

# SPANISH, M.A.

The degrees offered are the master of arts and doctor of philosophy in Spanish. In addition, the department offers a doctoral minor in Spanish or Portuguese, consisting of 9 credits of graduate study.

An integrated curriculum in Spanish language, literatures, cultures, and linguistics provides training at the master's and Ph.D. levels and assures that graduates are prepared to contribute as professionals in the fields of teaching and research. An active program of research contributes to new knowledge in Spanish. A comprehensive group of courses is offered in rotation during the academic year so that candidates may take courses in all fields. Classes are conducted in Spanish.

The department's graduate program in Spanish is consistently among the finest in the country. Teaching assistantships are offered each year to graduate candidates in Spanish and Portuguese. A full complement of courses in Spanish and Spanish American, literatures, cultures, and linguistics is offered on a regular basis.

Fellowships, scholarships, teaching assistantships, and project assistantships are available to qualified graduate degree candidates.

Students pursuing advanced degrees in this department are advised to include in their training work in other languages and literatures, art, social sciences, linguistics, film studies, and philosophy. Knowledge of other languages is required for advanced work in Hispanic and Luso-Brazilian fields.

## ADMISSIONS

Please consult the table below for key information about this degree program's admissions requirements. The program may have more detailed admissions requirements, which can be found below the table or on the program's website.

Graduate admissions is a two-step process between academic programs and the Graduate School. **Applicants must meet** the minimum requirements (<https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/requirements/>) **of the Graduate School as well as the program(s)**. Once you have researched the graduate program(s) you are interested in, apply online (<https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/>).

Requirements	Detail
Fall Deadline	January 5
Spring Deadline	The program does not admit in the spring.
Summer Deadline	The program does not admit in the summer.
GRE (Graduate Record Examinations)	Not required.
English Proficiency Test	Every applicant whose native language is not English or whose undergraduate instruction was not in English must provide an English proficiency test score and meet the Graduate School minimum requirements ( <a href="https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/requirements/#english-proficiency">https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/requirements/#english-proficiency</a> ).
Other Test(s) (e.g., GMAT, MCAT)	n/a

Letters of Recommendation Required 3

Admission to candidacy for the master's degree presupposes an undergraduate major in Spanish at UW-Madison or its equivalent.

Applicants with a B.A. in Spanish must have an undergraduate GPA of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale, and a GPA in Spanish courses of at least 3.25. Exceptions to these requirements may be made by the admissions committee.

During the registration period, the student will be asked to supply supplementary information regarding courses taken previously, experience abroad, scope of readings in Spanish and Spanish-American literatures, and preparation in linguistics.

All new M.A. students will write a sample essay during the orientation week of their first semester of study. If the department determines that a student needs to improve his/her written Spanish, the student will be asked to meet several times during the semester with his/her selected advisor to work on composition skills.

## REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION FOR MA APPLICATIONS

- Three letters of recommendation are required for all graduate student applicants, using the Graduate School's online application.
- Send one official copy of ALL university transcripts to the Department of Spanish and Portuguese. Notarized English translations should accompany ALL non-English transcripts.
- TOEFL test is required for ALL applicants whose native language is NOT English, or whose undergraduate instruction was NOT in English. For more information regarding the TOEFL, please see the Graduate School's Admissions Requirements (<https://grad.wisc.edu/admissions/requirements/>).
- Reason for Graduate Study/Statement of Purpose: What are your reasons for graduate study? Please describe your current degree goals and your reasons for selecting your program(s). Your statement can be either in English or Spanish. It should not exceed three single-spaced pages, or the equivalent when double-spaced.

All materials must be received electronically to the Department of Spanish and Portuguese by the above deadlines.

## FUNDING

## GRADUATE SCHOOL RESOURCES

Resources to help you afford graduate study might include assistantships, fellowships, traineeships, and financial aid. Further funding information (<https://grad.wisc.edu/funding/>) is available from the Graduate School. Be sure to check with your program for individual policies and restrictions related to funding.

## PROGRAM RESOURCES

Prospective students should see the program website (<http://spanport.wisc.edu/prospective-grad-funding/>) for funding information.

## REQUIREMENTS

### MINIMUM GRADUATE SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS

Review the Graduate School minimum academic progress and degree requirements (<http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/#policiesandrequirements>), in addition to the program requirements listed below.

### MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

#### MODE OF INSTRUCTION

Face to Face	Evening/ Weekend	Online	Hybrid	Accelerated
Yes	No	No	No	No

#### Mode of Instruction Definitions

**Accelerated:** Accelerated programs are offered at a fast pace that condenses the time to completion. Students typically take enough credits aimed at completing the program in a year or two.

**Evening/Weekend:** Courses meet on the UW–Madison campus only in evenings and/or on weekends to accommodate typical business schedules. Students have the advantages of face-to-face courses with the flexibility to keep work and other life commitments.

**Face-to-Face:** Courses typically meet during weekdays on the UW–Madison Campus.

**Hybrid:** These programs combine face-to-face and online learning formats. Contact the program for more specific information.

**Online:** These programs are offered 100% online. Some programs may require an on-campus orientation or residency experience, but the courses will be facilitated in an online format.

### CURRICULAR REQUIREMENTS

Requirement Detail	
Minimum Credit Requirement	32 credits
Minimum Residence Credit Requirement	16 credits
Minimum Graduate Coursework Requirement	In practice, it is rare for students not to take 100% of their credits in graduate coursework. But a minimum of 18 credits must be graduate-level coursework. Details can be found in the Graduate School's Minimum Graduate Coursework (50%) policy ( <a href="https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1244">https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1244</a> ( <a href="https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1244/">https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1244/</a> )).
Overall Graduate GPA Requirement	3.00 GPA required. This program follows the Graduate School's policy: <a href="https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1203">https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1203</a> ( <a href="https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1203/">https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1203/</a> ).
Other Grade Requirements	No other grade requirements.

**Assessments and Examinations** Students in Spanish literature and linguistics M.A. program shall submit a research portfolio consisting of three term papers from graduate courses in this program. Students submitting portfolios shall be allowed, but not required, to include in their portfolio a brief statement (approximately 1000 words) explaining their anticipated doctoral research agenda. Each term paper included in the portfolio shall represent a different curricular area. Before submitting their portfolio pieces, students shall revise them in accordance with the corrections and comments provided by their course professors during the initial evaluation of those materials. Students shall submit their portfolio by March 1, and the portfolio review committee shall bring their recommendations to the Departmental Committee for discussion and final decision at the committee's March meeting.

**Language Requirements** No language requirements beyond English and Spanish. However, candidates who expect to go on to the Doctorate are urged to acquire the basic reading knowledge of a second foreign language before completing the portfolio. It should be another Romance Language, Latin, Arabic, or German. Other languages may be considered, with the approval of the department.

### REQUIRED COURSES

The course of studies leading to the Master of Arts degree in Spanish in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese at the University of Wisconsin–Madison is a flexible one designed to introduce the candidate to Spanish and Spanish American literatures, literary criticism, and linguistics. The program is for students who complete their academic career at the M.A. as well as for those who decide to pursue the Ph.D.

Its general, non-specialized approach is beneficial to both types. The Master's program offers a panorama of selected works, a general view of literary and linguistic currents, and an introduction to literary and linguistic research.

All of the department's graduate courses besides the survey courses will be considered advanced courses. First-year M.A. students who wish to take a seminar need the permission of the adviser and consent of the instructor.

Course work in another department of the University of Wisconsin–Madison can be counted toward the minimum 32-credit requirement if it has been approved by the Chair in consultation with the Departmental Committee, except if the adviser approves taking up to six credits in another language.

SPANISH 770 Introduction to the Profession is required of all new Teaching Assistants.

All graduate students who are candidates for an M.A. degree in this department must take a minimum of two graduate-level courses in Spanish and/or Portuguese for credit each semester, exclusive of Independent Reading courses and audited courses. A student who is not in compliance with this requirement is not making good progress toward the degree, and will therefore be deemed not in good academic standing. Advisers should be aware that only the Graduate Studies Committee may grant exemptions.

Specific course requirements are as follows:

## Spanish M.A. with a concentration in literature <sup>1</sup>

The Spanish Master's Degree program with a concentration in literature is based on six curriculum areas:

1. Medieval Literature
2. Golden Age Literature
3. Modern Peninsular Literature
4. Spanish-American Literature I (Colonial through Modernismo)
5. Spanish-American Literature II (From Modernismo to the present)
6. Latinx Studies

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Required Courses <sup>2, 3</sup></b>		
Choose one course from five of the nine areas, one of which must be in a linguistics field <sup>4</sup>		15
SPANISH 770	Introduction to the Profession	3
<b>Electives</b>		<b>14</b>
Students may take up to 6 credits of language courses other than Spanish or English (see "Language Requirements" below)		
Remaining credits typically taken in literature areas		
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>32</b>

### 1

These pathways are internal to the program and represent different curricular paths a student can follow to earn this degree. Pathway names do not appear in the Graduate School admissions application, and they will not appear on the transcript.

### 2

SPANISH 323 Advanced Language Practice with Emphasis on Expository Writing, SPANISH 320 Spanish Phonetics and SPANISH 770 Introduction to the Profession **do not** count toward any of the nine literary or linguistic areas.

### 3

Both literature and linguistics M.A. students must take at least 6 credits in advanced courses, which are numbered 600 and above.

### 4

Students with a concentration in literature must take a course in the literary area in which they choose not to be examined on the M.A./Ph.D. qualifying exam.

The department plans to offer the following sequence of survey courses in literature on a two-year rotating basis. This list is provided purely for informational purposes and is not intended as a list of mandatory courses:

## Spanish M.A. with a concentration in linguistics <sup>1</sup>

The Spanish Master's Degree program with a concentration in linguistics is based on four curriculum areas:

1. Phonetics & Phonology
2. Syntax
3. Language Variation & Change
4. Applied Linguistics & Second Language Acquisition.

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Required Courses <sup>2, 3</sup></b>		
Choose 3 credits from one of the following areas:		3

Phonetics & Phonology

Syntax

Language Variation & Change

Choose 3 credits in Applied Linguistics & Second Language Acquisition	3
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Choose 6 credits from any of the linguistics areas	6
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One literature course	3
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SPANISH 770	Introduction to the Profession	3
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<b>Electives</b>	<b>14</b>
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Students may take up to 6 credits of language courses other than Spanish or English (see "Language Requirements" above)

Remaining credits typically taken in linguistics areas	
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<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>32</b>
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### 1

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### 2

SPANISH 323 Advanced Language Practice with Emphasis on Expository Writing, SPANISH 320 Spanish Phonetics, and SPANISH 770 Introduction to the Profession **do not** count toward any of the nine literary or linguistic areas.

### 3

Both literature and linguistics M.A. students must take at least 6 credits in advanced courses, which are numbered 600 and above.

## POLICIES

## GRADUATE SCHOOL POLICIES

The Graduate School's Academic Policies and Procedures (<https://grad.wisc.edu/acadpolicy/>) provide essential information regarding general university policies. Program authority to set degree policies beyond the minimum required by the Graduate School lies with the degree program faculty. Policies set by the academic degree program can be found below.

## MAJOR-SPECIFIC POLICIES

### PRIOR COURSEWORK

#### Graduate Work from Other Institutions

Master's students are not allowed to transfer in graduate credits from other institutions.

#### UW–Madison Undergraduate

No credits from undergraduate courses from a UW–Madison undergraduate degree are allowed to count toward the degree, but students who have taken graduate level courses are allowed to petition with their advisor's consent up to a maximum of 7 credits.

#### UW–Madison University Special

With program approval, students are allowed to count no more than 6 credits of coursework numbered 300 or above taken as a UW–Madison University Special student. Coursework earned five or more years prior to admission to a master's degree is not allowed to satisfy requirements.

## PROBATION

Satisfactory progress depends on: maintaining a GPA of at least 3.0, adhering to the rule whereby students must take two courses within the department (or have the rule waived by petition), and fulfilling all academic requirements. Students who are not in good standing will not be given sections to teach as TAs, and those whose GPA goes below 3.0 are put on academic probation. If a semester of 3.0 is not attained during the subsequent semester, the student may be dismissed from the program.

## ADVISOR / COMMITTEE

An advisor is assigned to incoming students when they join the program. The student and the advisor will plan a program that takes into account the candidate's interest, strengths and deficiencies. If, for example, the student has a strong undergraduate background in a particular period of literature, the advisor will not recommend further exposure to the same field. Likewise, a student with extensive experience abroad and/or undergraduate preparation in composition or conversation may not need further study in these areas.

All students must have a substantial meeting with their advisor every semester to review their progress and work out the best strategies for future coursework and degree progress.

## CREDITS PER TERM ALLOWED

15 credits

## TIME LIMITS

The M.A./Ph.D. portfolio is submitted in the fourth or fifth semester of the M.A. program, very rarely beyond that.

This program follows the Graduate School's Time Limits policy (<https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1221/>).

## GRIEVANCES AND APPEALS

These resources may be helpful in addressing your concerns:

- Bias or Hate Reporting (<https://doso.students.wisc.edu/bias-or-hate-reporting/>)
- Graduate Assistantship Policies and Procedures (<https://hr.wisc.edu/policies/gapp/#grievance-procedure>)
- Hostile and Intimidating Behavior Policies and Procedures (<https://hr.wisc.edu/hib/>)
  - Office of the Provost for Faculty and Staff Affairs (<https://facstaff.provost.wisc.edu/>)
- Dean of Students Office (<https://doso.students.wisc.edu/>) (for all students to seek grievance assistance and support)
- Employee Assistance (<http://www.eao.wisc.edu/>) (for personal counseling and workplace consultation around communication and conflict involving graduate assistants and other employees, post-doctoral students, faculty and staff)
- Employee Disability Resource Office (<https://employeeedisabilities.wisc.edu/>) (for qualified employees or applicants with disabilities to have equal employment opportunities)
- Graduate School (<https://grad.wisc.edu/>) (for informal advice at any level of review and for official appeals of program/departmental or school/college grievance decisions)
- Office of Compliance (<https://compliance.wisc.edu/>) (for class harassment and discrimination, including sexual harassment and sexual violence)

- Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards (<https://conduct.students.wisc.edu/>) (for conflicts involving students)
- Ombuds Office for Faculty and Staff (<http://www.ombuds.wisc.edu/>) (for employed graduate students and post-docs, as well as faculty and staff)
- Title IX (<https://compliance.wisc.edu/titleix/>) (for concerns about discrimination)

Students should contact the department chair or program director with questions about grievances. They may also contact the L&S Academic Divisional Associate Deans, the L&S Associate Dean for Teaching and Learning Administration, or the L&S Director of Human Resources.

## OTHER

Guaranteed funding through teaching assistantships. Many additional sources of funding are available on a competitive basis, including the Advanced Opportunity Fellowship, summer research Mellon fellowships, one-semester dissertation fellowships, Title VI FLAS fellowships for summer and year-long foreign language study, Nave summer research travel grants, and numerous others.

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

## GRADUATE SCHOOL RESOURCES

Take advantage of the Graduate School's professional development resources (<https://grad.wisc.edu/pd/>) to build skills, thrive academically, and launch your career.

## LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Articulates, critiques, and elaborates the theories, methods, and terminology of the field of study
2. Identifies and pursues promising avenues of inquiry, finds and makes use of appropriate bibliography, evaluates or synthesizes pertinent information and analyzes evidence
3. Demonstrates breadth of knowledge and understanding the field of study in a historical, sociocultural and global context.
4. Develops speaking and writing skills and communicates fluently and clearly in Spanish in ways appropriate to the field of study.
5. Develops academic professionalization through participation in conferences and other extracurricular activities in preparation for a career path related to the field.
6. Develops effective teaching skills (for beginning and intermediate classes).

## PEOPLE

**Spanish Faculty:** Professors Beilin (modern Spanish literature), Bilbija (modern Spanish American literature), Close (modern Spanish American/trans-Atlantic literature), De Ferrari (modern Spanish American literature), Egea (modern Spanish literature), Hutchinson (Golden Age literature), Medina (modern Spanish American literature), Podestá (colonial Spanish American literature); Associate Professors Alcalá-Galán (Golden Age literature), Ancos-García (medieval Spanish literature), Goldgel-Carballo (colonial Spanish American literature), Hernández (modern Spanish American literature), Pellegrini (modern Spanish American literature), Rao (Spanish linguistics), Stafford (second language acquisition and linguistics), Tejedo-Herrero (Spanish linguistics); Assistant Professors

Armstrong (Spanish linguistics), Cerezo Paredes (modern Spanish literature),

**Portuguese Faculty:** Professors Sapega (Portuguese and Luso-African literature and culture) and Sanchez (Portuguese and Brazilian literature and culture).