

Spanish, BA

The Spanish major is built on coursework in Spanish Peninsular and Spanish American literature, Hispanic cultures, Hispanic linguistics, and advanced language skills. 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 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 Division of World Languages, Literatures, and Cultures 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 36 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 also must complete the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences GE CLAS Core.

Coursework for the major includes a core, which consists of one course from each of the five principal academic areas of the department (see the section titled "Required Core"), and seven electives, which may focus on one or more of the five principal areas or may include a broad range of courses (see "Electives").

All courses taken for the Spanish major must be numbered 2000 or above. Advanced Placement Program (AP) credit is considered to be equivalent to a Spanish course at the 2000 level. Students may count 3 s.h. in AP Spanish Language and Culture or Literature and Culture exams with a score of 4 or

higher as elective credit toward the major. See the section titled "Electives."

A minimum of one and a maximum of four courses for the major must be numbered 2000–2999, including AP credit. At least three courses for the major must be numbered 4000–4999, and students can either count these as core courses or as elective courses. 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.

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 may apply up to 6 s.h. 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. Courses taught in English are listed in the section, "Spanish Courses Taught in English."

Requirements for the Major

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

Requirements	Hours
Hispanic Linguistics Course	3
Spanish Peninsular Literature Course	3
Spanish American Literature Course	3
Culture (Peninsula or Spanish American) Course	3
Writing Course	3-4
Electives	21

Required Core

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:3170	Introduction to Spanish Language Acquisition	3
SPAN:4100	Introduction to Spanish Phonology	3
SPAN:4150	Introduction to Spanish Syntax	3
SPAN:4160	Language, Justice, and the Law	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

Spanish Peninsular Literature

Course #	Title	Hours
One of these:		
SPAN:2400	Readings in Spanish Literature	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:4650	Don Quijote	3
SPAN:4690	Topics in Spanish Literature	3

Spanish American Literature

Course #	Title	Hours
One of these:		
SPAN:2500	Readings in Spanish American Literature	3
SPAN:3225	Latin American Women Writers	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:4330	Colonial Spanish American Literature	3
SPAN:4390	Topics in Spanish American Literature	3

Culture (Peninsular or Spanish American)

Course #	Title	Hours
One of these:		
SPAN:2200	Introduction to Spanish American Cultures	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:3210	Cultural Storytelling	3
SPAN:3215	Medellin	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: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:4805	Chicano Cinema	3
SPAN:4815	Lost Childhoods: Marginal Children of Latin America	3
SPAN:4830	The Hispanic World in the Digital Era	3
SPAN:4850	Topics in Cultural Studies	3
SPAN:4880	Comic Books and Graphic Novels in the Hispanic World	3
SPAN:4900	Latin American Studies Seminar	3

Writing

Course #	Title	Hours
One of these:		
SPAN:2000	Spanish Language Skills: Writing	4
SPAN:2005	Writing Global Spanish	3
SPAN:3000	Cultural Narratives for Heritage Speakers	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

Course #	Title	Hours
Seven elective courses in Spanish numbered SPAN:2000 or above		21

Students choose elective coursework according to the following guidelines.

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.

The following courses are only applicable toward the Spanish major as electives.

Course #	Title	Hours
SPAN:2010	Spanish Language Skills: Speaking	3
SPAN:2020	Hispanic Institute: Language	3
SPAN:2030	Study of Language: Myths and Concepts	3
SPAN:2040	Spanish for Heritage Speakers	3
SPAN:2050	Spanish in the United States	3
SPAN:2060	Spanish Pronunciation	4
SPAN:2080	Business Spanish	4
SPAN:2090	Medical Spanish in Contemporary Society	4
SPAN:2095	Activities Attendance for Spanish Majors	1

SPAN:2300	Spanish Language Skills: Reading	4
SPAN:2700	Introduction to Latin American Studies	3
SPAN:2850	Brazilian Narrative in Translation	3
SPAN:2910	Hispanic Institute: Study/Life in Spain	1
SPAN:3010	Advanced Spanish Speaking and Writing	3
SPAN:3015	Fast Fixes: Improved Spanish in Six Weeks	1
SPAN:3030	Translation Workshop: English to Spanish	3
SPAN:3035	Translation Practicum: English to Spanish	1
SPAN:3050	Translation Workshop: Spanish to English	3
SPAN:3080	Spanish for International Business	3
SPAN:3090	Spanish at Work	1
SPAN:3092	Spanish in the Community	3
SPAN:3093	Teaching Spanish Heritage Speakers	3
SPAN:3095	Spanish Composition and Grammar	3
SPAN:3903	Introduction to Medical Spanish-English Interpretation	1,3
SPAN:4925	Topics in Film Narrative	3
SPAN:4980	Advanced Translation: Spanish to English	3

A maximum of 3 s.h. earned in PORT:2500 Accelerated Intermediate Portuguese may be counted toward the major. The following Spanish and Portuguese courses do not count toward the major and may not be used as elective credit.

Course #	Title	Hours
PORT:2000	Accelerated Elementary Portuguese	5
PORT:2010	Elementary Portuguese I	3
PORT:2015	Elementary Portuguese II	3

Spanish Courses Taught in English

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: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

Study Abroad

The department participates in study abroad programs in Spain 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, Palma de Mallorca, and Seville.

The programs in Latin America include USAC programs in Chile (Santiago) and Costa Rica (Heredia, Puntarenas, and San Ramón); CIEE programs in Argentina (Buenos Aires), Chile (Santiago and Valparaíso), Dominican Republic (Santiago), and Peru (Lima). 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. They 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 also must register for 3 s.h. in SPAN:4998 Honors: Research and Thesis. 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 also may 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.

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Course	Title	Hours
Academic Career		
Any Semester		
GE CLAS Core: Sustainability ^a		0
First Year		
Fall		
SPAN:1001	Elementary Spanish I ^{b, c}	4
ENGL:1200	The Interpretation of Literature	3 - 4
or RHET:1030	or Rhetoric	
GE CLAS Core: Diversity and Inclusion ^d		3
Elective course ^e		1
Elective course ^e		1

CSI:1600	Success at Iowa	2
Hours		14-15

Spring

SPAN:1002	Elementary Spanish II ^{b, c}	4
RHET:1030	Rhetoric	3 - 4
or ENGL:1200	or The Interpretation of Literature	
GE CLAS Core: Historical Perspectives ^d		3
GE CLAS Core: Values and Culture ^d		3
Elective course ^e		1
Elective course ^e		1

Hours

15-16

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 ^{b, 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: culture (Peninsular or Spanish American) core course ^f		3
Major: Spanish writing core course ^f		3
Major: Spanish elective course ^{f, g}		3
GE CLAS Core: Natural Sciences without Lab ^d		3
Elective course ^e		3

Hours

15

Spring

Major: Hispanic linguistics core course ^f		3
Major: Spanish American literature core course ^f		3
Major: Spanish elective course ^{f, g}		3
Elective course ^e		3
Elective course ^e		3

Hours

15

Fourth Year

Fall

Major: Spanish Peninsular literature core course ^f		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
Major: Spanish elective course ^{f, g}		3

GE CLAS Core: Social Sciences ^d	3
Elective course ^e	3
Degree Application: apply on MyUI before deadline (typically in February for spring, September for fall) ^h	
Hours	15
Total Hours	119-121

- 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 and Formal Reasoning; Social Sciences; Historical Perspectives; International and Global Issues; Literary, Visual, and Performing Arts; or Values and Culture.
- b SPAN:1001, SPAN:1002, SPAN:1501, and SPAN:1502 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 A minimum of one and a maximum of four courses for the major must be numbered 2000-2999. At least three courses 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 21 s.h. in Spanish major electives; may include coursework in Spanish language skills or more advanced language courses that focus on specialized language functions and purposes. Related courses must be approved by the director of undergraduate studies.
- h Please see Academic Calendar, 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.