

What is Spanish Studies?

The program develops analytical skills and methodologies needed to explore Hispanic, Hispanic-American, and Luso-Brazilian languages and cultures. The department offers two majors (Spanish Studies and combined Spanish- Portuguese studies) and two minors (Spanish Studies and Portuguese Studies).

It is important to note that department majors and minors are not simply Spanish and Portuguese language majors or minors, rather, they are liberal arts majors and minors concentrating on Spanish, Latin American and/or Luso-Brazilian literary, cultural, and linguistic studies with language skills at the foundation. All major and minor options in this department begin with prerequisite language courses, followed by advanced language skills courses (special arrangements may be made for native speakers of Spanish). These are followed by critical analysis skills courses in Hispanic literature, culture, and linguistics that prepare students to take advanced coursework in specific areas. The major options culminate in the completion of an individual major research project through the Graduation Seminar. All major and minor courses must be taken A-F and completed with grades of C- or better. Spanish and Portuguese courses taught in English and credits earned in community tutorial programs are not acceptable for major or minor credit. Program plans are carefully structured through courses that must be taken in sequential order—contact the department adviser for more detailed information. Any deviation from course prerequisites (e.g., substitution of language courses for native speakers of Spanish or Portuguese) must be approved in advance by the director of undergraduate studies through the department advising office, 34 Folwell Hall.

The department strongly encourages majors and minors to study abroad in a Spanish or Portuguese-speaking area. Students who wish to complete department program requirements through study abroad must meet with the department adviser prior to departure. Detailed information regarding Spanish-Portuguese Studies undergraduate academic issues is printed in the department Undergraduate Advising Handbook, available in the department advising office, 34 Folwell Hall.

What are the major requirements?

Go to www.catalogs.umn.edu/programs.html and select “Undergraduate majors.”

How do I declare a Spanish Studies major?

You will be required to declare a major by the time you have completed 60 credits.

1. Read the current Department of Spanish and Portuguese Studies Undergraduate Advising Handbook, to learn more about the major and its requirements. The handbook is available in print outside 34 Folwell Hall or on the internet via <http://spanport.cla.umn.edu>.
2. To declare a major, go online or stop by the Department of Spanish and Portuguese Studies office (612-625-5858, 34 Folwell Hall) to register for a group declaration session. Numerous sessions are held each semester (not during breaks or summer, and individual declaration meetings are not available). The sessions take about an hour and there is ample opportunity

For more information:

About the Spanish major:
Undergraduate Advising
34 Folwell Hall
(612) 625-9348
<http://spanport.cla.umn.edu/>

About CLA requirements, graduation, and other information about majors:
CLA Languages and Mathematics Student Community
114 Johnston Hall
(612) 624-7540
<http://langmath.class.umn.edu/>

or
CLA Martin Luther King, Jr. Program
19 Johnston Hall
(612) 625-2300
<http://class.umn.edu/mlk/>
mlk@class.cla.umn.edu

About careers, internships, and community learning opportunities in this major and others:
Career and Community Learning Center
135 Johnston Hall
(612) 624-7577
<http://cclc.umn.edu/>
cclc@class.cla.umn.edu

About graduation with honors:
CLA Honors Division
20 Nicholson
(612) 624-5522
<http://cla.umn.edu/honors/>
honors@class.cla.umn.edu

to ask specific questions therein. You will also complete the Major Declaration forms and a One-Year or Major Completion Plan with the departmental adviser.

3. Bring a copy of the form to your CLA student community.
4. If you decide to change your major, or add an additional one, follow the appropriate steps to declare the new major. Be sure to tell your CLA advisor whether you are dropping your original major or adding an additional one.

What can I do with a major in Spanish Studies?

Skills

Spanish Studies majors develop skills that are applicable to a wide variety of careers. These skills include:

- Verbal and written communication skills
- Strong cultural knowledge and understanding
- Ability to formulate clear and persuasive messages
- Listening, clarifying, questioning and responding skills
- Ability to work well with diverse groups
- Sound critical analysis skills
- Adaptability to change

Employment

Common areas of employment for this major include but are not limited to:

- Business—marketing, human resources, sales, recruiting, international business and trade, advertising, supervising, corporate training
- Education—teaching, research, student affairs
- Government—public information, campaigns, policy, elected official
- Social services—social work, therapy, ESL instruction, health care
- Nonprofit—fundraising, programming, management

The **Career & Community Learning Center** provides students with the tools to identify and pursue potential careers. An extensive resource room, career courses and workshops, and a helpful staff are just some of the ways we can help.

Remember!

You have not declared a major until you have:

- completed a Major Program form with your major adviser,
- filed a copy with the major department,
- and filed a copy with your CLA student community.

Don't forget: keep a copy for yourself!