

Spanish, BA

The goal of the major is twofold: to study content areas related to the Spanish language, such as literature, culture, and linguistics; and to develop proficiency in the Spanish language in all four skills—speaking, listening, reading, and writing.

Learning Outcomes

By graduation, Spanish majors will have the following.

Proficiency

Increased Spanish language proficiency in speaking, writing, listening, and reading.

Analytical Skills

Acquired the skills to engage critically with one or more of the following areas.

- Spanish, Spanish American, and U.S. Latino literatures and cultures
- Hispanic linguistics
- Creative and/or journalistic writing
- Spanish for the professions (e.g., health and business)
- Translation

Intercultural Knowledge

Gained intercultural knowledge of the diversity of the Hispanic and Lusophone world (Spain/Portugal, Latin America, and the United States) and its cultural, artistic, and linguistic history.

Advising

First-year students are initially advised by the Academic Advising Center. Second-year students are advised by the Spanish and Portuguese academic advisor. Third- and fourth-year students are advised by a faculty advisor and professional academic advisor who guides students regarding academic or career-focused experiences and opportunities.

Requirements

The Bachelor of Arts with a major in Spanish requires a minimum of 120 s.h., including at least 30–34 s.h. of work for the major. Students must maintain a grade-point average (GPA) of at least 2.00 in all courses for the major and in all UI courses for the major. A maximum of 15 s.h. of approved transfer credit may be counted toward the major. Students must also complete the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences GE CLAS Core.

All required and elective courses taken for the Spanish major must be numbered 2000 or above. A minimum of 12 s.h. for the major must be numbered 3000–3999. At least 6 s.h. for the major must be numbered 4000–4999. All courses at the 4000–4999 level must be taken at the University of Iowa in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese; no transfer credit or study abroad courses are accepted.

Students may apply up to 6 s.h. total of approved coursework taught in English or Portuguese toward the major. This includes coursework taught in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese or in another department, as approved by their advisor. All other courses for the major must be taught in Spanish. Acceptable courses taught in English are listed in the section "Spanish Courses Taught in English."

In planning coursework, students should be guided by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences maximum hours rule: students earning a BA may apply a maximum of 56 s.h. earned in one department to the minimum 120 s.h. required for graduation, whether or not the coursework is accepted toward requirements for the major; students who earn more than 56 s.h. from one department may use the additional semester hours to satisfy requirements for the major (if the department accepts them), and the grades they earn become part of their grade-point average, but they cannot apply the additional semester hours to the minimum 120 s.h. required for graduation.

The BA with a major in Spanish requires the following coursework.

Requirements	Hours
Foundation Course	0-4
Required Core	12
Electives	18
Optional Concentration	

Foundation Course

Spanish majors must complete SPAN:1502 Intermediate Spanish II or the equivalent.

This requirement may be fulfilled through high school language study, transfer credit, or placement examination, or by completing one of the following courses.

Course #	Title	Hours
SPAN:1502	Intermediate Spanish II	4
SPAN:1503	Accelerated Intermediate Spanish (up to 4 s.h. may be applied to the major)	6
SPAN:1505	Intermediate Spanish for Heritage Speakers (up to 4 s.h. may be applied to the major)	5

Required Core

Students must complete one course in Hispanic linguistics, two courses in Hispanic cultures, and one course in writing.

Hispanic Linguistics

Course #	Title	Hours
At least 3 s.h. from these:		
SPAN:3099	Spanish Linguistics Lab I	1
SPAN:3100	Structures of Spanish: Words and Sentences	3
SPAN:3105	Linguistic Aspects of the Lusophone World	3-4
SPAN:3110	Spanish Sound Structure	3
SPAN:3120	Foundations in Sociolinguistics	3
SPAN:3130	Introduction to Bilingualism	3
SPAN:3151	Spanish Applied Linguistics	3
SPAN:4100	Introduction to Spanish Phonology	3
SPAN:4150	Introduction to Spanish Syntax	3
SPAN:4170	Second Language Acquisition	3

SPAN:4190	Topics in Hispanic Linguistics	3
SPAN:4195	Spanish Linguistics Lab II	3
SPAN:4205	Culture, Language, and Health	3

Hispanic Cultures

Course #	Title	Hours
At least 6 s.h. from these:		
SPAN:2200	Introduction to Spanish American Cultures	3
SPAN:2300	Spanish Language Skills: Reading	4
SPAN:2400	Readings in Spanish Literature	3
SPAN:2500	Readings in Spanish American Literature	3
SPAN:2800	Screening Latin America	3
SPAN:2900	Music of the Hispanic World	3
SPAN:2901	Diversity and Cultures in Spain	3
SPAN:3205	Spanish Health Narratives	3
SPAN:3215	Medellin	3
SPAN:3225	Latin American Women Writers	3
SPAN:3230	Modern Mexico	3
SPAN:3240	Mexico City	3
SPAN:3250	Buenos Aires	3
SPAN:3290	Topics in Cinema and Society	3
SPAN:3310	Spanish American Short Story	3
SPAN:3320	Spanish American Poetry	3
SPAN:3350	Contemporary Spanish American Literature	3
SPAN:3370	Topics in Literatures and Cultures	3
SPAN:3500	Topics in Culture of the Hispanic World	3
SPAN:3520	Introduction to Film Studies	3
SPAN:3600	Cultures of Spain	3
SPAN:3610	Hispanic Institute: Culture	3
SPAN:3620	Madrid	3
SPAN:3630	Spanish Youth Culture	3
SPAN:3650	Fitness Culture in Spain	3
SPAN:3750	Literature in the Time of Cervantes	3
SPAN:3790	Hispanic Institute: Literature	3
SPAN:3820	Modern and Contemporary Spanish Literature	3
SPAN:3840	Contemporary Spanish Short Story	3
SPAN:4330	Colonial Spanish American Literature	3
SPAN:4390	Topics in Spanish American Literature	3
SPAN:4650	Don Quijote	3
SPAN:4690	Topics in Spanish Literature	3
SPAN:4805	Chicano Cinema	3
SPAN:4850	Topics in Cultural Studies	3

SPAN:4900	Latin American Studies Seminar	3-4
-----------	--------------------------------	-----

Writing

Course #	Title	Hours
At least 3 s.h. from these:		
SPAN:2000	Spanish Language Skills: Writing	4
SPAN:2005	Writing Global Spanish	3
SPAN:3000	Cultural Narratives for Heritage Speakers	3
SPAN:3010	Advanced Spanish Speaking and Writing	3
SPAN:3020	Journalistic Writing in Spanish	3
SPAN:3060	Introductory Workshop on Creative Writing in Spanish	3
SPAN:4950	Advanced Workshop on Creative Writing in Spanish	3

Electives

Students complete six elective courses in Spanish (prefix SPAN) numbered 2000 and above for a total of 18 s.h. Electives may include coursework in Spanish language skills as well as more advanced language courses that focus on specialized language functions and purposes. Related courses must be approved by the director of undergraduate studies.

A maximum of 3 s.h. earned in PORT:2500 Accelerated Intermediate Portuguese may be counted toward the major. PORT:2000 Accelerated Elementary Portuguese does not count toward the major and may not be used as elective credit.

Some Advanced Placement Program (AP) credit is considered to be equivalent to a Spanish course at the 2000 level. Students may count 3 s.h. from AP Spanish Language and Culture and/or AP Spanish Literature and Culture exams with a score of 4 or higher as elective credit.

Spanish Courses Taught in English

A maximum of 6 s.h. from courses taught in English may be applied to the major.

Course #	Title	Hours
SPAN:2050	Spanish in the United States	3
SPAN:2700	Introduction to Latin American Studies	3
SPAN:2850	Brazilian Narrative in Translation	3
SPAN:2901	Diversity and Cultures in Spain	3
SPAN:2905	Ecotourism and Culture in Costa Rica	3
SPAN:3105	Linguistic Aspects of the Lusophone World	3-4
SPAN:4805	Chicano Cinema	3
SPAN:4900	Latin American Studies Seminar	3
SPAN:4925	Topics in Film Narrative	3

Optional Concentrations

Students have the option to complete a 12-13 s.h. concentration. They choose four Spanish courses approved in one of the three concentrations: linguistics, cultures, or professional communication. These courses may be electives or they may fulfill requirements for the major.

Linguistics

Course #	Title	Hours
At least 12 s.h. from these:		
SPAN:3100	Structures of Spanish: Words and Sentences	3
SPAN:3105	Linguistic Aspects of the Lusophone World	3-4
SPAN:3110	Spanish Sound Structure	3
SPAN:3120	Foundations in Sociolinguistics	3
SPAN:3130	Introduction to Bilingualism	3
SPAN:3151	Spanish Applied Linguistics	3
SPAN:4100	Introduction to Spanish Phonology	3
SPAN:4150	Introduction to Spanish Syntax	3
SPAN:4170	Second Language Acquisition	3
SPAN:4190	Topics in Hispanic Linguistics	3
SPAN:4195	Spanish Linguistics Lab II	3
SPAN:4205	Culture, Language, and Health	3

Cultures

Course #	Title	Hours
At least 12 s.h. from these:		
SPAN:2200	Introduction to Spanish American Cultures	3
SPAN:2300	Spanish Language Skills: Reading	4
SPAN:2400	Readings in Spanish Literature	3
SPAN:2500	Readings in Spanish American Literature	3
SPAN:2800	Screening Latin America	3
SPAN:2850	Brazilian Narrative in Translation	3
SPAN:2900	Music of the Hispanic World	3
SPAN:2901	Diversity and Cultures in Spain	3
SPAN:3205	Spanish Health Narratives	3
SPAN:3215	Medellin	3
SPAN:3225	Latin American Women Writers	3
SPAN:3230	Modern Mexico	3
SPAN:3240	Mexico City	3
SPAN:3250	Buenos Aires	3
SPAN:3290	Topics in Cinema and Society	3
SPAN:3310	Spanish American Short Story	3
SPAN:3320	Spanish American Poetry	3

SPAN:3350	Contemporary Spanish American Literature	3
SPAN:3370	Topics in Literatures and Cultures	3
SPAN:3500	Topics in Culture of the Hispanic World	3
SPAN:3520	Introduction to Film Studies	3
SPAN:3600	Cultures of Spain	3
SPAN:3610	Hispanic Institute: Culture	3
SPAN:3620	Madrid	3
SPAN:3630	Spanish Youth Culture	3
SPAN:3650	Fitness Culture in Spain	3
SPAN:3750	Literature in the Time of Cervantes	3
SPAN:3790	Hispanic Institute: Literature	3
SPAN:3820	Modern and Contemporary Spanish Literature	3
SPAN:3840	Contemporary Spanish Short Story	3
SPAN:4330	Colonial Spanish American Literature	3
SPAN:4390	Topics in Spanish American Literature	3
SPAN:4650	Don Quijote	3
SPAN:4690	Topics in Spanish Literature	3
SPAN:4805	Chicano Cinema	3
SPAN:4850	Topics in Cultural Studies	3
SPAN:4900	Latin American Studies Seminar	3-4

Professional Communication

Course #	Title	Hours
At least 12 s.h. from these:		
SPAN:2000	Spanish Language Skills: Writing	4
SPAN:2010	Spanish Language Skills: Speaking	3
SPAN:2040	Spanish for Heritage Speakers	3
SPAN:2080	Business Spanish	4
SPAN:2090	Medical Spanish in Contemporary Society	4
SPAN:3000	Cultural Narratives for Heritage Speakers	3
SPAN:3010	Advanced Spanish Speaking and Writing	3
SPAN:3020	Journalistic Writing in Spanish	3
SPAN:3030	Translation Workshop: English to Spanish	3
SPAN:3050	Translation Workshop: Spanish to English	3
SPAN:3060	Introductory Workshop on Creative Writing in Spanish	3
SPAN:3080	Spanish for International Business	3
SPAN:3092	Spanish in the Community	3
SPAN:3903	Introduction to Medical Spanish-English Interpretation	1,3

SPAN:4950 Advanced Workshop on Creative Writing in Spanish

3

Study Abroad

The department participates in study abroad programs in Spain, Portugal, and Latin America; most of these programs offer both summer and semester or yearlong programs. The programs in Spain include the Board of Regents Hispanic Institute program in Valladolid (summer only); Cultures of Spain (Madrid, summer only), University Studies Abroad Consortium (USAC) programs in Alicante, Bilbao, Madrid, and San Sebastián; and Council on International Educational Exchange (CIEE) programs in Alcalá de Henares, Alicante, Barcelona, Madrid, and Seville. The programs in Portugal include the CIEE program in Lisbon.

The programs in Latin America include Eco-tourism and Culture in Costa Rica (winter only); USAC programs in Chile (Santiago), Uruguay (Montevideo), and Costa Rica (Heredia); CIEE programs in Argentina (Buenos Aires), Chile (Santiago), and Dominican Republic (Santiago). For information about other international study programs in Spanish, contact International Programs Study Abroad.

Participation in a number of different programs allows the department to offer study abroad opportunities that take into account a variety of student interests and needs. Credit earned in these or other study abroad programs may be applied toward the requirements for the Spanish major. The amount of credit that may be accepted varies according to the program.

Interested students should contact the department's study abroad advisor. Credit earned in study abroad programs other than those listed counts as transfer credit and is subject to the 15 s.h. maximum allowed for the major.

Teacher Licensure

Students interested in teaching in elementary and/or secondary schools should seek admission to the Teacher Education Program (TEP) in the College of Education.

To qualify for licensure in secondary teaching, students in the TEP complete a degree in education as well as a related College of Liberal Arts and Sciences degree. See Apply on the College of Education website for details on requirements and deadlines for applying to the College of Education and about TEP choices of majors leading to licensure.

Honors

Honors in the Major

Students have the opportunity to graduate with honors in the major. Advanced undergraduate students preparing to earn honors may enroll in graduate courses with the permission of their advisor, the instructor, and the department chair. Ordinarily, permission is granted only to students who have completed a minimum of 30 s.h. of work for the major and whose GPA in the major is 3.75 or higher.

Students must have a cumulative University of Iowa grade-point average (GPA) of at least 3.33 and a GPA of at least 3.50 in the major in order to enter the honors program and are required to maintain the same grade-point average requirements to earn honors in the major.

Students must request honors designation for one course they take for the major (3 s.h.), in consultation with the

department honors advisor. They must also register for 3 s.h. in SPAN:4998 Honors: Research and Thesis. The honors course must be completed before the semester when students register for SPAN:4998. To complete SPAN:4998 successfully, students must submit an honors thesis they have written in Spanish and must present it orally to a faculty committee in a meeting conducted in Spanish.

University of Iowa Honors Program

In addition to honors in the major, students have opportunities for honors study and activities through membership in the University of Iowa Honors Program. Visit Honors at Iowa to learn about the university's honors program.

Membership in the UI Honors Program is not required to earn honors in the Spanish major.

Career Advancement

Spanish majors combine their Spanish studies with other areas to prepare for career opportunities in international business, government, travel, health, journalism, law, or communication, where knowledge of another language and other cultures is essential. They may also go on to graduate study in areas such as Spanish and Spanish American literature, Hispanic or Spanish linguistics, cultural studies, film studies, translation, or comparative literature.

The Pomerantz Career Center offers multiple resources to help students find internships and jobs.

Academic Plans

Four-Year Graduation Plan

The following checkpoints list the minimum requirements students must complete by certain semesters in order to stay on the university's Four-Year Graduation Plan. Courses in the major are those required to complete the major; they may be offered by departments other than the major department.

Before the third semester begins: SPAN:1501 Intermediate Spanish I (or equivalent second-year, first-semester competence in Spanish).

Before the fifth semester begins: two courses in Spanish beyond SPAN:1502 Intermediate Spanish II (or equivalent second-year, second-semester competence).

Before the seventh semester begins: four more courses in the major and at least 90 s.h. earned toward the degree.

Before the eighth semester begins: nine courses in the major.

During the eighth semester: enrollment in all remaining coursework in the major, all remaining GE CLAS Core courses, and a sufficient number of semester hours to graduate.

Sample Plan of Study

Sample plans represent one way to complete a program of study. Actual course selection and sequence will vary and should be discussed with an academic advisor. For additional sample plans, see MyUI.

Spanish, BA

Course	Title	Hours
Academic Career		
Any Semester		

GE CLAS Core: Sustainability ^a		
Hours		0

First Year

Fall

SPAN:1001	Elementary Spanish I ^{b, c}	4
ENGL:1200 or RHET:1030	Interpreting Literature or Rhetoric: Writing and Communication	3 - 4
GE CLAS Core: Values and Society ^d		3
Elective course ^e		3
CSI:1600	Success at Iowa	1

Hours 14-15

Spring

SPAN:1002	Elementary Spanish II ^{b, c}	4
SPAN:2050	Spanish in the United States ^{f, g, h}	3
RHET:1030 or ENGL:1200	Rhetoric: Writing and Communication or Interpreting Literature	3 - 4
GE CLAS Core: Historical Perspectives ^d		3
Elective course ^e		3

Hours 16-17

Second Year

Fall

SPAN:1501	Intermediate Spanish I ^{b, c}	4
GE CLAS Core: Literary, Visual, and Performing Arts ^d		3
GE CLAS Core: Quantitative or Formal Reasoning ^d		3
Elective course ^e		3
Elective course ^e		1
Elective course ^e		1

Hours 15

Spring

SPAN:1502	Intermediate Spanish II ^c	4
GE CLAS Core: International and Global Issues ^d		3
GE CLAS Core: Natural Sciences with Lab ^d		4
Elective course ^e		3
Elective course ^e		1

Hours 15

Third Year

Fall

Major: Spanish writing core course ^{f, i}		3
Major: Spanish elective course ^{f, g}		3
GE CLAS Core: Natural Sciences without Lab ^d		3
Elective course ^e		3
Elective course ^e		3

Hours 15

Spring

Major: Hispanic cultures core course ^{f, i}		3
Major: Hispanic linguistics core course ^{f, i}		3
Elective course ^e		3
Elective course ^e		3
Elective course ^e		3

Hours 15

Fourth Year

Fall

Major: Hispanic cultures core course ^{f, i}		3
Major: Spanish elective course ^{f, g}		3
Major: Spanish elective course ^{f, g}		3
Elective course ^e		3
Elective course ^e		3

Hours 15

Spring

Major: Spanish elective course ^{f, g}		3
Major: Spanish elective course ^{f, g}		3
GE CLAS Core: Social Sciences ^d		3
Elective course ^e		3
Elective course ^e		3
Degree Application: apply on MyUI before deadline (typically in February for spring, September for fall) ^j		

Hours 15

Total Hours 120-122

a Sustainability must be completed by choosing a course that has been approved for Sustainability AND for one of these General Education areas: Natural Sciences; Quantitative or Formal Reasoning; Social Sciences; Historical Perspectives; International and Global Issues; Literary, Visual, and Performing Arts; or Values and Society.

b SPAN:1001, SPAN:1002, and SPAN:1501 do not count for credit toward the major. Language level placement will be determined by placement exam score and/or oral interview. Students who place into the 5th semester level of the language will begin major level coursework and not be required to take semesters 1-4 of the language.

c Students who have completed four levels of a single language or two levels of two different languages in high school or college have satisfied the GE CLAS Core World Languages requirement. Students who have completed three levels of a single language may complete a fourth-level course in the same language or may choose an approved World Language and Cultural Exploration course. Enrollment in world languages courses requires a placement exam, unless enrolling in a first-semester-level course. Contact your academic advisor or CLAS Undergraduate Programs Office with questions concerning the World Languages requirement.

d GE CLAS Core courses may be completed in any order unless used as a prerequisite for another course. Students should consult with an advisor about the best sequencing of courses.

e Students may use elective courses to earn credit towards the total s.h. required for graduation or to complete a double major, minors, or certificates.

f All required and elective courses taken for the Spanish major must be numbered 2000 or above. A minimum of 12 s.h. for the major must be numbered 3000-3999. At least 6 s.h. for the major must be numbered 4000-4999. Students may apply up to 6 s.h. of approved coursework taught in English or Portuguese toward the major. All other courses for the major must be taught in Spanish, including study abroad courses.

g Students must complete six elective courses in Spanish (prefix SPAN) numbered 2000 and above for a total of 18 s.h.; may include coursework in Spanish language skills as well as more advanced language courses that focus on specialized language functions and purposes. Students have the option to complete a 12-13 s.h. concentration

by choosing four Spanish courses from one of the three approved areas: linguistics, cultures, or professional communication. These courses may be electives or fulfill major requirements.

- h Fulfills a major requirement and may fulfill a GE requirement.
- i Students must complete at least 3 s.h. in Hispanic linguistics, at least 6 s.h. in Hispanic cultures, and at least 3 s.h. in writing. See the General Catalog for list of approved courses.
- j Please see Academic Calendar, on Office of the Registrar website, for current degree application deadlines. Students should apply for a degree for the session in which all requirements will be met. For any questions on appropriate timing, contact your academic advisor or Degree Services.