
SPANISH

Chair, Associate Professor Dean Allbritton

Professors Luis Millones; Associate Professors Dean Allbritton, María Bollo-Panadero, and Betty Sasaki; Assistant Professors Leticia Mercado, Nicolás Ramos Flores, Anita Savo, and Bretton White; Visiting Assistant Professors Sandra Bernal Heredia, Carlos Gardeazábal Bravo, Dámaris Mayans and Aleksín Ortega; Language Assistant Lucía Castro

The Department of Spanish provides two programs designed to deepen students' understanding of cultural difference and diversity: a language program that fulfills the all-College distribution requirement in foreign language and an academic major program.

In its commitment to the study of foreign languages, the Department of Spanish strives to prepare students for active engagement in the Spanish-speaking world, both within the United States and abroad. Our language courses facilitate oral and written communication by presenting grammar in a cultural context. The language classroom provides a space for students to appreciate cultural connections and differences and to grow into their role as global citizens.

The academic major program offers a course of study in Spanish, Latin American, and U.S. Latino/a literature and culture. Spanish majors attain depth and breadth of literary and cultural knowledge across historical periods and geographical areas.

The program is committed to promoting greater critical awareness of the differentials of power that perpetuate social injustice and inform cultural and cross-cultural assumptions. Students acquire the skills to become close readers and critical thinkers and to explore different modes of cultural production within specific social, political, and historical contexts. Our pedagogical goal is to prepare students to be productive critics of the world beyond the texts. To that end, students examine the ways in which different texts challenge or affirm aesthetic conventions and dominant social narratives, including race, class, gender, sexuality, nationality, and imperialism. In the process, our majors are encouraged to analyze the connections among systems of domination and to develop as scholars and promoters of social justice.

Achievement Test. Students seeking entrance credit in Spanish and wishing to pursue Spanish at Colby must have taken the College Board SAT Subject Test in Spanish or must take the online Spanish placement exam during summer prior to making their course selections for the fall semester.

Requirements for the Major in Spanish

Spanish 135 and 231 and at least seven additional literature, culture, or film courses at or above the 200 level, including at least one course in each of the following areas: Spanish, Latin American, and U.S. Latino/a literatures/cultures. Majors must take two courses at the 200 level or above on literature written before 1800 and two on literature written after 1800. Senior majors must enroll in 300- or 400-level courses and must take at least one senior seminar. Independent-study work does not replace required courses. Majors are strongly advised to spend one academic year studying abroad at the junior level. A minimum of one semester's study abroad at the junior level is expected of majors. Majors must matriculate in a study-abroad program that offers university-level courses (not in a language acquisition program); all course work abroad must be conducted in Spanish. A minimum grade point average of 2.7 is required to retain the Spanish major and for permission to study abroad. All study-abroad plans for students majoring in Spanish must be approved in advance by the chair of the Department of Spanish. Eligibility prerequisites for Spanish majors to study abroad include the completion of Spanish 135 and Spanish 231 with a grade of C or better. Majors who are unable to study abroad due to special circumstances may petition for an alternative way of completing the Spanish major.

The following statements also apply:

1. The point scale for retention of the major is based on all Spanish Department courses numbered above 131.
2. No major requirements may be taken satisfactory/unsatisfactory.
3. Students must receive a grade of C or better for the course to count toward the major.
4. All majors must take and pass with a grade of C or better at least one course in Spanish approved by the major advisor each semester until graduation.
5. No more than the equivalent of two semester courses of foreign-study credit may be counted toward the major per semester abroad, or four semester courses per year abroad.
6. No more than the equivalent of four semester courses of foreign-study or transfer credit may be counted toward the major.

Honors in Spanish

Students majoring in Spanish with a 3.7 major average or better and an overall GPA of 3.5 or higher may apply for admission to the honors program by the end of their junior year. Permission is required; interested juniors should contact their potential thesis advisors and go over guidelines established by the department. Successful completion of the work of the honors thesis and of the major will enable the student to graduate with "Honors in Spanish."

Course Offerings

SP125f Elementary Spanish I The first semester of three consecutive courses designed to develop fluency and accuracy in the Spanish language. Through an interactive approach to language learning, students gain communicative proficiency through fast-paced, task- and content-based exercises designed to integrate listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. Videos, audio, and web materials introduce students to cultural differences within the Spanish speaking world. *Four credit hours.* BERNAL HEREDIA, MAYANS, RAMOS FLORES, WHITE

SP126fs Elementary Spanish II The second of three consecutive courses designed to develop fluency and accuracy in the Spanish language. Through a continued interactive approach to teaching and learning, students begin to develop skills for more independent communicative proficiency. Task- and content-based assignments challenge students to integrate listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in a functional use of the language. Videos, audio, and web materials are incorporated. *Prerequisite:* Spanish 125. *Four credit hours.* FACULTY

SP127fs Intermediate Spanish I The third of three consecutive courses designed to develop fluency and accuracy in the Spanish language. Through an intensive grammar review, students develop skills for independent and creative interactive communication. Designed to refine students' major skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing, as well as to provide insight into the literature and culture of Spanish-speaking countries. Video screenings and short readings in Hispanic literature and culture deepen student understanding of linguistic and cultural nuances and serve as the basis for in-class discussions and writing assignments. *Prerequisite:* Spanish 126. *Four credit hours.* FACULTY

SP128fs Intermediate Spanish II Development of critical skills through analysis of fictional texts in Hispanic literature. Continuing work in vocabulary building and grammar review. Students will achieve a high intermediate level in the four basic language skills: reading, writing, speaking, and aural/oral comprehension. *Prerequisite:* Spanish 127. *Four credit hours.* ALLBRITTON, BERNAL HEREDIA, MILLONES

SP131fs Conversation and Composition Development of critical communication skills through conversation, and analysis of nonfiction texts as well as comparative, narrative, and descriptive writings. Introduction to the principles of composing a research paper. Continued work in vocabulary building and grammar review. Students write and present summaries of Spanish-language newspaper articles in small groups. Preparation for oral exams stresses team building as a basis for successful individual presentations. Topics include immigration, euthanasia, gun control, abortion, presidential elections, and the role of the university in preparing students for an ever-changing world. *Prerequisite:* Spanish 128. *Four credit hours.* GARDEAZABAL BRAVO, SAVO, WHITE

SP132j Conversation and Composition in Salamanca This course takes place in Salamanca, which was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1988. Students immerse themselves in day-to-day Spanish life by living with local families, taking part in activities inside the city, and exploring other historic sites in Spain. This course develops communicative and argumentative writing skills in Spanish through conversations with peers and locals and by analyzing a variety of texts and events. Students may not receive credit for this course and SP131. Estimated cost for Jan Plan 2020: \$3200. *Prerequisite:* Spanish 128. *Three credit hours.* I. ALLBRITTON

SP135fs Introduction to Literary Analysis Introduction to critical analysis through thematic topics in Spanish, Latin American, and/or U.S. Latinx texts that include a variety of genres and approaches. Students will learn how to examine cultural products such as film, literature, theatre, and visual culture through close reading, thematic analysis, and strategies of interpretation. Students develop skills in writing critical essays and learn the basics of scholarly research. *Prerequisite:* Spanish 131 or 132. *Four credit hours.* L. SAVO, WHITE

SP231fs Advanced Spanish An in-depth analysis of Spanish grammar, focusing on the more complex and subtle linguistic and cultural dimensions of a variety of syntactical and lexical concepts. Students will achieve an advanced mastery of Spanish grammar and vocabulary. *Prerequisite:* Spanish 131. *Four credit hours.* MERCADO

[SP234] Diversity and Racism in Contemporary Spain Focuses on the cultures and communities that make up contemporary Spain, with particular emphasis on the modern waves of immigration that have radically changed the country. Covering the latter years of the dictatorship and into the democracy (from 1970 forward), we examine how regionalism, multiculturalism, and diversity have been represented across a range of media and literature in Spain. Topics may include Latin American, African and Asian migration and diasporas, sex and sexuality, racial politics, and linguistic and cultural difference in Spain. *Prerequisite:* Spanish 135. *Four credit hours.* I.

SP237s Conquest and Resistance in the Americas The European expansion during the Early Modern period sought to transform the Americas by reproducing the material, spiritual, and biological landscapes of the Old World. Amerindian peoples whose lives and cultures were jeopardized confronted the Europeans deploying an array of resistance strategies. Students will engage with texts and materials from different areas and time periods to uncover and analyze the many ways in which energy and exhaustion came into play during conquest and

resistance efforts across the Americas. This Environmental Humanities class explores the **Energy/Exhaustion humanities theme**.

Prerequisite: Spanish 135. *Four credit hours.* **L, I.** MILLONES

SP254f Aqui estamos: U.S. Latinx in the 20th and 21st Centuries Will examine the cultural productions and critical discourse surrounding U.S. Latinx subjects in the second half of the 20th century and beginning of the 21st. Students will examine issues of migration and identity in the U.S. context beginning in the 1950s along with political realities of Latin America and the Caribbean to expand ideas of Latinidad. Students will explore identity formation and negotiations of language, race, gender, sexuality, class, coloniality, and diaspora to reveal the present U.S. Latinx reality. *Prerequisite:* Spanish 135. *Four credit hours.* **L, U.** RAMOS FLORES

SP266f Language of Spanish Cinema An examination of selected works by major Spanish directors of the 20th and 21st centuries. Introduces students to the discipline of film studies and investigates cinematic representations of Spain during the dictatorship and the subsequent transition to democracy. Special attention to questions of identity, violence, and instances of resistance. *Prerequisite:* Spanish 135. *Four credit hours.* **A, I.** ALLBRITTON

[SP269] Spanish Cultural Studies The study of recent Peninsular Spanish expression across a variety of mass media (digital and print media, television, film). Introduces students to the discipline of cultural studies and considers how the concept of *españolidad* (Spanishness) comes to be defined in an ever-changing present and across regions and identities that may not even consider themselves such. Topics may include sex and sexuality, regionalism and linguistic difference, race and immigration, and the state of contemporary politics. *Prerequisite:* Spanish 135. *Four credit hours.* **A, I.**

[SP276] U.S. Latina/Chicana Women Writers (in English) An examination of a selection of novels, short stories, poetry, theater, and nonfiction by U.S. Latina and Chicana women writers. Interdisciplinary in approach, focused on the relationship between the texts read and several important contemporary issues. Topics include feminism, the social and cultural construction of race and ethnicity, immigration, cultural nationalism, and identity formation. Readings and class are in English. *Prerequisite:* Spanish 135. *Four credit hours.* **L, U.**

SP297f Spanish Pronunciation Lab Aimed for those students that having achieved an intermediate proficiency of Spanish want to improve their pronunciation. The lab sessions will be focused on learning and practicing the speech sounds that constitute the phonological repertoire of Spanish. We will learn the specific articulatory movements of Spanish consonants and vowels and also the differences/similarities with English speech sounds. By learning the articulatory movements and contrasting them with those of English, students will achieve through practice a more native-like pronunciation of Spanish. *Prerequisite:* Spanish 128. *One credit hour.* MAYANS

SP298s Baila: Latin Dance, History, Culture, and Performance Listed as Latin American Studies 298. *One credit hour.* BERNAL HEREDIA

SP298As Dancing McOndo: Music and Literature from Latin America A journey to the diverse contemporary cultures of Latin America through the relationships between literature, music (bolero, merengue, tango, salsa, rock, hip hop), and popular culture. Our objective will be to track and analyze the diverse ways in which music and literature have influenced each other. Students will study the role of literature and music in Latin America during decisive moments in the cold war, the periods of dictatorship, the return to democracy, and the arrival of the neoliberal consensus. We will reflect on the dialectical relationships between modernity and tradition, as well as the interactions between regional cultures and urban visions, global culture and traditional practices, subcultures and counterculture, high culture and popular culture, folklore and pop. *Prerequisite:* Spanish 135. *Four credit hours.* GARDEAZABAL BRAVO

[SP351] Ideology and Ethics in Spanish Golden Age Literature An examination of specific literary works as responses to Spain's changing political climate during the 16th and 17th centuries. How the literary work reinforces or questions, creates or undermines, an official discourse that, in both Reformation and Counter-Reformation Spain, seeks to define national identity in ethical and ideological terms. *Prerequisite:* A 200-level literature, culture, or film course. *Four credit hours.* **L.**

[SP362] All about Almodóvar The study of contemporary Spanish history and film through the works of noted filmmaker Pedro Almodóvar. Analyzes the films of Almodóvar as representative of the changes in Spanish culture from the 1980s to the present day. Topics may include sex and sexuality, film genres and film history, and modern Spanish political and cultural life. *Prerequisite:* A 200-level Spanish literature, culture, or film course. *Four credit hours.* **A, I.**

[SP364] Gender, Sex, and the Spanish Body Focus on contemporary film, media, and literature in Spain in order to explore how sex and gender are covered up, censored, and potentially recovered. Considers the importance of censorship to the development of Spanish attitudes towards sex and gender, and how these are not merely byproducts of a dictatorial regime but a persistent element of culture itself. Special attention paid to issues of national identity, sexual pleasure and violence, masculinities, and political rupture. *Prerequisite:* A 200-level Spanish literature, culture, or film course. *Four credit hours.* **I.**

SP366s Queer Spain The representation of queer lives and identities in recent Spanish history. We will engage with Spanish film, literature, and culture to consider and question the 'origins' of LGBTQ identity in Spain. Have we always imagined queerness as a coupling of people or movements to signify alterity and difference? Who gets to tell the story of queer lives in Spain, and whether such histories form a string of texts that resist silence and fear? Is Spanish queerness related to a transnational sense of queer identity? Thinking of queerness as a spectrum allows us to challenge the borders of sex and gender both within Spain and within our own cultures. Previously offered as Spanish 493 (Spring 2018). *Prerequisite:* A 200-level Spanish literature, culture, or film course. *Four credit hours.* ALLBRITTON

[SP371] The Colonial Experience: European and Amerindian Responses Close readings of representative primary documents and iconography from throughout the Spanish and Portuguese empires that were produced to report, understand, legislate, and record various dimensions of the encounter between Europe and the New World during the 16th and 17th centuries. Emphasizes efforts by Europeans and Amerindians to control the memory of events and to position themselves in colonial societies. Students will explore texts and cultural productions used to exert dominance or resistance during a specific historical context, become critical readers of primary documents, and engage with key issues of colonial literature. *Prerequisite:* A 200-level literature, culture, or film course. *Four credit hours.* L.

SP376f Narratives, Artifacts, and Monuments of Pre-Columbian Civilization Studies narratives of pre-Columbian civilizations as transmitted by oral tradition or by drawings, painted codices, pottery, architecture, textiles, etc., and how all these cultural products were read and refashioned under colonial rule. Students develop skills in analytical reading of cultural productions as diverse expressions of power, identity, religion, race, and hybridity. Promotes a sophisticated understanding of the types of primary sources and methodological approaches that scholars use to reconstruct the world of pre-Columbian societies. *Prerequisite:* A 200-level Spanish literature, culture, or film course. *Four credit hours.* L. MILLONES

SP397f Struggle, Memory, and Truth: Human Rights in Latin America An overview of human rights literature and culture in Latin America. Exploration of literary works that reveal the contradictions and complexities stemming from human rights' discourse and their relation to different kinds of violence (structural, gender-based, slow). Students will study how writers, filmmakers, and artists examine criticisms of the logic of human rights and the humanitarian, hierarchical, or therapeutic view it contains. By reading genres like testimony, post-conflict, and post-dictatorship literature we will examine the importance of the cultural representation of human rights violations as part of the different processes of mourning, justice, and historical memory, while we reflect on the limits of literary language regarding the representation of certain types of violence. *Prerequisite:* A 200-level Spanish literature, culture, or film course. *Four credit hours.* L, I. GARDEAZABAL BRAVO

SP483f, 484s Senior Honors Thesis The senior honors thesis can replace the senior seminar requirement. The thesis, which will be written in Spanish, is to be a substantial study of a carefully defined literary topic supported by critical sources. *Prerequisite:* A 3.7 or higher major average and an overall GPA of 3.5 or higher at the end of the junior year and permission of the department. *Two to four credit hours.* FACULTY

SP483Jj Senior Honors Thesis *Noncredit.* ALLBRITTON

SP491f, 492s Independent Study Individual projects in areas where the student has demonstrated the interest and competence necessary for independent work. Cannot substitute for formal course work toward the major. *Prerequisite:* Permission of the department chair. *Two to four credit hours.* FACULTY

SP498s Seminar: The Shifting Americas: Race, Power, and Subjectivity Focusing on 20th and 21st century texts of Latin American, Latinx, and Caribbean cultures and literatures, this course will explore how cultural productions from the region often contend with issues of race, gender, and nation questioning fixed ideas of belonging. This course will give students a snapshot of the region, but in no way does the course intend to be an all-encompassing review of the hemisphere and its people. Students will engage with the various topics and how they bleed into each other rather than touching any one topic in isolation. *Prerequisite:* Senior standing and a 300-level Spanish literature, culture, or film course. *Four credit hours.* L, U. RAMOS FLORES