

DEPARTMENT OF WORLD LANGUAGES AND CULTURES

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M.A. in Spanish (<https://www.shsu.edu/programs/graduate/spanish/>)

Mission

The study of languages and cultures not only enables communication across languages, but opens doors to different cultures and perspectives. Knowledge of languages and cultures provides exciting career opportunities.

- Master of Arts in Spanish (<https://catalog.shsu.edu/archives/2025-2026/graduate-and-professional/college-departments/humanities-social-sciences/fworld-languages-and-cultures/spanish-ma/>)

Spanish

SPAN 5060. Special Topics in Spanish. 1-3 Hours.

Students examine Hispanic culture, including the US Latino population. Topics vary and may include specific authors, themes, literary genres, and/or sociopolitical issues. The course may be repeated for credit as content varies. Variable Credit (1 to 3).

Prerequisite: Graduate status in Spanish.

SPAN 5331. Seminar in Comparative Spanish Art and Culture. 3 Hours.

Students conduct an in-depth comparison of cultural representations, both visual and aural, across the Hispanic world. Topics vary from semester to semester. The course may be repeated for credit as content varies. Students develop Spanish language ability and cultural consciousness.

Prerequisite: Graduate status in Spanish.

SPAN 5332. Spanish Golden Age Literature. 3 Hours.

Students conduct an in-depth study of the Spanish Golden Age (1500-1700), including authors, works, and concepts (e.g., Renaissance, Baroque, Picaresque). Topics may include poetry, plays, and other genres of the era.

Prerequisite: Graduate Status in Spanish.

SPAN 5333. Spanish American Literature: Pre-European to Independence. 3 Hours.

Students examine the literary cultures of Spanish America from the Colonial to the Post-Colonial period (end of the 19th century). Topics may include national literatures, cultural backgrounds, ethnic, linguistic, and identity issues.

Prerequisite: Graduate Status in Spanish.

SPAN 5334. Contemporary Spanish American Literature. 3 Hours.

Students examine the literary expressions of various Hispanic cultures during the 20th century and beyond including the U.S. Latino experience. Topics may include authors, themes, artistic/literary genres or contemporary social and political issues.

Prerequisite: Graduate Status in Spanish.

SPAN 5336. Hispanic Women's Studies. 3 Hours.

Students examine Hispanic women's literature and art. Students interpret, evaluate, and respond to a variety of genres within this topic.

Prerequisite: Graduate status in Spanish.

SPAN 5337. Literature Analysis and Research Methods. 3 Hours.

Students enhance their literary consciousness and capability through reading and discussion. They develop familiarity with and appreciation for Hispanic literature while increasing their ability to interpret and evaluate cultural products. Students practice analytical and interpretive skills to conduct independent research for scholarly presentations and publications.

Prerequisite: Graduate Status in Spanish.

SPAN 5338. Second Language Teaching and Methods. 3 Hours.

Students evaluate second language acquisition theories to understand their relationship to effective teaching with a focus on language skills (listening, speaking, reading, writing, and cultural awareness). Emphasis is given to the evaluation of language based on state and federal guidelines.

Prerequisite: Graduate Status in Spanish.

SPAN 5361. The Structure of Spanish. 3 Hours.

Students broadly examine the linguistic structure of Spanish. Topics may include phonetics/phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, and pragmatics of the Spanish language.

Prerequisite: Graduate Status in Spanish.

SPAN 5370. History of Spanish Language. 3 Hours.

Students discover the history of the Spanish language over the last two millennia. Topics may include the formal development of Spanish phonology, morphology, syntax, and semantics.

Prerequisite: Graduate Status in Spanish.

SPAN 5371. Contemporary Spanish Literature. 3 Hours.

Students conduct an in-depth study of the major authors, works (including films), and aesthetic currents of Spanish literature beginning with the 20th century. Texts are studied from a variety of theoretical approaches.

Prerequisite: Graduate Status in Spanish.

SPAN 5372. Spanish for Technical Composition. 3 Hours.

Students study forms of exposition, including narration, to develop competency for clear and effective technical writing for various professions including health, law, criminal justice, education, science, technology, literature and business.

Prerequisite: Graduate Status in Spanish.

SPAN 5373. Theories and Practices of Translation and Interpretation. 3 Hours.

Students are trained in the cognitive processes and language skills required to translate and interpret written or audiovisual texts.

Prerequisite: Graduate Status in Spanish.

SPAN 5374. Studies in Spanish Linguistics. 3 Hours.

Students apply Spanish linguistics principles. Topics vary and may include phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, and pragmatics. Related topics may include specific approaches to language variation, bilingualism, and language acquisition. The course may be repeated for credit as content varies.

Prerequisite: Graduate status in Spanish.

World Language and Cultures

WOLC 5075. Independent Study. 1-3 Hours.

Students engage with a faculty member in one-on-one study of individually selected topics not specifically provided in graduate-level courses in WOLC. The course may be repeated for credit as content varies. Variable Credit (1 to 3).

Prerequisite: Department approval.

Director/Chair: **Maria Hasler Barker**

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