

# Spanish and Portuguese

## Director, Division of World Languages, Literatures and Cultures

- Jill N. Beckman

## Chair, Department of Spanish and Portuguese

- Denise K. Filios

**Undergraduate majors:** Spanish (B.A.); Portuguese (B.A.)

**Undergraduate minors:** Spanish; Portuguese

**Graduate degrees:** M.A. in Spanish; M.F.A. in Spanish creative writing; Ph.D. in Spanish

**Faculty:** <https://spanish-portuguese.uiowa.edu/people>

**Website:** <https://spanish-portuguese.uiowa.edu/>

The Department of Spanish and Portuguese offers undergraduate majors and minors, graduate degree programs, and coursework for students in other disciplines. The department provides a wide selection of courses taught in Spanish and Portuguese, languages that are spoken in many cultures around the world and are important in the study of linguistics, health care, culture, literature, art, film, and many other areas. Spanish and Portuguese language courses are open to any student who has satisfied the course prerequisites.

In addition to language courses, the department offers general interest courses on literature, film, and culture that are taught in English. It also participates in several study abroad programs.

Undergraduate students in all majors may satisfy the World Languages requirement of the GE CLAS Core with courses in Spanish or Portuguese; see "Language for GE CLAS Core" below. The department also offers other courses that are approved for GE CLAS Core and are taught in English and a First-Year Seminar designed for entering undergraduates.

Elementary and intermediate courses in Spanish language interrelate five performance goals—listening, reading, speaking, writing, and cultural knowledge—in a staged progression whose overall goal is to develop proficiency. The curriculum emphasizes acquisition of Spanish language skills in communicative contexts, enrichment of vocabulary through an introduction to Hispanic culture, and development of grammatical accuracy in speaking and writing.

The beginning course in Portuguese is for students without previous study or experience with the language. There also is a special Portuguese course for students who already know Spanish. Portuguese classes provide a great deal of individual attention in an informal language-learning environment. Courses emphasize speaking, comprehending, reading, and writing Brazilian Portuguese. They incorporate cultural material in the form of videos and music.

The department teaches many courses that count toward the Latina/o/x studies minor, which offers an interdisciplinary perspective on the history, culture, politics, and experiences of the Latina/o/x population in the United States. See the minor in Latina/o/x studies in the Catalog for more information.

The Department of Spanish and Portuguese is one of the academic units in the Division of World Languages, Literatures and Cultures.

## Language for GE CLAS Core

The Department of Spanish and Portuguese offers course sequences that students in all majors may use to satisfy the World Languages requirement of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences GE CLAS Core.

Students who have previous coursework or other experience with Spanish should take the online Placement Test, which helps determine the level at which a student should begin Spanish language study at the University of Iowa. Students should take the test before they register for their first University of Iowa Spanish course. Students with experience in Portuguese should contact the Portuguese program director to determine the level at which they should begin language study at the University of Iowa.

## Spanish

The following course sequences in Spanish satisfy the GE CLAS Core World Languages requirement. For students without previous knowledge of Spanish, the department recommends the following sequence.

Code	Title	Hours
SPAN:1001	Elementary Spanish I	5
SPAN:1002	Elementary Spanish II	5
SPAN:1501	Intermediate Spanish I	5
SPAN:1502	Intermediate Spanish II	5

The summer course, SPAN:1004 Accelerated Elementary Spanish, which combines SPAN:1001 and SPAN:1002, may be appropriate for some students.

The accelerated course, SPAN:1503 Accelerated Intermediate Spanish, which combines SPAN:1501 and SPAN:1502, may be appropriate for some students.

Those with previous knowledge of Spanish may be able to fulfill the World Languages requirement with the following sequence.

Code	Title	Hours
SPAN:1003	Elementary Spanish Review	5
SPAN:1501	Intermediate Spanish I	5
SPAN:1502	Intermediate Spanish II	5

The accelerated course, SPAN:1505 Intermediate Spanish for Heritage Speakers, may be appropriate for some students.

Students should consult a departmental advisor to determine which sequence is best for them.

## Portuguese

The following course sequences in Portuguese fulfill the GE CLAS Core World Languages requirement. The first option consists of two intensive courses that combine two semesters into one, so that the sequence is completed in a total of two semesters rather than four. Both courses are open to entering first-year students.

Code	Title	Hours
PORT:2000	Accelerated Elementary Portuguese	5
PORT:2500	Accelerated Intermediate Portuguese	5

The second option requires three courses taken in the following sequence to complete the World Languages requirement.

<b>Code</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Hours</b>
PORT:2010	Elementary Portuguese I	3
PORT:2015	Elementary Portuguese II	3
PORT:2500	Accelerated Intermediate Portuguese	5

Students should consult the general education coordinator to determine which sequence is best for them.

## **Related Certificates and Minors**

### **Minor and Certificate: Latin American Studies**

The department plays an important role in the Latin American Studies Program, which focuses on the history, politics, social organization, economy, art, music, religion, and literature of Latin America. See Latin American Studies in the Catalog for information about the program's undergraduate certificate and minor.

### **Minor: Translation for Global Literacy**

The minor in translation for global literacy encourages undergraduate students to explore translation as a crucial dimension of global literacy and communication. The Department of Spanish and Portuguese offers several courses that count toward the minor. See the minor in translation for global literacy in the Catalog for more information.

### **Certificate: International Business**

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the Tippie College of Business offer the Certificate in International Business. The program entails study of international business and economics; international relations and institutions; a language; and the art, literature, culture, and/or politics of a geographic area. For more information, see the Certificate in International Business in the Catalog.