Preparing Leaders for the Global Workplace through Language and Culture Skills” was presented at the 2017 Southern Conference on Language and Teaching (SCOLT) where teachers learned about skills and knowledge necessary for students from businesses in the community.

Journal Publications:

Monthly LSP Newsletter:
- Featured news, resources, and upcoming events
- Sent to 200+ educators
Language, Culture, and Careers

Brazilian Music High School Workshops

In January of 2017, UF professors Welson Tremura, Larry Cook, and visiting professor Ulisses Rocha led workshops at South Broward and Miami Beach High Schools to teach students about Brazilian music and culture.

Bethune-Cookman University Curriculum Development

UFLAS worked with Bethune faculty members to develop an LAS module in a “Women in Politics” course. The module featured a virtual guest visit from a faculty member at the University of Cologne Global South Center.

UFLAS Annual Conference

UFLAS sponsored faculty members from Florida A&M and the University of Puerto Rico to attend the 2017 annual conference on Cuba and the United States in the 21st Century.

Social Media & Web Impact

The NOBLE Webpage:
- Over 5,000 page views in 2016/17 with 2,169 users

The NOBLE LinkedIn Group:
- 445 members reached in 2016/17
- Links LSP educators globally

The NOBLE YouTube Channel:
- 27,822 views since 2011
- Includes advocacy videos & archived webinars

The NOBLE Facebook Page:
- Grew from 503 to 624 “Likes” in 2016/17, a 24% increase from the previous year

18th Latin American Business Environment (LABE) Report

The LABE annual report is an appraisal of the economic, social, political, and legal developments that have shaped the Latin American business climate in the past year.
Portuguese and Haitian Creole

In 2016-2017, UFLAS continued to promote the study of the Portuguese language, Lusophone cultures, and Haitian Creole.

**Portuguese Language Journal (PLJ)**

The PLJ was founded in 2006 to promote and improve the teaching of Portuguese as a second language. In 2016, PLJ commemorated its 10 year anniversary by publishing a 2 volume print collection of Issues 1 through 9, which had previously only been available online. Furthermore, as of Fall 2016, PLJ has partnered with the American Organization of Teachers of Portuguese (AOTP) to become their official academic publication!

**Notícias Newsletter**

UFLAS prepares and distributes a monthly newsletter featuring Portuguese news for educators.

**AOTP Awards the Center**

In 2017, UFLAS received the Outstanding Achievement Award for Promotion of the Portuguese language.

**AATSP Portuguese Representation**

In 2016-2017, Outreach Director Dr. Mary Risner completed her third and final year serving as the Portuguese representative on the executive board of the American Association for Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese (AATSP).

**Instructor Handbook**

In Spring 2017, the publication of *A Handbook for Portuguese Instructors in the U.S.*, edited by Margo Milleret and Dr. Mary Risner, was released.

**Haitian Creole**

Course offerings in Haitian Creole for Fall 2016 and Spring 2017 totaled 8 and enrolled 132 graduate and undergraduate students.
Arts and Culture in Florida

UFLAS plans and promotes community cultural events in Gainesville and around Florida.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Select Cultural Events in Florida</th>
<th>Number of Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Latin Music Concerts</td>
<td>1,279</td>
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<tr>
<td>Museum Nights at the Harn Museum of Art</td>
<td>463</td>
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<tr>
<td>Latino Film Festival and related events</td>
<td>2,356</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jacaré Brazil &amp; Jacaré Choro</td>
<td>2,800</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brazilian Music Institute</td>
<td>2,933</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>9,831</strong></td>
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2016 Latino Film Festival screening

Museum Nights at the Harn Museum of Art: *Noche de Museo*

UF School of Music /LAS faculty Brazilian music performance
Collaborators & Affiliations

At the University of Florida:

International Center
College of Education
Spanish and Portuguese Studies
School of MUSIC

Beyond the University of Florida:

National Business Education Association
Florida Foreign Language Association
Peace Through People
Global Citizenship
The American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese
Projects for Haiti
Latin Women's League
Scolt
Mary Risner, Ed.D.  Associate Director of Outreach and Business at CLAS. Dr. Risner develops and manages initiatives that integrate the study of foreign language and area studies across the curriculum. She has over 20 years of experience teaching foreign language at a variety of K-16 levels. Her background is in Marketing, Latin American Studies, and Educational Technology.

Kerry White, Graduate Assistant (2015-17), M.A. in Latin American Studies, specializing in gender studies and Cuba. Kerry managed CLAS’s Traveling Suitcase program, launched the Virtual Guest Visit Program, contributed to the redesign of the Outreach website, and helped transition the PLJ to print for its 10th anniversary edition.

Matthew Levin, Graduate Assistant (2016-18), M.A. in Latin American Studies, specializing in immigration and interpersonal communication. Matthew maintained and updated Outreach social media sites and multiple newsletters, and organized and designed promotional works. He also collaborated on the project of updating the Outreach website and traveling suitcase program.