

Spanish

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The Department of Spanish and Portuguese provides instruction in the languages, literatures, and cultures of the Hispanic and Luso-Brazilian worlds. Courses in Portuguese and the requirements of the major are described under Portuguese; the names of faculty teaching Portuguese courses are included in the faculty roster.

The major in Spanish is a liberal arts major that offers a wide range of courses in the language, literatures, and cultures of the twenty Spanish-speaking countries in Europe, Latin America, and the Caribbean. Today, Spanish is the second language of the United States, one of the three most widely spoken languages in the world, and one of the five diplomatic languages of the United Nations. The program in Spanish offers students the opportunity to acquire thorough linguistic proficiency as well as in-depth knowledge of both cultural and literary topics. The major explores literature, history, philosophy, art, and cultural studies, and provides excellent preparation for careers in law, diplomacy, medicine, business, the arts, academics, journalism, and education.

COURSE NUMBERING

Courses numbered SPAN 1100–1999 include beginning and intermediate language courses designed to help students develop fluency in understanding, speaking, reading, and writing Spanish. Courses numbered SPAN 2200–2999 seek to provide students with a broad but solid introduction to the fields of Hispanic literatures and cultures while strengthening their linguistic competence. Courses numbered 3000–4999 allow students to perfect their linguistic and critical skills through study of a specific problem or issue, e.g., a literary genre, a type of literary or cultural representation, or a specific writer or text. Students desiring more information about either language or literature offerings should consult the director of undergraduate studies (DUS).

PREREQUISITE

Prerequisite to the major is SPAN 1400, SPAN 1450, SPAN 1500, or the equivalent through advanced placement or study abroad. Equivalent preparation to SPAN 1400, SPAN 1450, SPAN 1500, or may be demonstrated by the test scores indicated below under “Language Courses and Placement Procedures.”

LANGUAGE COURSES AND PLACEMENT PROCEDURES

Students with no previous formal or informal Spanish study ordinarily enroll in SPAN 1100. Students who take SPAN 1100 are strongly encouraged to continue with SPAN 1200 in the following term. Students wishing to take intensive beginning Spanish may, with the instructor's permission, enroll in SPAN 1250, which covers the same material as SPAN 1100 and SPAN 1200, but in one term. SPAN 1500 is designed for heritage speakers and is available only to them. Admission to SPAN 1500 is based on the results of the departmental placement examination; interested students should contact the instructor.

All students, including native speakers, who have previously studied Spanish formally or informally must take the departmental placement examination to enroll in a Spanish course. The only exception to this rule is made for students who have demonstrated

advanced ability in the language by (1) receiving a score of 5 on either of the Spanish Advanced Placement tests; (2) receiving a score of 6 or 7 on the Advanced-Level International Baccalaureate examination; or (3) attaining a proficiency level of C1 in the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages. These students may enroll directly in any L5 course.

Information about the departmental placement examination and registration procedures for Spanish L1–L4 language courses is available on the department website.

REQUIREMENTS OF THE MAJOR

Students are held to the requirements that were in place when they declared their major. However, with approval from the DUS, the following requirements, updated for the academic year 2024–2025, may be fulfilled by students who declared the major in a prior term.

See the Link to the attribute indicating courses taught in Spanish.

Beyond the prerequisite, ten term courses are required. SPAN 2200 is a required introductory course. Additionally, two courses numbered SPAN 2200–2999 are required, as are three courses numbered SPAN 3000 or higher. SPAN 4900, The Senior Project, is one of the ten required courses. The remaining three elective courses must be numbered SPAN 2000 or higher, or be a first-year seminar taught in Spanish. A maximum of one course taught in a language other than Spanish may also count toward the major requirements, with the approval of the DUS.

Intensive major Students in the intensive major fulfill the requirements for the standard major, and take two additional courses numbered SPAN 3000 or higher.

Credit/D/Fail No course taken Credit/D/Fail may be applied toward the requirements of the major.

Outside credit Courses taken at another institution or during an approved summer or term-time study abroad program may count toward the major requirements with DUS approval.

SENIOR REQUIREMENT

Seniors complete the senior requirement, an essay or its equivalent in another medium, in SPAN 4900 in the spring of their senior year under the individual direction of a faculty adviser. Students expecting to complete their degree requirements in December complete the senior requirement in SPAN 4900 in the fall of their senior year. Deadlines and guidelines for the senior requirement can be found on the Spanish and Portuguese department website.

ADVISING

Two majors Students electing Spanish as one of two majors should consult the DUS about a specialized course of study.

Courses in the Graduate School Juniors and seniors majoring in Spanish may, with permission of the instructor and the director of graduate studies, enroll in graduate courses in Spanish.

STUDY ABROAD

Students at the intermediate level of language study are encouraged to apply to the eight-week summer language courses offered by Yale Summer Session in New Haven and Bilbao, Spain, or in Quito, Ecuador. Advanced students may apply for the five-week Yale Summer Session courses offered in Valencia, Spain, and in Quito, Ecuador. More information about these programs is available on the Yale Summer Session website. For information about the Year or Term Abroad program, see Academic Regulations, section K, Special Academic Programs. Students who wish to count courses taken abroad toward the major should consult with the DUS before going abroad.

SUMMARY OF MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

Prerequisite 1 course from SPAN 1400, 1450, 1500, or equivalent

Number of courses 10 term courses (including senior requirement)

Specific course required SPAN 2200

Distribution of courses 2 courses numbered SPAN 2200-2999, 3 courses numbered SPAN 3000 or higher; 3 electives numbered SPAN 2000 or higher or a first-year seminar taught in Spanish, with a max of one course taught in a language other than Spanish, with DUS approval

Senior requirement SPAN 4900

Intensive major 2 addtl courses numbered SPAN 3000 or higher, totaling 12 term courses

CERTIFICATE OF ADVANCED LANGUAGE STUDY

The Department of Spanish and Portuguese offers a Certificate of Advanced Language Study in Spanish. A certificate adviser, typically the director of undergraduate studies (DUS), advises students on the certification process. The Certificate of Advanced Language Study, once certified, is listed on the student's transcript.

REQUIREMENTS

Students seeking to earn the certificate are required to take four courses, all beyond the L4 level in their chosen language, at least two of which must be Yale courses designated as L5, and at least one of which must be a Yale 3000-level advanced undergraduate lecture or seminar. All courses must be taken for a letter grade, and students must achieve a grade of B or above.

Yale study abroad courses designated as L5 may count toward the certificate. The certificate adviser may also approve the substitution of one credit earned as part of a non-Yale study abroad program and taught in the target language to count toward the certificate requirements. If the adviser approves a non-Yale course for inclusion in the certificate requirements, students must take the necessary steps to ensure that those courses appear on their transcripts.

Credit/D/Fail No courses taken Credit/D/Fail may be counted toward the requirements of the certificate.

Declaration of Candidacy

Students must declare their intention to earn a Certificate on the *Declare Major, Concentration within the Major, Certificate* page on Yale Hub, as early as possible, but at the very latest, by the 15th of January or September in their last semester at Yale. Once declared, Degree Audit tracks students' progress toward completion of the certificate.

FACULTY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SPANISH AND PORTUGUESE

Professors Santiago Acosta, Aníbal González-Pérez, K. David Jackson, Nicholas R. Jones, Olivia Lott, Noël Valis, Jesús R. Velasco, Aurélie Vialette, Lisa Voigt.

Senior Lectors II Jorge Méndez-Seijas.

Senior Lectors I María Pilar Asensio-Manrique, Carolina Baffi, Mercedes Carreras, Sebastián Díaz, María de la Paz García, María José Gutiérrez Barajas, Rosamaría León, Luna Nájera, Juliana Ramos-Ruano, Lissette Reymundi, Noelia Sánchez-Walker, Lourdes Sabé-Colom, Giseli Tordin, María M. Vázquez.

Lectors Mariana Centanin Bertho, Igor de Souza, Kevin Ennis, Sarah Glenski, Mayte López, Ian Russell.

Senior Lecturer II Alex Gil.