Graduate Degree Programs in Spanish & Portuguese

Spanish, MA (p. 1)
  optional concentrations:
  Medieval Studies
  Spanish Linguistics
  Spanish Literatures & Cultures

Spanish, PhD
  optional concentrations:
  Medieval Studies
  Romance Linguistics
  Second Language Acquisition & Teacher Education

Portuguese, MA
  concentration:
  Brazilian Studies

Portuguese, PhD (Please note: Until further notice, we are accepting applications only to the M.A. in Portuguese, not to the Ph.D.)

The Department of Spanish and Portuguese offers work leading to the Master of Arts and Doctor of Philosophy in Spanish and Portuguese, and to a Concentration in Second Language Acquisition and Teacher Education (SLATE). Fields of specialization are:
  • Spanish linguistics
  • Romance linguistics
  • Spanish literature and cultural studies
  • Latin American literature and cultural studies
  • Brazilian Studies
  • Luso-Brazilian literature and cultural studies

A graduate course in Catalan literature is available. Also, the department is affiliated with the Latina/Latino Studies Program. Students in the area of Latina/Latino studies may be able to work with experts in the other disciplines in Latina/Latino studies such as anthropology, history, political science, sociology, and so forth in order to design and complete a program of studies in a particular area.

Admission

The normal prerequisite for a graduate major is an undergraduate major in the corresponding Romance language or consent of the department. Students doing graduate work for any advanced degree in Spanish or Portuguese must possess a command of the language. Applicants should apply online (www.grad.illinois.edu/admissions/apply) and submit a statement of purpose, three letters of recommendation and a writing sample of approximately 10-20 pages in the form of one or two papers, at least one of which must be written in Spanish or Portuguese (as applicable). Original transcripts (with English translations if applicable) showing all undergraduate and graduate work completed should also
be uploaded. Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores are required of all domestic applicants and should be submitted to institution code 1836. International applicants who have taken the GRE are encouraged to submit their scores as well. Applicants whose native language is not English are required to take the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) and must score at least 88 on the internet-based test (iBT); they must also pass the speaking sub-section of the iBT with a minimum score of 24 (see www.grad.illinois.edu/Admissions/instructions/04c). Applications are accepted for fall admission only. Application questions may be directed to SLCL Graduate Student Services at slclgradservices@illinois.edu.

Centers, Programs, and Institutes
The option to pursue a concentration in SLATE (Second Language Acquisition and Teacher Education) is available to doctoral students in the department's programs in linguistics. Candidates selecting this option are required to complete courses in linguistics, psycholinguistics/sociolinguistics, second language studies, and research methodology in addition to advanced study in linguistics of the particular language. For information about SLATE go to www.slate.illinois.edu.

Graduate Teaching Experience
Although teaching is not a general Graduate College requirement, this department requires degree candidates to teach as part of their academic work. Such experience is considered a vital part of the graduate program. Non-native English speakers must first pass a test of their oral English ability (see www.grad.illinois.edu/admissions/taengprof.htm).

Financial Aid
The department offers financial aid (in the form of fellowships, teaching assistantships, and research assistantships) to all of the students it admits. Other kinds of fellowships and research support are also available on a competitive basis to qualified candidates; they include dissertation research and travel grants, conference travel grants, and summer fellowships.

for the degree of Master of Arts in Spanish, Spanish Literatures & Cultures Concentration
The M.A. in Spanish, Concentration in Spanish Literatures and Cultures is administered through the Department of Spanish and Portuguese. Its goal is to provide graduate students with rigorous training in all main areas of Spanish Literatures and Cultures, as well as a working knowledge of Brazilian/Lusophone literatures and cultures. It requires coursework in both Latin American and Spanish peninsular literary and cultural production in each of the general chronological periods.

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<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<td>SPAN 572</td>
<td>Theory and Literary Criticism (or equivalent to ensure basic preparation)</td>
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To ensure broad knowledge of the field of Spanish-language literatures and cultures, choose one course from each of groups 1-5 below:

- **Group 1:** Pre-18th Century Peninsular
- **Group 2:** Colonial Spanish American (Pre-Columbian to 1810)
- **Group 3:** Modern and Contemporary Spanish American
- **Group 4:** Modern and Contemporary Peninsular

Information listed in this catalog is current as of 05/2020