

SPANISH, BACHELOR OF ARTS

College of Letters & Science

The Spanish major program assures proficiency in all four language skills-speaking, understanding, reading, and writing-and acquaints students with the intellectual and cultural contributions of the Spanish-speaking world through a study of its language, literature, and cultural productions.

The Program

The department's lower division program gives students a solid foundation in the Spanish language, either through the traditional elementary and intermediate language series or through an accelerated three-course sequence of Spanish for native speakers. At the upper division level, students receive a broad introduction to basic concepts and the practice of literary and cultural criticism and to the four areas of study represented in the department's curriculum: Spanish linguistics, Spanish literature and culture, Latin-American literature and culture, and Latina/o literatures and cultures in the United States. Students are encouraged to work closely with the department's academic advisors in designing a program of studies tailored to their individual needs and interests. Many students combine the Spanish major with another major in the humanities or social sciences.

Prerequisite Credit

Credit normally will not be given for a course if that course is the prerequisite of a course already successfully completed. Exceptions can be made by the Department Chairperson only.

Advising

Given the great flexibility in the Spanish major, it is important that students design their programs in close consultation with their major advisor. This is especially important for students who intend to use their major as preparation for graduate study, for those who are planning a teaching career, and for those who wish to take advantage of our Education Abroad Program options.

Major Advisors

213 Sproul Hall.

Career Alternatives

The program, alone or in combination with other major programs, may lead to advanced study of the language or literature and culture of Spain and Spanish America, and to careers not only in teaching, but also in other professions such as library science, law, medicine, and in government, social service, business, or international relations.

Honors Program

Candidates for high or highest honors in Spanish must write a senior thesis under the direction of a faculty member. For this purpose, honors candidates must enroll in at least 6 units of SPA 194H distributed over two quarters. Normally, a student will undertake the honors project during the first two quarters of the senior year; other arrangements must be authorized by the department chair. Only students who, at the end of their junior year (135 units), have attained a cumulative GPA of 3.500 in courses required for the major will be eligible for the honors program. The requirements for earning high and highest honors in Spanish are in addition to the regular requirements for the major in Spanish.

UC Education Abroad Program Options

The department encourages its majors to consider study in a Spanish-speaking country with our UC Education Abroad Program (UCEAP). It is now possible for our students to complete significant portions of the Spanish major in the UCEAP centers at both the lower (Preparatory Subject Matter) and upper division levels through newly introduced options. See the Global Learning Hub (<https://globallearning.ucdavis.edu/>).

UC Davis Quarter Abroad

The Quarter Abroad Program offers programs in Mendoza, Argentina (fall quarter) and in Madrid, Spain (spring quarter). These programs aim at providing students with opportunities to increase their knowledge of the Spanish language and cultures by experiencing the life-learning challenges of living and studying abroad.

Students may earn 15-22 UC Davis units toward the Spanish major, minor, or foreign language requirement. Each program may offer an upper division course taught by the UC Davis Program Director focusing on history, culture and society.

For more information, see UC Davis Quarter Abroad.

The major requirements below are in addition to meeting University Degree Requirements (<https://catalog.ucdavis.edu/undergraduate-education/university-degree-requirements/>) & College Degree Requirements (<https://catalog.ucdavis.edu/undergraduate-education/college-degree-requirements/>); unless otherwise noted. The minimum number of units required for the Spanish Bachelor of Arts is 41.

Code	Title	Units
Preparatory Subject Matter		
Choose one:		5
SPA 001	Elementary Spanish (Discontinued for summer 2026)	
or SPA 001V	Elementary Spanish	
or SPA 001Y	Elementary Spanish	
or SPA 001S	DISCONTINUED FOR SUMMER 2026 **	
Choose one:		5
SPA 002	Elementary Spanish	
or SPA 002V	Elementary Spanish	
or SPA 002Y	Elementary Spanish	
or SPA 002S	DISCONTINUED FOR SUMMER 2026 **	
Choose one:		5
SPA 003	Elementary Spanish	
or SPA 003V	Elementary Spanish	
or SPA 003Y	Elementary Spanish	
or SPA 003S	DISCONTINUED FOR SUMMER 2026 **	
Choose one:		5
SPA 021	Intermediate Spanish	
or SPA 021S	Intermediate Spanish	
or SPA 021V	Intermediate Spanish	
or SPA 021Y	Intermediate Spanish	
Choose one:		5
SPA 022	Intermediate Spanish	
or SPA 022S	Intermediate Spanish	
or SPA 022V	Intermediate Spanish	

or SPA 022Y	Intermediate Spanish		Group 5	
Choose one:		4	SPA 117	Teaching Spanish as a Native Tongue in the U.S.: Praxis & Theory
SPA 023	Spanish Composition I		or SPA 117V	Teaching Spanish as a Native Tongue in the U.S.: Praxis & Theory
or SPA 023S	Spanish Composition I		SPA 174	Chicano Culture
Choose one:		4	SPA 176	Literature in Spanish Written in the United States
SPA 024	Spanish Composition II		SPA 169	Special Topics in Chicanx/Latinx Studies
or SPA 024S	Spanish Composition II		SPA 177	California & Latin America
All of the above, OR		0-15	Choose six electives in consultation with the student's major advisor.	22-24
SPA 031	Spanish for Heritage Speakers I		Students may, with the approval of their advisor, choose up to two electives outside the Spanish department (p. 2)	
AND				
SPA 032	Spanish for Heritage Speakers II		Depth Subject Matter Subtotal	41-44
AND			Total Units	41-77
SPA 033	Spanish for Heritage Speakers III			
or SPA 033V	Spanish for Heritage Speakers III			
Preparatory Subject Matter Subtotal		0-33		
Depth Subject Matter				
Choose one in each of the following five areas:		19-20		
Group 1				
SPA 100	Principles of Hispanic Literature & Criticism			
SPA 100S	Principles of Hispanic Literature & Criticism (Discontinued for summer 2026) **			
SPA 141	Introduction to Spanish Culture			
SPA 141S	Introduction to Spanish Culture			
SPA 168	Introduction to Latinx Culture			
SPA 170	Introduction to Latin American Culture			
SPA 170S	Introduction to Latin American Culture (Discontinued for summer 2026) **			
Group 2				
SPA 111N	The Structure of Spanish: Sounds & Words			
SPA 115	History of the Spanish Language			
SPA 116	Applied Spanish Linguistics			
or SPA 116V	Applied Spanish Linguistics			
SPA 116S	Applied Spanish Linguistics (Discontinued for summer 2026) **			
SPA 118	Topics in Spanish Linguistics			
Group 3				
SPA 130	Survey of Spanish Literature to 1700			
SPA 131N	Survey of Spanish Literature: 1700 to Present			
SPA 134A	Don Quijote I			
SPA 142	Special Topics in Spanish Cultural & Literary Studies			
Group 4				
SPA 150N	Survey of Latin American Literature to 1900			
SPA 151	Survey of Latin American Literature 1900 to Present			
SPA 157	Great Works of Latin American Literature/ Culture			
SPA 159	Special Topics in Latin American Literature & Culture			
or SPA 159Y	Special Topics in Latin American Literature & Culture			
SPA 159S	Special Topics in Latin American Literature & Culture			

HIS 166A	History of Mexico to 1848	4
HIS 166B	History of Mexico since 1848	4
HIS 167	Modern Latin American Cultural & Intellectual History	4
HIS 168	History of Inter-American Relations	4
HIS 169A	Mexican-American History	4
HIS 169B	Mexican-American History	4
Linguistics		
LIN 166	The Spanish Language in the United States	4
Native American Studies		
NAS 120	Ethnopolitics of South American Indians	4
NAS 133A	Ethnohistory of Native Peoples of Mexico & Central America to 1500	4
NAS 133B	Ethnohistory of Native Peoples of Mexico & Central America 1500 to 2000	4
NAS 184	Contemporary Indigenous Literature of Mexico	4

Educational Objectives

- *Linguistics.* Demonstrate knowledge of the Spanish speaking world's linguistic diversity through the comprehension of Spanish in a variety of situations, discursive modes and historical, regional or social variations. Demonstrates analytic, interpretative, and critical thinking skills; SPA 111N, SPA 113, SPA 115/SPA 115S, SPA 116, SPA 117, SPA 118, SPA 180.
- *Literature.* Demonstrate analytic, interpretative and critical thinking skills with respect to literary texts from Latin America, Spain, the United States and other countries in which there is a literary production in Spanish; SPA 100/SPA 100S, SPA 130, SPA 131N, SPA 134A/SPA 134B, SPA 142 (Spain); SPA 150N, SPA 151, SPA 157, SPA 159/SPA 159S (Latin America); SPA 117, SPA 174, SPA 176, SPA 177 (United States).
- *Culture.* Demonstrate cultural awareness with respect to the diversity of cultural products and manifestations produced in the Spanish speaking world (Latin America, Spain, the United States and other countries in which there is a cultural production in Spanish; SPA 100/SPA 100S, SPA 141/SPA 141S, SPA 170/SPA 170S, SPA 174).
- *Film & Art.* Demonstrate analytic interpretative and critical thinking skills with respect to linguistics, literature and cultural studies.