

Program Overview

The master of arts (M.A.) program in Spanish is a dynamic academic unit that combines research and applied learning in order to advance knowledge of the Spanish language and the literature and cultures of the Hispanic world. Its objective is to empower individuals to be productive in a global society. At Texas State, the Spanish M.A. program provides students with the foundation they need to:

1. serve in a wide range of public and private sector professions requiring a high degree of proficiency in Spanish,
2. pursue doctoral studies, and
3. teach in institutions of higher learning.

The M.A. program is designed for students interested in advancing their skills and knowledge within the context of organized research in Spanish language, literature, and culture.

The M.A. program with minor allows students to advance their skills and knowledge within the context of organized research in Spanish language, literature, and culture and to develop a minor interest in a related area. Students may choose among minors in the humanities, social sciences, education, or other disciplines, or they may develop special emphases in literary periods or areas such as Latin American studies, Medieval/Renaissance studies, Chicano/Chicana literature, critical theory, humanities, linguistics, education, or women's studies.

Financial Assistance

Qualified graduate students in the M.A. program may apply for appointments as instructional assistants or teaching assistants. Application forms for instructional assistantships and teaching assistantships are available from the department administrative assistant. For information on other scholarship programs for graduate students, contact The Graduate College.

Application Requirements

Application requirements consist of institutional and program requirements for applicable semesters of entry during the current academic year. Additional information and changes to admission requirements for semesters other than the current academic year can be found on The Graduate College's website (<http://www.gradcollege.txstate.edu/>).

Unless otherwise noted on The Graduate College program page, AI tools can only be used to correct spelling and grammar errors in application materials.

Institutional Requirements

Institutional requirements are the minimum standards for admission to any graduate program at Texas State. These include:

- Completed online application
- Nonrefundable application fee
 - Degree Programs (Doctoral and Master's)
 - \$55 fee, or
 - \$90 for applications with international credentials
 - Post-Baccalaureate Programs (Certificate, Certification, Non-Degree, and Visiting)
 - \$20 fee, or
 - \$60 for applications with international credentials

- Official transcripts from each institution where course credit was granted. Final transcripts showing degree completion are required before the student may register for their second term of enrollment.
- GPA requirements (a higher GPA may be listed in the Program Requirements)
 - Doctoral programs require a 3.00 overall GPA or a 3.00 GPA in your last 60 hours (<https://www.gradcollege.txst.edu/admissions/policy.html#gpa>) of undergraduate course work (plus any completed graduate courses).
 - Master's and Specialist programs require a 2.75 overall GPA or a 2.75 GPA in your last 60 hours (<https://www.gradcollege.txst.edu/admissions/policy.html#gpa>) of undergraduate course work (plus any completed graduate courses).
 - Post-Baccalaureate programs require a 2.50 overall GPA or a 2.50 GPA in your last 60 hours (<https://www.gradcollege.txst.edu/admissions/policy.html#gpa>) of undergraduate course work (plus any completed graduate courses).
- Baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited university. (Non-U.S. degrees must be equivalent to a four-year U.S. Bachelor's degree. In most cases, three-year degrees are not considered. Visit our International FAQs (<https://www.gradcollege.txst.edu/international/faqs.html>) for more information.)

Approved English Proficiency Exam Scores

Applicants are required to submit an approved English proficiency exam score that meets the minimum requirements below unless they have earned a bachelor's degree or higher from a regionally accredited U.S. institution or the equivalent from a country on our exempt countries list (<http://www.gradcollege.txstate.edu/international/language.html#waver>). Some programs may restrict acceptable tests or require higher scores than the institutional scores; this will be noted in the Program Requirements.

- official TOEFL iBT scores required with a 78 overall if taken on or before January 21, 2026
- official TOEFL iBT scores required with a 4 overall if taken after January 21, 2026
- official PTE scores required with a 52 overall
- official IELTS (academic) scores required with a 6.5 overall and minimum individual module scores of 6.0
- official Duolingo scores required with a 110 overall
- official TOEFL Essentials scores required with an 8.5 overall
- official Texas State Intensive English Program score of 90% or higher in the highest-level course (level 5)

The institution does **not** offer admission if the scores above are not met.

- completed online application
- \$55 nonrefundable application fee
 - or
 - \$90 nonrefundable application fee for applications with international credentials
- baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited university (Non-U.S. degrees must be equivalent to a four-year U.S. Bachelor's degree. In most cases, three-year degrees are not considered. Visit our International FAQs (<https://www.gradcollege.txst.edu/international/faqs.html>) for more information.)

- official transcripts from **each institution** where course credit was granted
- a 2.75 overall GPA or a 2.75 GPA in the last 60 hours of undergraduate course work (plus any completed graduate courses)
- minimum 3.0 GPA in 12 or more upper division undergraduate hours in Spanish, including at least six hours of Spanish literature recommended (Students lacking sufficient background course work will be required to take leveling courses. Any required leveling course work must be complete with grades of B or better prior to admission.)
- GRE not required
- resume/CV
- statement of purpose written in Spanish (600 words) explaining professional and personal interest in the M.A. in Spanish
- three letters of recommendation

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- official TOEFL iBT scores required with a 78 overall
- official PTE scores required with a 52
- official IELTS (academic) scores required with a 6.5 overall and minimum individual module scores of 6.0
- official Duolingo Scores required with a 110 overall
- official TOEFL Essentials scores required with an 8.5 overall

This program does **not** offer admission if the scores above are not met.

Degree Requirements

The Master of Arts (M.A.) major in Spanish requires 36 semester credit hours, including a minor. Students who do not have the appropriate background course work may be required to complete leveling courses.

Course Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Required Courses		
Choose 30 hours from the following:		30
SPAN 5310A	Voyages and Encounters in Spanish American Literature	
SPAN 5310B	Don Quijote	
SPAN 5310C	Poetry of Spain and Spanish America	
SPAN 5310D	Gabriel García Márquez	
SPAN 5310E	Hispanic Film	
SPAN 5311	Studies in Medieval and Golden Age Spanish Peninsular Literature	
SPAN 5312	Studies in Spanish Peninsular Literature from the Eighteenth Century to the Present	
SPAN 5313	Studies in South American Literatures	
SPAN 5314	Studies in Central American and Caribbean Literatures	
SPAN 5315	Studies in Mexican and Mexican-American Literatures	

SPAN 5316	Studies in Spanish Peninsular Culture
SPAN 5317	Studies in the Cultures of the Americas
SPAN 5318	Advanced Composition and Research Methods
SPAN 5319	Synchronic Spanish Linguistics
SPAN 5320	Diachronic Spanish Linguistics
SPAN 5321	Spanish Applied Linguistics
SPAN 5322	Spanish for the Professions
SPAN 5323	Translation History and Theory
SPAN 5324	Applied Translation Methods
SPAN 5390	Studies in Spanish Culture, Language, or Literature

Minor

Choose a 6-hour advisor-approved minor 6

Total Hours 36

Comprehensive Examination Requirement

Comprehensive Exams in Spanish have a written and an oral component based on the M.A. Reading List. Should a candidate not pass the exam, the candidate may petition in writing for a retake. The Graduate Studies Committee will evaluate each case individually. If the committee grants a retake, the candidate must complete the exam the following semester. A second retake is allowed only by special permission from the Division Chair and the Graduate Advisor, and the candidate must complete the exam the following semester. See the Spanish Graduate Handbook for more details.

Students who do not successfully complete the requirements for the degree within the timelines specified will be dismissed from the program.

Master's level courses in Modern Languages: SPAN

Courses Offered

Spanish (SPAN)

SPAN 5100. Practicum in Teaching Spanish.

Required as a condition of employment for graduate teaching and instructional assistants in their initial semester of employment. The course provides regular in-service and planned periodic evaluations of instructional responsibilities. This course does not earn graduate degree credit. Repeatable with different emphasis.

1 Credit Hour. 1 Lecture Contact Hour. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Graduate Assistantship|Exclude from Graduate GPA

Grade Mode: Leveling/Assistantships

SPAN 5199B. Thesis.

This course represents a student's continuing thesis enrollment. The student continues to enroll in this course until the thesis is submitted for binding.

1 Credit Hour. 1 Lecture Contact Hour. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing

Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

SPAN 5299B. Thesis.

This course represents a student's continuing thesis enrollment. The student continues to enroll in this course until the thesis is submitted for binding.

2 Credit Hours. 2 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing

Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

SPAN 5303. Spanish for Health Professionals.

This course is designed for graduate students in the health professions who require knowledge of Spanish in the professional settings of nutrition, physical therapy, nursing, and respiratory therapy. Students develop elementary communicative proficiency and accuracy in the use of the Spanish language with Spanish-speaking clients, with an emphasis on oral communication. Along with basic structures and vocabulary utilized in health-care contexts, students learn essential information about Hispanic cultures. The course cannot be counted for credit in the Spanish M.A. program.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

SPAN 5310A. Voyages and Encounters in Spanish American Literature.

Thorough analysis of historical and fictional voyages. The course will address how encounters with indigenous, ethnic minority, and foreign cultures have influenced the development of individual, national and regional identities in Spanish America. Readings will include accounts of the Conquest, colonial texts, and literature for the 19th and 20th centuries. (MULT).

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Multicultural Content|Topics

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

SPAN 5310B. Don Quijote.

A close reading of the classic Spanish novel Don Quijote by Miguel de Cervantes. (MULT).

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Multicultural Content|Topics

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

SPAN 5310C. Poetry of Spain and Spanish America.

A focus on the genre of poetry through a close reading of a selection of classical and contemporary poets from Spain and Spanish America. (MULT).

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Multicultural Content|Topics

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

SPAN 5310D. Hispanic Literature: Gabriel García Márquez.

A study of selected works of Nobel Prize author Gabriel García Márquez, focusing on literature, history, politics, and popular culture of Latin America. (MULT).

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Multicultural Content|Topics

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

SPAN 5310E. Hispanic Literature: Hispanic Film.

A study of Hispanic cultural issues through film and additional readings. (MULT).

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Multicultural Content|Topics

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

SPAN 5310F. Contemporary Mexican Narratives.

This course focuses on contemporary Mexican narratives. Students will study Mexico's literary trends such as La nueva narrativa, the Crack Generation, women's literature, and the new historic and testimonial fictions, in order to better understand the cultural process of the Mexico's society in the late 20th and early 21st centuries. (MULT).

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Multicultural Content|Topics

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

SPAN 5311. Studies in Medieval and Golden Age Spanish Peninsular Literature.

Selections of fiction, poetry, theatre, essay, and film of medieval and Golden Age Spain. May be repeated once with different emphasis for additional credit. (MULT).

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Multicultural Content

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

SPAN 5312. Studies in Spanish Peninsular Literature from the Eighteenth Century to the Present.

Selections of fiction, poetry, theatre, essay, and film of Spain from the eighteenth century to the present. May be repeated once with different emphasis of additional credit. (MULT).

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Multicultural Content

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

SPAN 5313. Studies in South American Literatures.

Selections of fiction, poetry, theatre, essay, and film of South America. May be repeated once with different emphasis for additional credit. (MULT).

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Multicultural Content

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

SPAN 5314. Studies in Central American and Caribbean Literatures.

Selections of fiction, poetry, theatre, essay, and film of Central America and the Caribbean. May be repeated once with different emphasis for additional credit. (MULT).

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Multicultural Content

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

SPAN 5315. Studies in Mexican and Mexican-American Literatures.

Selections of Mexican and Mexican-American fiction, poetry, theatre, essay, and film. May be repeated once with different emphasis for additional credit. (MULT).

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Multicultural Content

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

SPAN 5316. Studies in Spanish Peninsular Culture.

Culture, history, and society in literature, film, art, music, folklore, and mass media of Spain. May be repeated once with different emphasis for additional credit. (MULT).

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Multicultural Content

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

SPAN 5317. Studies in the Cultures of the Americas.

Culture, history, and society in literature, film, art, music, folklore, and mass media of the Americas. May be repeated once with different emphasis for additional credit. (MULT).

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Multicultural Content

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

SPAN 5318. Advanced Composition and Research Methods.

This course focuses on the study of composition and grammar, textual analysis, and research methods. It may be repeated once with different emphasis for additional credit. (MULT).

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Multicultural Content

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

SPAN 5319. Synchronic Spanish Linguistics.

In this course students learn about Spanish dialectology, phonology, regional variation, migration impacts on language variety, issues of language maintenance and death, syntax, and current theories of language contact and koineization (i.e., the formation of new dialects). May be repeated once with different emphasis for additional credit. (MULT).

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Multicultural Content

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

SPAN 5320. Diachronic Spanish Linguistics.

Evaluation of aspects of history of the Spanish language including pronunciation, word formation, sentence structure, dialects, and relations to other languages. May be repeated once with different emphasis for additional credit. (MULT).

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Multicultural Content

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

SPAN 5321. Spanish Applied Linguistics.

This course provides an overview of the major areas of applied linguistic research including: current theories in second language acquisition, teaching methodologies, bilingualism, performance, syntax, and computer assisted learning. May be repeated once with different emphasis for additional credit. (MULT).

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Multicultural Content

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

SPAN 5322. Spanish for the Professions.

Topics vary and include the study of Spanish for business, law, medicine, criminal justice, and/or the social sciences. May be repeated once with different emphasis for additional credit. (MULT).

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Multicultural Content

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

SPAN 5323. Translation History and Theory.

This course introduces students to the history and theory of translation. Students analyze historical and contemporary translation practices and theories and the inherent challenges and complexities of translating a source text into a target language. Students translate texts in a variety of genres to acquire proficiency in producing accurate translations from English to Spanish and Spanish to English. Prerequisite: 3.0 GPA in 12 hours of advanced undergraduate Spanish.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

SPAN 5324. Applied Translation Methods.

This course is an introduction to applied translation methods. Students practice the specific tasks involved in the vocabulary, sentence structure, and cultural complexities of the translation process in Spanish and English while acquiring the proficiency to produce professional translations in fields such as advertising, business, healthcare, law, sports, and journalism. It may be repeated once for credit when its topic varies. Prerequisite: 3.0 GPA in 12 hours of advanced undergraduate Spanish.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

SPAN 5325. Professional Internship in Spanish.

This course is a supervised work experience in a Spanish-speaking professional environment. Students will work a minimum of 140 hours, performing duties at least 80% in Spanish. Other requirements include internship reports as required by course instructor. (MC).

3 Credit Hours. 0 Lecture Contact Hours. 9 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

SPAN 5390. Studies in Spanish Culture, Language, or Literature.

Independent study under supervision of a graduate faculty member in Spanish, with in-depth readings and research on a specific topic. May be repeated once with different emphasis for additional credit. (MULT) Prerequisite: Instructor approval.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Multicultural Content

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

SPAN 5399A. Thesis.

This course represents a student's initial thesis enrollment. No thesis credit is awarded until the student has completed the thesis in Spanish 5399B.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

SPAN 5399B. Thesis.

This course represents a student's continuing thesis enrollment. The student continues to enroll in this course until the thesis is submitted for binding. Graded on a credit (CR), progress (PR), no-credit (F) basis.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing

Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

SPAN 5599B. Thesis.

This course represents a student's continuing thesis enrollment. The student continues to enroll in this course until the thesis is submitted for binding.

5 Credit Hours. 5 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing

Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

SPAN 5600. Internship.

This course consists of an internship of at least four weeks duration in the United States or in a Spanish-speaking country. Interns work with organizations that use Spanish in a professional context. Internships may be complemented by lectures, observations, interviews, or other activities relevant to the student's academic and professional interests. Graduate advisor approval required. Prerequisite: Completion of 18 credit hours required for the Master of Arts with a major in Spanish.

6 Credit Hours. 0 Lecture Contact Hours. 12 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

SPAN 5999B. Thesis.

This course represents a student's continuing thesis enrollment. The student continues to enroll in this course until the thesis is submitted for binding.

9 Credit Hours. 9 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing

Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit