About the Department

The Department of Hispanic Studies offers a sound educational experience centered on the study of the language as well as the literary and cultural production of Iberian, Latin American, and U.S. Hispanic cultures, from their origins to the present time. We offer language instruction to serve all proficiency levels, from beginners to students with native or near-native language skills. In our upper-division courses, students hone their research, writing, and public speaking skills and explore key questions posed by literary and cultural studies about the Spanish-speaking world: the United States, the Caribbean, Central and South America, and Spain.

We address the needs of traditional students of Spanish as a foreign language; of heritage speakers for whom Spanish is a part of their family history; and of bilingual and bicultural students whose first language is English but who enter the university as near-native speakers of Spanish.

In addition to our traditional mission preparing students to function in Spanish in a foreign setting, the Department of Hispanic Studies encourages students to become proficient in Spanish language and cultures within and outside the borders of the United States. Our curriculum embraces the rich variety of Spanish in the U.S., the centuries-old histories of Latino communities all over the nation, and their current demographic, cultural, and political relevance. Fostering the development of engaged citizens who are able to thrive in our increasingly bilingual nation is of central importance to our mission. In that way we assist students to prepare themselves to use Spanish as citizens and professionals on a daily basis and to understand the complexities and nuances of Hispanic cultures in the U.S. as well as abroad.

Majors in Hispanic Studies are well prepared for graduate studies in Spanish. They are also well qualified to pursue post-graduate degrees and entry-level work in fields such as law, business, education, journalism, and medicine. Frequently, our graduating majors have integrated their studies of Spanish language and cultures with coursework in other disciplines and pursue careers in fields such as international business, the non-profit sector, government, human and immigrant rights work, travel, and communications, all of which value their expertise in Hispanic Studies highly.

Students who graduate from the Hispanic Studies Department will be able to:
- Communicate in Spanish personally and professionally on a daily basis
- Demonstrate a high level of critical sophistication as readers of complex literary texts
- Engage critically and deliberately with challenging theoretical questions on a wide variety of topics in the field
- Prepare and execute effective oral presentations in Spanish and write solid research papers on Hispanic literary and cultural studies
- Understand the complexities and nuances of Hispanic cultures in the U.S. and abroad
- Demonstrate an awareness of the linguistic, cultural, racial, and ethnic diversity of Spain, Latin America, and the U.S.
- Act thoughtfully as engaged citizens in our increasingly bilingual communities

Study Abroad Coursework

Majors and minors in Hispanic Studies receive credit for coursework earned while studying in departmentally approved study abroad programs only. A list of approved programs is available below. To ensure that credit earned abroad will transfer, students are encouraged to consult with a department advisor to discuss their plans for foreign study. The following are the approved programs in the Department of Hispanic Studies. No University credit in Spanish will be awarded for coursework carried out in programs other than the following:

- IFSA/Butler Buenos Aires (Argentina)
- CIEE Valparaíso (Chile)
- UPS/PLU Oaxaca (Mexico)
- ILACA Granada (Spain)
- Madrid Summers (Spain)

Placement

Normally, first year students in their first semester who have completed a minimum of three solid years of Spanish courses in high-school are qualified to enroll in Spanish 201 (Intermediate Spanish I). First year students in their first semester who have completed less than three years of solid high-school Spanish courses should consider enrolling in Spanish 101 (Elementary Spanish I) in the fall or in Spanish 110 (Intensive Elementary Spanish) in the spring term. Students who failed to take Spanish during the year prior to entering Puget Sound should consider enrolling in Spanish 110 as well. Experiential learning abroad, living in a Spanish-speaking household in the U.S. or abroad, graduating from a Spanish immersion school program, and other such experiences generally allow first year students to enroll in post-intermediate or advanced courses. Please consult with a department advisor at the fall Academic Fair, via email, or in person during their office hours for personal assistance with placement. All transfer students, especially those who have not taken Spanish for one or more years prior to transferring to Puget Sound, can also be evaluated on an individual basis. Consult department advisors to determine adequate course placement. All transfer students, especially those who have had prolonged periods of time elapse since their last academic coursework, will be evaluated on an individual basis. Their placement will be based on observation in courses at the Tacoma campus.

Transfer of units

Coursework completed at other accredited institutions may be accepted toward major or minor requirements subject to the following conditions:

1. All Hispanic Studies majors must take a minimum of four courses taught in the Hispanic Studies department at the Tacoma campus.
2. In addition to meeting the first requirement, Hispanic International Studies majors must take a minimum of four of the required units in Business, Economics, and Politics & Government at the Tacoma campus.
3. All minors must take a minimum of three units at the Tacoma campus, including the required 300/400-level course.

General Requirements for the Major or Minor

General university degree requirements stipulate that 1) at least four units of the major or three units of the minor be taken in residence at Puget Sound; 2) students earn a GPA of 2.0 in courses taken for the major or the minor; and 3) all courses taken for a major or minor must be taken for graded credit. Any exceptions to these stipulations are indicated in the major and minor degree requirements listed below.
Requirements for the Bachelor of Arts in Language, Culture, and Literature in Hispanic Studies

Ten units, a senior paper, and a senior portfolio (see Notes below).

I. Ten units in Spanish at the 201 level or above to include:
   A. SPAN 300
   B. Two units at the 301 level or above
   C. One 400-level course

II. Two of the 300/400-level courses must be taken at the Tacoma campus, one during the senior year. See section on Transfer of Units (above) for more details.

Requirements for the Bachelor of Arts in Hispanic International Studies

Fourteen units and a senior portfolio (see Notes below).

I. Eight units in Spanish at the 201 level or above to include:
   A. SPAN 205
   B. Three units at the 300/400 level
   C. Two of the 300/400-level courses must be taken at the Tacoma campus, one during senior year. See section on Transfer of Units (above) for more details.

II. Three units in International Politics
   A. PG 102 or 103

III. Three units in International Business and/or Economics
   A. Three units from ECON 101, 268, 271; BUS 370, 435, 472, 475; IPE 205. Note: A student majoring in Hispanic International Studies who also earn a Economics major or minor may also count ECON 301 and 302 towards this requirement.

Requirements for the Minor in Spanish

Completion of a minimum of five units in Spanish at the 201 level or above. One unit must be at the 300 or 400 level taken at the Tacoma campus.

Notes

1. Students must earn a grade of C (2.0) or above in all courses taken for a major or minor in the Department of Hispanic Studies.
2. The senior writing project is a graduation requirement for Language, Culture and Literature majors. It will emerge from an upper division course (301 or above), an equivalent course while taken abroad or an approved summer research project. More information about the senior writing requirement are available from the department or the academic advisor.
3. Majors are required to compile a portfolio of their work, submitted to the department by April 1 of their senior year. When students declare their major, they should seek a faculty advisor in the department who will advise them on the creation of their portfolio. The portfolio serves to assess the student’s progress in the curriculum and to synthesize the student’s total experience as a major.
4. Refer to home departments for prerequisites for all courses without the SPAN designation. For example, PG 321 has a prerequisite of PG 102.
5. Hispanic International Studies students majoring or minoring in Economics may count ECON 301 and 302 toward the International Business or Economics requirement.
6. The Department of Hispanic Studies does not accept or award credit for distance learning courses.
7. The Department of Hispanic Studies reserves the right to exclude a course from a major or minor based on the time elapsed since the course was completed.

Course Offerings

Unless otherwise specified, each course carries 1 unit of credit and is offered at least once each academic year. Please see “Frequency of Course Offerings” on page 10.

The proper course sequence of instruction in Spanish language is Elementary Level 101 and 102, or 110; Intermediate Level 201 and 202. A student who has received a C (2.00) grade or better in any course of this sequence or its equivalent cannot subsequently receive credit for a course which appears before it in the sequence.

Other courses offered by Hispanic Studies faculty. See Connections in the Core Curriculum section of this Bulletin for Connections course descriptions.

HUM 201 Arts, Ideas, and Society  
Satisfies the Humanistic Approaches core requirement.

HUM 290 Introduction to Cinema Studies  
Satisfies the Artistic Approaches core requirement.

HUM 320 Surveillance Society: Control, Resistance, and (Digital) Revolution  
Satisfies the Connections core requirement.

LAS 380 Around Macondo in Eighty Days  
Satisfies the Connections core requirement.

101/102 Elementary Spanish  
These courses are an introduction to the fundamentals of Spanish and focus on the development of four skills: comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. Emphasis is placed on active communication and the development of oral and comprehension skills. This course is taught in Spanish. The course sequence of foreign language instruction is Elementary Level 101, 102, Intermediate Level 201, 202 SPAN 101 and 102 satisfy the foreign language graduation requirement when both are completed successfully. 202. A student who has received a C (2.00) grade or better in any course in this sequence or its equivalent cannot subsequently receive credit for a course which appears before it in the sequence. Prerequisite: 101 and 102 are sequential courses: 101 or permission of the instructor required for 102. 101 offered Fall only; 102 offered Spring only.

110 Accelerated Elementary Spanish  
This course accommodates students who have had fewer than three years of Spanish at the high school level or those who do not feel adequately prepared to enroll in Intermediate Spanish (SPAN 201), but who are also not appropriately placed to enroll in the first semester Elementary Spanish (SPAN 101) course. This is an intensive course covering the entire curriculum of the standard two-semester Elementary Spanish, in one semester. Students should be advised that taking SPAN 110 alone will not fulfill the foreign language graduation requirement; students need to complete SPAN 201 successfully in order to satisfy the requirement. Offered Spring only.

201/202 Intermediate Spanish  
These are mid-level courses for students seeking to perfect their command of Spanish. The courses consist of oral and written assignments on a variety of topics chosen to increase the student’s control of the structures and vocabulary of the language. The courses also include a thorough review of grammar. This course is taught in Spanish. The course sequence of foreign language instruction is Elementary Level 101, 102, Intermediate Level 201, 202. A student who has received a C (2.00) grade or better in any course in this sequence or its equivalent cannot subsequently receive credit for a course which appears before it in the sequence. Prerequisite: Three years of high school Spanish, SPAN 102, or permission of instructor.
required for 201; 201 or permission of instructor required for 202. 201 offered Fall only; 202 offered Spring only.

203 Advanced Grammar and Composition This course develops students’ writing and editing skills in Spanish by exploring various types of writing (descripción, narración, reportaje, exposición, and argumentación) and the processes needed to develop these styles of composition. As part of the mastery of the skills necessary for writing in Spanish, the course incorporates a review of key and complex grammatical structures. This course is taught in Spanish. Prerequisite: SPAN 201 and 202 or their equivalents. Offered frequently.

204 Advanced Oral Expression This course combines linguistic functions and structures with culture through an integration of listening, speaking, reading, and writing activities. The course concentrates on improving oral fluency in Spanish by using the topics of Spanish and Latin American films, and their illustration of language in its cultural context for class discussion. This course is taught in Spanish. Prerequisite: SPAN 201 and 202 or their equivalents. Offered frequently.

205 Spanish Contemporary Issues, Translation, and Creativity Applications of Spanish in non-literary contexts. This class emphasizes the perfection of practical oral and written skills, especially translation. It is open to a wide variety of topics including popular culture, technology, science, economics, news media, cinema, the environment, and/or some professional uses of Spanish. Students will complete individual and/or group multimedia projects centered around their interests. A grammar review is included. This course is taught in Spanish. Prerequisite: SPAN 201 and 202 or their equivalents. Offered frequently.

210 Latina/o America: A Critical Introduction to Latina/o Studies The United States is the second largest Spanish-speaking country in the world. Taking an interdisciplinary approach, this course explores the historical, social, political, and cultural configurations of this fact and of what has come to be known as Latina/o U.S.A. The course begins with a discussion on the roots of Spanish in the Americas. What are the historical and colonial relations of power leading to the presence of Spanish-speaking peoples and Latino cultures in the U.S.? In posing this question the course examines the nascent U.S. nation as a political and colonizing force throughout the 19th century; its politics of colonization towards Native Americans, Mestizos, and people of Spanish and African descent through the annexation of Florida (1819), the Mexican American War (1846-1848), and the Spanish-American War (1898). Departing from these moments, the course then interrogates ongoing U.S. border politics and U.S. empire building throughout the continent, further questioning the following: How do U.S. policies relate to the massive Latino migratory patterns during the 19th, 20th, and 21st centuries? How do these shape the complexities of the Latina/o experience? Literature, film, historical accounts, and social science works serve to discuss the central issues of this course: migrations, racisms, language as a marginalizing and/or empowering tool, key political and social moments in the Latino experience, the entrenchment of neoliberal economic policies and immigration, deportations and U.S. immigration policies, Latino community building, gender practices, heterogeneities of Latino populations, and politics of identity. This course is taught in English. Satisfies the Humanistic Approaches core requirement. Satisfies the Knowledge, Identity, and Power graduation requirement. Cross-listed with LTS 200. Offered frequently.

211 Iberian Cultures This course introduces students to the culture and civilization of Spain with emphasis on the history, art, and prevalent cultural myths and practices integral to the development of the nations that make up Spain. This course considers the relevance of these cultural elements within an Hispanic context and a global perspective. This course is taught in Spanish. Prerequisite: SPAN 201 and 202 or their equivalents. Offered frequently.

212 Latin American Culture and Civilization This course introduces the student to the culture and civilization of Latin America, with an emphasis on the history, visual art, music, and prevalent cultural myths integral to the civilizations and cultures of the region. The course considers the relevance of these cultural elements within a Hispanic context and a larger world perspective. This course is taught in Spanish. Prerequisite: SPAN 201 and 202 or their equivalents. Offered frequently.

300 Literature, Theory, and Practice A study of the major genres of Hispanic literature through close analyses of selected masterpieces. This class prepares the student for more advanced studies in literary and cultural studies. This course is taught in Spanish. Prerequisite: any one of SPAN 203, 204, 205, 210, 211, 212, or equivalent. Offered frequently.

301 Literature of the Americas and Critical Inquiry A panoramic survey of the literature of the Americas. The texts studied in the course reflect literary developments up to the present. Works to be discussed illustrate cultural elements that are evidenced in today’s society. Latino Literature written in the United States may also be included. This course is taught in Spanish. Prerequisite: any one of SPAN 203, 204, 205, 210, 211, 212, or equivalent. Offered every other year.

302 Spanish Literature and Critical Inquiry A panoramic survey of Spanish literature from the early modern period to the present. Works to be discussed illustrate cultural, political, and social issues critical in the development of Spanish literature. This course has a multimedia component. This course is taught in Spanish. Prerequisite: any one of SPAN 203, 204, 205, 210, 211, 212, or permission of the instructor. Offered every other year.

303 Hispanic Short Story This course considers the main cultural and literary issues of the Hispanic world as represented in the short story. Writers from both sides of the Atlantic are studied with emphasis on close reading and analysis of the texts. This course is taught in Spanish. Prerequisite: any one of SPAN 203, 204, 205, 210, 211, 212, or equivalent. Offered every other year.

304 Hispanic Poetry This course examines poetry as an authentic expression of Hispanic literature. Writers from Spain and Latin America are studied with emphasis on close reading and analysis of their poems, the study of meter, rhyme, and other elements of prosody, as well as writing critically about poetry. This course is taught in Spanish. Prerequisite: any one of SPAN 203, 204, 205, 210, 211, 212, or equivalent. Offered every other year.

305 Spanish Film An overview of Spanish cinema since the Civil War to the present. All films are studied in reference to the historical developments in Spain from 1939 to the present. Works by Berlanga, Buñuel, Saura, and Almodovar are screened. Course includes required screening lab. This course is taught in Spanish. Prerequisite: any one of SPAN 203, 204, 205, 210, 211, 212, or equivalent. Offered occasionally.

306 Latin American Film This course surveys Latin American cinema, with a particular emphasis on contemporary films. The acquisition of technical vocabulary will facilitate a careful examination of the selected works. Together with literary, critical, and theoretical texts, this analysis will lead to a broader discussion about the key cultural and social issues of the region. This course is taught in Spanish. Prerequisite: any one of SPAN 203, 204, 205, 210, 211, 212, or equivalent. Offered occasionally.
307 Modern Spanish Theater This course covers approximately 200 years of Spanish drama. Students read complete dramas from several of Spain’s most prolific playwrights while covering the major literary movements and tendencies of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. This course is taught in Spanish. Prerequisite: any one of SPAN 203, 204, 205, 210, 211, 212, or equivalent. Offered occasionally.

308 Modern Latin American and Latino Theatre This course explores major theatre pieces of the twentieth century and is organized around important theatrical centers in Latin America and the study of terminology related to the theatre. The two largest units focus on Argentina and Mexico, but the course also covers plays from Chile, Puerto Rico, Cuba, and some Chicano works. The growing importance of performance theory and art is included in the coursework. This course is taught in Spanish. Prerequisite: any one of SPAN 203, 204, 205, 210, 211, 212, or equivalent. Offered every other year.

309 Latina/o Literatures Latina/o literary and cultural productions have particularly provided a gateway into understanding the heterogeneity of Latino experiences in the U.S. While this course does not survey Latino literatures historically, it does introduce students to some of the most contemporary Latina/o literary productions and cultural expressions by situating these in their broader cultural, social, and political frameworks. Plays, short stories, novels, testimonies, poetry, autobiography, essays, and film serve to explore complex—and often silenced—histories, issues, and realities in present-day Latina/o communities. In this manner, the course looks at literature and cultural productions as a platform for cultural, social, individual, historical, and political expositions; a place where ideologies are contested, debated, and articulated; a site where subjectivities are problematized, enunciated, and made visible. Central to this course are questions pertaining to: the neoliberal market and the commodification of the Latino body; identity construction (and/or destruction); the intersections of sexuality, gender, and class in informing discourse; the intersections of invisibilities; the intersections of systems of power in the literary; border politics, death and violence in the Latino experience; conditions of exile and diaspora; U.S. immigration politics, and among others; defiant Latina/o sexualities. This course is taught in Spanish. Cross-listed with LTS 300. Prerequisite: any one of SPAN 203, 204, 205, 210, 211, 212, or equivalent. Offered frequently.

310 Special Topics in Literary and Cultural Studies SPAN 310 offers in-depth study of literary and cultural topics in the Spanish-speaking world that are interdisciplinary in nature, multiregional in approach, and genre inclusive. As such, it incorporates short story, poetry, drama, essay, and film, and it covers several regions, including but not limited to the Southern Cone, Central America, the Caribbean, and Spain. Potential topics for this rubric are advanced culture courses, literatures of the periphery, narratives of the migration experience, advanced translation, linguistics, or any course which is interdisciplinary in nature. In addition to learning about the concrete topic of the class, students develop their critical skills, and improve their speaking, reading and writing skills in Spanish. This course is taught entirely in Spanish. Because content will change, this course may be repeated for credit. Prerequisite: any one of SPAN 203, 204, 205, 210, 211, 212, or equivalent. Offered occasionally.

311 Migration Narratives This course explores the human experience of migration, exile, and/or diaspora affecting the Spanish-speaking world, by studying the social, political, historical, economic and intellectual implications of those processes. The class consists of close readings of literary works in several genres, including poetry, plays, short stories and essays, and the screening of several films, in addition to readings on cultural aspects of and theoretical approaches to this phenomenon. This course is taught in Spanish. Prerequisite: any one of SPAN 203, 204, 205, 210, 211, 212, or equivalent. Offered occasionally.

400 Special Topics in Latina/o Studies This special topics course is conducted as a seminar and varies in focus each time. The course offers students the opportunity to further examine, problematize, and research particular issues and forms of cultural productions as they relate to Latina/o Studies and Latino communities in the United States. To this purpose, class sessions require students to explore the discursive specificities of assigned works as well as to consider and interrogate the critical and theoretical issues they raise. Students’ thoughtful engagement with the material and ability to participate in productive dialogue bear directly on the quality of the knowledge produced throughout the seminar. Cross-listed with LTS 400 Prerequisites: any one of SPAN 300, 303, 306, 307, 311, LTS 300, or equivalent. Offered frequently.

401 Seminar in Medieval and/or Early Modern Spanish This course is a comprehensive study of Spanish literature from its origins to the early modern period. The rise of Castilian cultural hegemony, Jewish and Muslim converso cultural practices, the development of Europe’s most prolific national theater, and the birth of the modern novel, etc., will be considered. This course is taught in Spanish. Prerequisite: any one of SPAN 300-311 or equivalent. Offered occasionally.

402 Seminar in Colonial and/or Nineteenth-Century Latin America This course is a comprehensive study of the literature of Latin America from the European exploration, conquest, and colonization, to the independence of the colonies in the nineteenth century, when the nations of the region were established. It includes the late nineteenth century and the emergence of Modernism, the first literary movement to originate in Latin America. This course is taught in Spanish. Prerequisite: any one of SPAN 300-311 or equivalent. Offered occasionally.

403 Seminar in Eighteenth and/or Nineteenth-Century Spain A survey of Spanish literature between its two golden ages; close reading of selected texts; consideration of the Enlightenment, Romanticism, and Realism in a Spanish context; and examination of interplay among society, politics, art, and literature. This course is taught in Spanish. Prerequisite: any one of SPAN 300-311 or equivalent. Offered occasionally.

404 Seminar in Twentieth and/or Twenty-First Century Spain A study of Spanish literature from the generation of 1898 to the present. Close readings of selected texts from all literary genres. This course is taught in Spanish. Prerequisite: any one of SPAN 300-311 or equivalent. Offered occasionally.

405 Seminar in Twentieth and/or Twenty-First Century Latin America The course introduces students to the principle tendencies, texts, and writers of twentieth-century Spanish-American narrative. The course focuses on novels and short stories as different as the Fantastic Literature of Jorge Luis Borges, the nativism or “indigenismo” of Miguel Angel Asturias, the literary chronicling literature of the Mexican Revolution of Juan Rulfo, the Magical Realism of Garcia Marquez, and the “boom” and “post-boom” works of South America’s finest writers. This course is taught in Spanish. Prerequisite: any one of SPAN 300-311 or equivalent. Offered occasionally.

410 Special Topics in Hispanic Studies Synthesis of various aspects of literary studies. Topics to meet special needs. Since content changes, this course may be repeated for credit. This course is taught in Spanish. Prerequisite: any one of SPAN 300-311 or equivalent. Offered occasionally.