

DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGES, LITERATURES AND CULTURES

COURSES TAUGHT IN SPANISH



SPAN 200: Spanish Composition and Grammar

Joerg Busch
Meghan Dabkowski
Carmen Finnicum
Fatima Haq

An intensive study of selected grammatical topics (ser-estar, preterit and imperfect, present subjunctive and commands); vocabulary; grammatical exercises and short compositions. Offered with an Honors section (080).

In this course you will acquire new vocabulary, broaden and improve your knowledge of grammatical structures (agreement, verb tenses, pronouns, and much more). You will learn strategies for developing and refining your written communication skills.

Prerequisite: SPAN 107

SPAN 201: Spanish Reading & Composition

Cristina Guardiola
Meghan McInnis-Dominguez
Susan McKenna
Asima Saad-Maura

This course places major emphasis on the development of reading, writing and analytical skills while studying literary selections from Spain and Latin America.

In this course the student has the opportunity to read a wide variety of Spanish and Latin American literature in three genres: poetry, narrative and drama. The student will develop reading skills as well as a solid knowledge of the literary terms and movements which will be encountered in more advanced literature classes. Compositions will be based on interpretation of the readings and will be directed towards reinforcing the use of literary terminology.

This class may contain a section with an Honors component. Honors students may be asked to participate in weekly discussion threads through Canvas, memorization of poems, and/or a short drama performance.

Prerequisite: SPAN 200

Fulfills the College of Arts & Sciences Group A: Creative Arts & Humanities Breadth Requirement

SPAN 201: Spanish Reading & Composition (HONORS)

Susan McKenna

This course, for HONORS students, places major emphasis on the development of reading, writing and analytical skills while studying literary works from Spain and Latin America in three genres: poetry, narrative and drama. In-class discussion and compositions will be based on interpretation of the readings and will be directed towards reinforcing the use of literary terminology. Other highlights included in this course are weekly discussion threads through Canvas, memorization of poems, and a short drama performance.

Prerequisite: SPAN 200

Fulfills the College of Arts & Sciences Group A: Creative Arts & Humanities Breadth Requirement

SPAN 205: Spanish Conversation: A Cultural Approach

Joan Brown

Aurelia Río

This course is designed to build mastery of practical spoken Spanish in its cultural context. The language will be used strategically – to accomplish objectives and resolve conflicts – in situations that relate to everyday life. Linguistic and cultural topics include travel, relationships, food, health, education, sports, entertainment, housing, and jobs. An array of proven language-learning methodologies will be used to build competence. These include role-playing activities, vocabulary expansion, cultural readings, films, oral reports, Internet research, listening activities, pronunciation practice, grammar repair and review, short compositions, and an individual final project. The Honors section features additional mastery activities inside and outside the classroom.

Prerequisite: SPAN107, SPAN 112, SPAN 200 or SPAN 201.

Restrictions: Not intended for native speakers. May not be taken if the student has reached the 400 level in Spanish.

SPAN 300: Advanced Spanish Composition and Grammar I

Meghan Dabkowski

Tracy Quan

Asima Saad-Maura

This course is a comprehensive study of basic and complex grammatical structures with both oral and written practice to facilitate further mastery of vocabulary and structures. Cultural topics are explored through readings that raise awareness of the Hispanic world while building up vocabulary to express abstract ideas. **Prerequisites:** SPAN 200 and SPAN 201

SPAN 301: Survey of Spanish Literature

Ángel Esteban

Study and discussion of Spanish literature, culture and history from the Medieval ages through the 17th century. We will read and discuss essential works by the most renowned Renaissance and Baroque Spanish authors.

SPAN 303: Survey of Spanish Literature

Persephone Braham

Meghan McInnis-Dominguez

Alexander Selimov

Spanish literature from the 18th century to the present. Selection of representative works, discussions and collateral readings.

Prerequisite: SPAN 201

Fulfills the College of Arts & Sciences Group B: History & Cultural Change Breadth Requirement

SPAN 305: Oral Communication

Jorge Cubillos

For individuals with a comprehensive knowledge of Spanish grammar and vocabulary. Emphasis on refinement of expression of abstract ideas as well as mastery of practical communication. You love Spanish. You would love to travel to Spanish-speaking countries. You can read Spanish and you can communicate but you want to be able to have meaningful Spanish conversation. This course is designed to help you speak Spanish more fluently and expand your vocabulary while learning current issues and customs in the Hispanic world. The goal is to enable you to sustain conversations and express your opinions on diverse topics. The course draws from a variety of resources, including short stories and essays, articles from the Spanish press, slides, videos, and satellite newscasts. Interactive formats such as class discussions, debates, oral presentations and scenarios will be used.

Prerequisite: SPAN 200

Restrictions: Not intended for native speakers

SPAN 314: Spanish Phonetics and Phonology

Joerg Busch

Study and practice of Spanish pronunciation and intonation. Contrastive analysis of Spanish and American English phonological systems. Introduction to Spanish dialectology.

PREREQ: SPAN200 **RESTRICTIONS:** Recommended for prospective teachers.

SPAN 315: Reading and Writing for the Healthcare Professionals

Aurelia Rio

“Reading and Writing for Healthcare Professionals” is designed to enhance Spanish-language reading and writing skills, as well as cultural awareness for students specializing in healthcare-related fields. The course aims to provide students the language skills they need within the healthcare careers. Class practice and authentic case scenarios will strengthen and improve student’s oral, written and reading skills in the Spanish Language and develop understanding of the ways health, illness, and medicine are perceived in Spanish-speaking cultures.

Prerequisite: Spanish 201 or permission from instructor.

SPAN 325: Spanish Civilization and Culture

Ángel Esteban

Survey of geography, history, art and society of Spain. This course offers a survey of the geography, history, culture, politics and society of Spain. You will study key historical events, from prehistoric times to the most recent developments, as well as cultural movements that have shaped Spanish national identity. The course is conducted in Spanish and the readings are in Spanish

Prerequisite: SPAN 200

Fulfills the College of Arts & Sciences Group B: History & Cultural Change Breadth Requirement
Required for teaching majors

SPAN 326: Latin American Civilizations and Cultures

Aurelia Rio

This course is a survey of the history and culture of Latin America from the time of the region’s indigenous empires to the present. Students will analyze fundamental aspects of the region’s history, geography, politics and cultural production, focusing on issues including human rights, colonialism, nationalism, military intervention, globalization and migration. This course is designed to prepare students for the advanced study of Latin American cultural production by providing them with the historical and social context necessary for studying the cultures of this region. Students will gain an appreciation for the historical roots of present-day social and political issues in Latin America, improve their research and analysis skills, develop their capacity for independent learning and critically examine crucial issues related to Latin American culture.

Prerequisite: SPAN 200

Fulfills the College of Arts & Sciences Group B: History & Cultural Change Breadth Requirement

SPAN 401: Advanced Composition & Grammar II

Joerg Busch
Asima Saad-Maura

SPAN401 is not a systematic study of Spanish grammar (that is the purpose of the SPAN 200 and SPAN 300). SPAN401 will help you to improve your overall ability to express yourself in Spanish and to talk about ideas and opinions that are important to you. You will practice and apply the grammatical structures and vocabulary that you have learned in previous courses. Your Spanish will improve by exposing yourself to a variety of language skills. You will watch and discuss enthralling short films from several Spanish-speaking countries, write summaries, opinion papers, narrations, feature articles, descriptions, poems, short stories, etc. and read short authentic texts about the culture, history, and politics of Spain and Latin America. Furthermore, you will have the opportunity to study and practice more in-depth those structures that traditionally cause the most problems: subjunctive vs. indicative, past tenses, prepositions and pronouns, reflexivity, active vs. passive, text progression, determination, word order, direct vs. indirect speech, sequence of tenses, use of complex tenses, etc. The overall goal of SPAN 401 is to help you reach the ACTFL Language Testing Advanced-Low Level.

Prerequisite: SPAN 200 and (for majors) SPAN 300. The course is conducted in Spanish.

SPAN 436: Obras maestras del Siglo de Oro

Jesús Botello

This course explores canonical literary texts from Golden Age literature, from the Renaissance to the Baroque. We will read works by Rodríguez de Montalvo, Garcilaso de la Vega, Cervantes, Lope de Vega, Quevedo or Calderón de la Barca, among others. We will read these texts within the cultural context of imperial Spain and the wider European context. We will examine the generic characteristics and analyze how the main concerns and themes changed according to the evolution of Spanish and European society. Therefore, we will investigate extra literary aspects, such as the historical, social, cultural and political conditions that influenced the production of the works. In order to gain insight on the culture and literature of the Golden Age, especial attention will be paid to other art forms, such as painting, sculpture and architecture.

Prerequisite: One SPAN 300-level survey of literature course.

SPAN 439-80: Postwar Spanish Narrative (3 credits)

Joan L. Brown

What effect did the Spanish Civil War have on fiction in Spain? In this course we will trace the lingering effects of the conflict that shaped the country we know today. From a young woman's coming-of-age in Barcelona to the lives of boxers and bullfighters in Madrid to a frustrated reporter's search in rural Catalonia, we will read unforgettable stories from modern Spain. The goal of the course is to read intensively, concentrating on selected works in depth. By using Spanish in a seminar setting, each student will build his or her critical and linguistic skills (including speaking, reading and writing).

Section meets with an MA-level graduate section, **SPAN 639-010**.

SPAN 455: *Don Juan y El amante turco*

Alexander Selimov

TR 12:30-1:45pm

Course Description:

This course explores drama, narrative, and films focused on the Don Juan theme, one of the most intriguing creations of Western culture. Don Juan is a fictional libertine with a legendary dimension that transcended the borders of Spain and asserted his presence in other cultures, from Russia to England. In this course students will read a romantic drama entitled *Don Juan Tenorio* (1844), by José Zorrilla, and a contemporary novel, *El amante turco* (2006) by Esmeralda Santiago, as well as watch two films, *Don Juan de Marco* by Jeremy Leven and *Don Juan, mi querido fantasma* by Antonio Mercero. The course format includes lectures and discussions, two take home exams and a final paper. The theoretical framework includes cultural, psychoanalytic and cognitive theories.

Prerequisites: one 300-level Spanish literature course.

SPAN 455: El modernismo hispanoamericano

Ángel Esteban

Study of the modernism in Latin America, through the critical examination of literature, art, culture and more.

Prerequisites: one 300-level Spanish literature course.

SPAN 471/671: Latin American Film

Persephone Braham

Examine major historical and present-day problems in Latin America through both classic and popular films. We will study key film techniques, social contexts and movements, and major artists including Buñuel, Gutierrez Alea, Bemberg, Pereira dos Santos, Meirelles, Gonzalez Iñárritu and more.

Prerequisites: SPAN 301, SPAN 302, SPAN 303, SPAN 304, SPAN 307, SPAN 325, or SPAN 326.

SPAN 476: Media-Savvy Populism from Che to Chavez

Phillip Penix-Tadsen

Media-Savvy Populism from Che to Chavez: Discourse and Politics in Contemporary Latin America.

Prerequisites: SPAN 307 or SPAN 308 or SPAN 325 or SPAN 326.

Spanish 491: Spanish Studies Capstone

Gladys Ilarregui

Through intensive research and study of texts and artifacts on a theme, students will integrate and focus their knowledge of Spanish and Latin American literatures and/or cultures across several disciplines and periods. Taught in Spanish.

Prerequisites: One 400-level literature or culture course.

Restrictions: Senior-level Spanish Studies and Latin American & Iberian Studies majors only.

SPAN 639: Postwar Spanish Narrative (3 credits)

Joan L. Brown

What effect did the Civil War have on Spanish fiction? In this course, students will acquire the framework for mastery of the area of contemporary Peninsular literature. Novels, novellas and short stories will include *Nada* by Carmen Laforet, *Cuentos* by Ignacio Aldecoa, Ramón Sender's *Réquiem por un campesino español* and Javier Cercas's *Soldados de Salamina*. Each work will be situated in its unique historical, sociocultural, literary, and critical contexts. The goal of the course is to read intensively, concentrating on selected works from the MA Reading List. In this course each student will build his or her critical skills while preparing for the MA Comprehensive Exam in this area.

Section meets with an Honors undergraduate section, **SPAN 439-080**.

SPAN 875: *Don Quijote*

Jesús Botello

This course explores *Don Quijote*, the most famous literary masterpiece in Spanish literature. We will read the two parts of the work, focusing on how *Don Quijote* reacts to the various sources of authority of his time, not only political but also literary, social, artistic and medical. Cervantes used his great novel to reflect on these forms of authority, touching on the central concerns of his time: the relationship between different forms of fiction, life and literature, the boundaries between reality and appearance, the role of power against individual freedom, virtues and rights of the human being and moral and literary censorship. In addition, the issue of authority will serve to connect the novel with another of the central issues in the study of *Don Quijote*: its integration into the canon of world literature. In other words, we will explore when and why *Don Quijote* became canonical. Thus, this course will study mainly *Don Quijote* and his time, but also will explore the socio-cultural systems that decide what works and why we should read. At the end of the course, the student should be able to (1) analyze *Don Quijote* according to its specific cultural context, contrasting the work of Cervantes with the sources of authority of Golden Age Spain; (2) evaluate the novel using appropriate cultural and literary terminology; (3) reflect on the process of integration of *Don Quijote* in the universal canon; (4) articulate the connections between *Don Quijote* and the literature, art and society of his time by using the terminology acquired during the course; (5) use and expose this knowledge by using specific vocabulary in the form of an original and coherent scholarly work that takes into account the views of other critics.

SPAN 875: Colonial Latin American Literature

Gladys Illarregui

Study of selected topics, authors and works in the various fields of Spanish literature. Variable content. Emphasizes preparation of seminar presentations and term papers. May be repeated for credit when topics vary.

PORT 216: Intensive Brazilian Portuguese for Spanish Students and Speakers

Dr. Cynthia Schmidt-Cruz

Study the language of Brazil and unlock the door to this exciting giant of South America. Learning Brazilian Portuguese may not change your life, but then again, maybe it will. Why take a chance?

Due to their similarities in structure and vocabulary, your knowledge of Spanish will put you on the fast track to learning Portuguese. In this intensive course you can expect to gain a good functional knowledge of this language, which is spoken by 230 million people. You will also learn about Brazilian culture, and Brazilian popular music will be incorporated into our lessons to reinforce language learning. Come prepared to groove to Bossa Nova and other Brazilian rhythms, and to have fun learning a really cool language!

Prerequisite: One 300-level Spanish course or equivalent, or being a native or heritage speaker of Spanish.

Note: As a beginning language course, PORT 216 is not intended for native or heritage speakers of Portuguese.

PORT 216 is part of Option II of the Spanish major and can count toward the Latin American and Iberian Studies major and minor. It is also part of the Foreign Language Certificate in Brazilian Portuguese. Portuguese can be used as Language Three for the Three Language Major. Additionally, this course helps students prepare for the winter session in Brazil where they can continue studying Portuguese.