

COLORADO COLLEGE - OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR

APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION TO THE MAJOR IN LIBERAL ARTS & SCIENCES

I wish to major in Liberal Arts & Sciences. I understand that my courses of study within this major must be supported and approved by two faculty sponsors from two different departments, one of whom is my principal sponsor and academic adviser. Both faculty sponsors must evaluate the project or thesis. However, the Principal Sponsor/Adviser works closely with the student in conceptualizing and completing the thesis and turns in the final grade. The Associate Sponsor acts as a reader of the final draft of the thesis and recommends a final grade to the Principal Sponsor. The approval of the Dean's Advisory Committee is necessary for final acceptance of my plan of study within the major. In addition, I understand that, to make changes in the approved plan, I must have the agreement of each faculty sponsor. The Principal Sponsor should send a letter in support of the proposed changes to the Associate Dean of the College and the Registrar.

(Please submit 7 copies of this application and your Liberal Arts & Sciences proposal to the Dean's Advisory Committee no later than the second semester of your sophomore year. The Advisory Committee will not consider your application until the completed proposal - including faculty recommendations - has been received.)

Name (Please Print) [redacted] ID Number [redacted]
Worner Box [redacted] Phone [redacted] Student Signature [signature]
Current number of units earned [redacted] Expected graduation date 12/06
Address [redacted] Street [redacted] City San Francisco State CA Zip [redacted]

Principal Sponsor/Adviser Juan Lindau Dept Political Science
Associate Sponsor Eric Popkin Dept Sociology

Description of the field of concentration (TITLE) Latin American Development

This form must be signed by two faculty members from different departments who are full-time or adjunct faculty members who will be here (to the best of their knowledge) while the student is completing the major. Sponsors should also forward their letter of recommendation once they have signed this form. Return to the Office of the Associate Dean of the College, along with a description of the major and the required courses (including a description of the thesis topic). The Associate Dean will notify both student and sponsors of acceptance or rejection of the proposal, and the outline of the proposed major will be approved by both sponsors and sent to the Registrar. (Any change of adviser must be approved by the Dean's Advisory Committee, upon submission of a letter from the adviser.)

Principal Faculty Sponsor [signature]
Associate Faculty Sponsor [signature]

To the Sponsors: your signature indicates approval of the proposed major. Please comment on this proposal in a brief letter to the Advisory Committee under separate cover. Please indicate your familiarity with the student's past academic performance and comment on his/her ability to carry out a program which requires an unusual amount of independence and responsibility. The Principal Faculty Sponsor/Adviser agrees to work closely with the student in composing the major, conceptualizing and completing the thesis and advising the student.
approved

**LIST OF REQUIRED COURSES FOR PROPOSED LIBERAL ARTS & SCIENCES MAJOR**  
(Note: only between 9 and 14 units can be counted for the major and only two courses at the 100 level may be required in the major. All other courses must be above the 100 level.)

**Required courses already taken:** with statement as to how courses relate to major.

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**Required courses to be taken:** with statement as to how courses relate to major.

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see proposal

**Courses completed which are complimentary to the proposed major but not required:**

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(Be sure to list General Studies GS 400-401 if you plan to get units of credit for your thesis.)

Total number of units to be counted toward the major: 14

**Other Requirements:** The student should explain why the proposed goals of the major cannot be achieved through a departmental major or through outside courses taken in addition to the requirement of a departmental major. In addition, the application should be accompanied by a typewritten description of the concentration (major) proposed, that is, a rationale demonstrating the cohesiveness of the proposed program of courses, a listing of the courses completed and to be completed, and a narrative statement for each course indicating how each required course relates to the proposed major as described. Please indicate the content of your proposed thesis including a discussion of objectives and methods.

Associate Dean of the College Victor Nelson-Cisneros Signature 3/10/06 Date

Please sign below if you give the Committee permission to share your name with other student's pursuing a Liberal Arts and Sciences major. The Committee would like to encourage more networking and support among students electing this option for the major.

[Signature] Signature 3/2/06 Date

**NOTE:** This completed application must be in the Associate Dean of the College's office by 5:00 p.m., the second Friday of the block in order to be considered at that block's meeting. The Dean's Advisory Committee meets the 3rd Thursday of each block.

March 2, 2006

*Latin American Development*  
*Principle Advisor: Juan Lindau, Political Science*  
*Associate Advisor: Eric Popkin, Sociology*

*Why not a departmental major?*

I am proposing to create a Liberal Arts and Sciences major, rather than complete a departmental major. The major, entitled Latin American Development, would act to fuse my interests, passions and skills into a coherent field of study that I feel better embodies my Colorado College experience than a standard departmental major.

Looking at my transcript thus far, a Political Science major would seem like the logical conclusion. However, while I have taken numerous PS courses, I feel that the required courses wouldn't adequately prepare me for the future I envision. The PS major alone lacks the economic and sociological approaches necessary for my thesis research, wherein I propose to utilize politics, economics and sociology approaches in the study of remitted moneys on traditional communities in southern Mexico. The International Political Economy major comes the closest to mirroring my focus, yet fulfilling these requirements would not allow me to take the methodology courses I'd ideally apply to my studies. Similarly, the absence of a thesis in the IPE major is less attractive to me than the idea of a culminating, cohesive research project, while the requirements for the major would be unachievable in the year that I have left. Because I was a Winter Start in 2003, I am scheduled to graduate in December, 2006. As such, I have solely eight blocks remaining, with outstanding N, L, and AP-A credits to fulfill. The major I am proposing then, not only allows me to graduate on time, but to conjoin my varying interests into one, holistic field of study that should yield a more encompassing academic experience.

The schedule is one of both rigor and diversity, as I will have taken a methodology course, to facilitate my research, in conjunction with three economics units, and high-level Sociology and Political Science courses. Additionally, I am including a complementary Spanish minor. Having taken two 300-level courses (receiving A's in both), and having spent a combined two years abroad in Spanish speaking countries, I feel that my proven aptitude should further enable a successful research project. The courses and experiences should act to maintain the proficiency necessary to carry out my thesis research, while exploring my major's ideas through a differing ethno-linguistic perspective.

*The Major:*

The major is the confluence of the ideas of growth and change explored via the varying languages of economics, sociology, and political science. The commonalities in this course selection proffer an insight into the world of growth, globalization and development, framed by questions regarding debt, aid, trade, health, modernity, culture, policy and history, to name a few factors. Among these many variants and interests inherent in such a wide selection of possible foci, immigration, in terms of knowledge and understanding, surfaces as the logical vantage point from which I propose to my thesis.

*The Thesis:*

In the past couple of years, I have found myself becoming increasingly absorbed in the study of immigration. The borders with which I used to separate academics from my extracurricular life have blurred: I can now approach immigration news with a passion previously reserved for baseball box scores and concert listings. Why it's become such an influential part of my life is largely due to Eric Popkin's sociology course *SO 247: Globalization and Immigration in the U.S. Southwest*, and was furthered catalyzed by the portions of the past two summers I spent working in the desert with a migrant aid group called No More Deaths. This time has led to an experiential education-based understanding of undocumented immigration that has left me pining for more. The personalized perspective I gained, through the people I've met and the stories they've told, has been one of the most formative experiences of my life.

Thus, I am electing to create a major that focuses on the examination of globalization and development in Latin America, and to research and write a thesis based upon the two's connections to immigration.

I'd like to study immigration's economic, social and political impacts upon a small, sending, rural community in southern Mexico. Specifically, what are the effects of remittance moneys on both the sending and receiving communities? How have these moneys changed the lives involved? Why has this process created such effective, grassroots growth where most policies have failed? How has this convergence of tradition and modern, urban and rural, local and international, taken form in the community? In an overarching way, I will be exploring the ways in which remitted money has facilitated economic development where the state has largely failed.

Beyond the major and thesis, upon graduation from Colorado College I see myself living internationally, most likely in a Spanish-speaking region, working within the terms of globalization and development. As such, I'm looking to take the necessary, applicable classes from the varying departments, and thus craft a tailored major of interdisciplinary synergy, based on breadth, depth and cohesion.

*Courses constituting proposed major:*

Economics (3 units)

*Principles of Economics (EC 150-2 units):* This introductory course explored the structure and function of the market on both a micro and macro scale, including varying theories of economic growth and governmental policy. The practical application of economics will facilitate my understanding of measurements of change and growth in the selected community.

*Economic Development (EC 337):* This elective was an examination of the differing developmental tactics of the Third World. Applying both the theoretical mathematics of *EC 150* and a spectrum of sociological and political issues, the course delved into definitional questions of development, growth, growth indicators and standard of living; various solutions were also explored. We asked and answered why policies fail and succeed in the third world, specifically Latin America.

Political Science (4 units)

*Democracy and Markets (PS 306):* In this course, we progressed from the rudimentary creations of democracies and markets to their applications today, while exploring the resulting interconnections and idiosyncrasies of their union. The course will aid in my understanding of governmental setups and strategies, on both the federal and local levels.

*Conduct of American Foreign Policy (PS 325):* The course studied the history of this country's perception of and activities in the international arena, oftentimes Latin America.

*Latin America I (PS 335):* Latin America I was a historical survey of the political institutions and populaces of the continent, exploring questions of change, power and growth beginning with the conquest and concluding with the present.

*Inter-American Relations (PS 342):* This survey of twentieth century politics in the Americas investigated the political and economic implications of debt, trade, integration, conflict, parallel markets, migration and an array of environmental issues in Latin America.

Sociology (3 units)

*Sociology of Developing Countries (SO 247):* This class was an overview of a number of pro- and anti-globalization perspectives, while examining such developmental issues as urbanization, modernization and industrialization, and their effects upon both subaltern communities and the nation-states as wholes.

*Globalization and Immigration in the US Southwest (SO 257):* This hands-on course based upon the ideals of experiential education included a ten-day delegation through the borderlands of southern Arizona and northern Mexico. Specifically, the class looked at root causes and the overall effects of immigration upon the cultures and economies of both the sending and receiving states.

*Immigration Policy and Grassroots Movements on the U.S./Mexico border (SO 343):* This independent study involved research and data collection regarding the economic implications of illegal immigration, as well as the writing of grant proposals to enable myself and nine other students to spend the summer volunteering with the grassroots organization *No More Deaths* in southern Arizona.

### Methods (1 unit)

*Theory and Practice of Community-Based Research (SW 200)*: An application of methodology in the framework of present issues in the Southwest.

### History:

*History of Brazil*: In order to grasp a better understanding of the region's history, I feel it necessary to take a course in this department. While it is impossible to take an overview of the whole continent, Peter Blasenheim will be teaching this particular class next year.

### Thesis blocks (2 units)

*First block, 2006*: During the month of September, I will study the impacts of remitted moneys on the Mexican state of Oaxaca, hopefully with the aid of a school-sponsored grant. Associate advisors Eric Popkin Roberto Irizarry, both of whom I know well, will be in Oaxaca and have offered to assist me with my research.

*Second Block, 2006*: I will spend this block writing my thesis back at CC, with the aid of principle advisor Juan Lindau, who will have the block free.

### Complementary courses:

#### Spanish

*Cultural Contexts and Written Expression (SP 305)*: "Advanced composition and conversation practice through the study of literary and cultural texts of the Spanish-speaking world."

*Latino Literature in the U.S. (SP 338)*: This upper-level Spanish course coupled an overview of two centuries of Latino writers exploring their conditions of identity and community with a study of basic social theory and relevant politics and history.

\*This leaves me one credit short of completing the minor, thus I'll be taking a Spanish course fourth block, 2006.

### Abroad

At the Universidad de Belgrano, in Buenos Aires, I took Argentine & Latin American Literature II - 20th Century, Argentina, Latin America, & Economic Globalization, and Integration of Latin America into the Global Economy. This complementary experience added an interesting Argentine perspective to my studies. Similarly, my extensive travel experience should prove valuable. After having been through nine Latin American countries on five trips, I've developed a keen sense of the independence and resourcefulness necessary to carry out the proposed research.