

**LEHMAN COLLEGE  
OF THE  
CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK**

**DEPARTMENT OF LATIN AMERICAN AND PUERTO RICAN STUDIES**

**CURRICULUM CHANGE**

1. **Type of change:** New course
  
2. **Course Description:** **LAC (PRS) 349: Latino Political Economy.** 3 hours, 3 credits. The role of Hispanics/Latinos in the U.S. political economy. Emphasis on experiences and challenges involving jobs, income, poverty, wealth, and business administration. Attention to the economic status of the Hispanic/Latino population compared to other ethnic populations; the nature, variety, and relations among various Latino groups; the role of political economy in contemporary public-policy debates; and economic prospects for Hispanics/Latinos.
  
3. **Rationale:** This course will expand offerings to Lehman students interested in alternative approaches to key economic issues affecting Latinos today. It will strengthen the Department's offerings in this branch of the social sciences, while addressing the need for more courses in political economy. Finally, it offers a versatile format for the Puerto Rican Studies and Latin American and Caribbean Studies majors, as well as for the three minor programs in Puerto Rican Studies, Latin American and Caribbean Studies, and the interdisciplinary minor in Mexican Studies.
  
4. **Learning Objectives:**
  - Implement quantitative methods and quantitative reasoning in interpreting principal Latino socio-economic trends.
  - Articulate differences between conventional versus political-economy approaches in accounting for inequities in labor-market earnings and other income variables.
  - Demonstrate through research and other assignments how the perspective of political economy can be employed to assess both the general Latino condition and the conditions of various Latino nationality-groups.
  - Articulate the methodology and empirical requirements for demonstrating the existence of discrimination (by race, gender, and/or ethnicity) in the labor economy.
  - Demonstrate a working knowledge of how political economy informs the Latino policy discourse in the following areas: immigration, workforce development, poverty, economic recession, and urban development.
  
5. **Date of Departmental Approval:** March 2, 2011