

SPANISH (BA)

Curriculum

An Ignatian Foundation

All undergraduate students must complete either the Canisius Core Curriculum (<http://catalog.canisius.edu/undergraduate/academics/curricular-information/core-curriculum>) or the All-College Honors Curriculum (<http://catalog.canisius.edu/undergraduate/academics/curricular-information/all-college-honors-program>). Many schools refer to their college-wide undergraduate requirements as "general education" requirements. We believe that the core curriculum and the honors curriculum are more than a series of required classes; they provide the basis for a Jesuit education both with content and with required knowledge and skills attributes that are central to our mission.

Free Electives

Students may graduate with more but not less than 120 credit hours. Free electives are courses in addition to the Core Curriculum or Honors Curriculum and major requirements sufficient to reach the minimum of 120 credit hours required for graduation.

Major Requirements

Single language majors are required to complete ten courses at the 200-level or higher in a primary language. The requirements are:

Code	Title	Credits
Intermediate Level Courses		
SPA 215	Intermediate Spanish	3
SPA 217	Introduction to Spanish Composition	3
Intermediate-High Level Conversation and Composition Courses		
SPA 323	Topics in Conversation I: Peninsular Culture and Conversation ¹	3
SPA 324	Topics in Conversation II: Latin American Culture and Civilization ¹	3
SPA 332	Advanced Spanish Composition ¹	3
Advanced Courses		
Five SPA electives		15
SPA 490	Spanish Capstone Portfolio Project	1
Total Credits		31

¹ SPA 350 may be taken in lieu of SPA 323, SPA 324, or SPA 332 toward the major or minor, or to fulfill a prerequisite for a 400-level course.

If starting at 300-level or its equivalent, two additional electives must be completed.

Study Abroad Requirements

Modern Languages, Literatures and Cultures majors are required to fulfill an immersion experience in the language they are studying.

1. A study abroad experience for a minimum of four consecutive weeks in a formal, pre-approved program in the studied language is required (this could be a short-term or semester-long experience). The department chair may approve alternate immersive experiences as fulfilling this requirement in exceptional circumstances. These alternate immersive experiences may not carry language credit. Students are encouraged to consult with the chair.

2. Language majors who choose to spend a semester abroad at a foreign university may count up to three courses (9 credits) toward their Modern Language major as long as these courses are taught in the target language and have been pre-approved by the chair of the department of Modern Languages, Literatures and Cultures.
3. Students who spend more than one semester studying at a foreign university may count up to an additional two courses toward their Modern Language major, if pre-approved by the chair of the department of Modern Languages, Literatures and Cultures. Thus, a student who studies abroad for two semesters may count a maximum of 5 courses (15 credits total) toward their language major(s).
4. Dual majors in two languages are required to study abroad in both languages.
5. Credits for short-term and immersion programs are determined by the department chair and are based on the contact hours in the language.
6. As a general rule, students complete the 200-level sequence or the equivalent and one 300-level course at Canisius College prior to studying at a foreign university or completing their alternate immersion experience.
7. Consultation with a department of Modern Languages, Literatures and Cultures academic advisor is required prior to study abroad.
8. Students are encouraged to complete at least one course in the major upon return to Canisius College.

Cultural Requirement

Over the course of the semester, each student in the Department of Modern Languages, Literatures and Cultures will participate in or attend two cultural events or activities outside regular class time. Please consult the department for a listing of these offerings.

Roadmap

Recommended Semester Schedule for Major Course Requirements

Please note that the following road map shows a typical progression for students that begin the SPA major with SPA 215. Students who start at a different level or who are double-majoring should meet with the chair to plan their course of studies. We have also provided a roadmap for students who are starting at the introductory level below.

Freshman

Fall	Spring
SPA 215	SPA 217

Sophomore

Fall	Spring
SPA 323	SPA 324
	SPA 332

Junior

Fall	Spring
Study Abroad ¹	SPA elective ²
	SPA elective ²

Senior

Fall	Spring
SPA elective ²	SPA elective ²
SPA 490	

¹ Students should meet with the chair to plan course schedules for their study abroad and how those courses count toward the student's SPA major.

² Students should meet with the chair to determine which courses may be counted as SPA electives for the major

Recommended Semester Schedule for Major Course Requirements (if beginning at introductory level)

Freshman	
Fall	Spring
SPA 103	SPA 104
Sophomore	
Fall	Spring
SPA 215	SPA 217
Junior	
Fall	Spring
SPA 323	SPA 324
SPA elective ²	SPA 332
Senior	
Fall	Spring
Study Abroad (at least two courses need to count toward the major) ¹	SPA elective ²
	SPA elective ²
	SPA 490

¹ Students should meet with the chair to plan course schedules for their study abroad and how those courses count toward the student's SPA major.

² Students should meet with the chair to determine which courses may be counted as SPA electives for the major

Learning Goals & Objectives

Student Learning Goal 1

Spanish Language majors will demonstrate effective skills at the ACTFL advanced-low level according to two Communicative Modes: Interpersonal and Presentational.

Students will:

- **Objective A:** Actively and accurately negotiate meaning in fluent interpersonal communications.
- **Objective B:** Accurately and fluently present oral information, concepts and ideas in a cohesive manner to an audience.

Student Learning Goal 2

Spanish Language majors will critically analyze cultural production in the target language.

Students will:

- **Objective A:** Assess, interpret and assign meaning to numerous types of cultural production including literature, film, essay, and art.
- **Objective B:** Place various types of cultural production in a wider cultural and historical context.

Student Learning Goal 3

Spanish Language majors will design and carry out an original project in which the target language is the major research tool and vehicle of expression.

Students will:

- **Objective A:** Create a project that demonstrates comprehension of cultural productions indicated by a clear thesis and a developed argument.
- **Objective B:** Demonstrate a mastery of information literacy tools and the integration of secondary sources in his/her work.

Minor

Code	Title	Credits
Intermediate Level Courses		
SPA 215	Intermediate Spanish	3
SPA 217	Introduction to Spanish Composition	3
Intermediate High Level Conversation and Composition Courses		
SPA 323	Topics in Conversation I: Peninsular Culture and Conversation ¹	3
SPA 324	Topics in Conversation II: Latin American Culture and Civilization ¹	3
SPA 332	Advanced Spanish Composition ¹	3
Advanced Low Courses		
One SPA elective		3
Total Credits		18

¹ SPA 350 may be taken in lieu of SPA 323, SPA 324, or SPA 332 toward the major or minor, or to fulfill a prerequisite for a 400-level course.

Up to two of these courses can be replaced by two FRC/GER/SPA electives or two approved courses from other departments or two approved courses from study abroad. Pre-approved Internships and Campus Ministry service trips may count toward a minor. All electives from other departments are subject to pre-approval by the chair of the DMLLC.

Courses

SPA 103 Introductory Spanish I **3 Credits**
Reading, writing, listening and speaking. Introduction to Hispanic culture. Almost exclusive use of Spanish in class.

Offered: every fall.

SPA 104 Introductory Spanish II **3 Credits**
Reading, writing, listening and speaking. Introduction to Hispanic culture. Almost exclusive use of Spanish in class.

Prerequisite: minimum grade of C in SPA 103 or equivalent or permission of chair.

Offered: fall & spring.

SPA 215 Intermediate Spanish **3 Credits**
Building on grammar and vocabulary learned in 103 & 104, this course continues the focus on grammar and vocabulary and increasing competence in the four linguistic skills and gaining an overview of Hispanic cultures. Emphasizing writing and speaking. Exclusive use of Spanish in class.

Prerequisite: minimum grade of C in SPA 104 or equivalent or permission of chair.

Offered: fall & spring.

- SPA 217 Introduction to Spanish Composition** 3 Credits
The first of two composition courses designed as a thorough review of grammatical structures, with a focus on Spanish composition and translation at the intermediate level. Heavy use of GoogleDocs. Also emphasized is the building of vocabulary, increasing competence in the four linguistic skills and gaining an overview of Hispanic cultures. Exclusive use of Spanish in class.
Prerequisite: minimum grade of C in SPA 215 or equivalent or permission of chair.
Offered: fall & spring.
- SPA 323 Topics in Conversation I: Peninsular Culture and Conversation** 3 Credits
One of 2 non-sequential conversation courses. Contemporary communication skills emphasized in general exploration of contemporary culture of Spain. Exclusive use of Spanish in class. Weekly conversation with peers in Latin America via Skype (Dual Immersion).
Prerequisite: minimum grade of C in SPA 217 or equivalent or permission of chair.
Offered: fall.
- SPA 324 Topics in Conversation II: Latin American Culture and Civilization** 3 Credits
One of 2 non-sequential conversation courses. Contemporary communication skills emphasized in general exploration of contemporary culture of Latin America. Exclusive use of Spanish in class. Weekly conversation with peers in Latin America via Skype (Dual Immersion).
Prerequisite: minimum grade of C in SPA 217 or equivalent or permission of chair.
Offered: spring.
- SPA 332 Advanced Spanish Composition** 3 Credits
Distinguishing and producing effective writing based on short stories and short films. Exclusive use of Spanish in class.
Prerequisite: minimum grade of C in SPA 217 or equivalent or permission of chair.
Offered: spring.
- SPA 336 Latin@s in the US: Latino Literature and Film** 3 Credits
The course will explore the Latino struggle of belonging, or not belonging, to the mythic U.S. melting pot. We will explore Latin@ literature primarily from the last half of the previous century to contemporary writers. We will problematize the term "Latin@" in terms of race, ethnicity, country of origin, and cultural variables. Furthermore, the unease of belonging to neither the locus of the U.S. nor to the country/culture of origin/ancestry will be further explored in light of other marks of identity difference, including race, gender, sexuality, religion, and class. The difficulty of finding an identity, a locus, and the various modes of adaptation and adoption will be explored through the literary production of Latinos trying to articulate the state of (not) belonging for themselves as well as to give voice to their community. While the course will strive to give an historical perspective to the issues at hand, our focus will be more on the literary production of the 20th/21st centuries, when Latin@ literature blossomed in the context of Civil Rights and the social upheavals of the mid century. Knowledge of Spanish not required. Course is taught IN ENGLISH.
Prerequisite: Successful completion of ENG 111 and 112 with grade of C or better, or equivalent.
Fulfills College Core: Diversity, Field 3 (Literature and the Arts)
Offered: occasionally.
- SPA 350 Spanish for Business** 3 Credits
This online course is designed to give students with advanced-intermediate and advanced levels of proficiency in Spanish a solid foundation in business vocabulary, basic cultural concepts, and situational practice. It seeks to develop intercultural communicative competence for business purposes based on social values and conventions that shape everyday interaction conducted within a given society.
Prerequisites: at least 1 course at 300-level (third year Spanish) completed with a B overall average.
Offered: spring of odd-numbered years.
- SPA 399 Seminar in Argentina** 3 Credits
Offered exclusively in Argentina during Winter Break for 3 weeks. Open to all majors in need of 100, 200, 300 or 400-level SPA courses. Satisfies the Study Abroad Requirement.
Prerequisite: A minimum grade of C in SPA 215 or permission of instructor.
Offered: occasionally during winter break, currently anticipated winter 2020.
- SPA 400 Spanish Internship** 1-3 Credits
Professional Internship. Open to ALL majors, though intermediate Spanish knowledge expected. Internships require an application and approval by the associate dean.
Prerequisite: C or better in SPA 217 or SPA 332, and C or better in SPA 323 or SPA 324. Or, permission of the department chair & associate dean.
- SPA 401 Spanish Internship Costa Rica** 3 Credits
Professional Internship in Costa Rica. This 5-week summer course includes family home stays, excursions, and internships in Costa Rica. Open to ALL majors, though intermediate Spanish knowledge expected.
Prerequisites: C or better in SPA 217 or SPA 332, and C or better in SPA 323 or SPA 324 or permission of the department chair & associate dean.
Corequisite: SPA 403.
Offered: occasionally.
- SPA 403 Spanish for the Professions (Costa Rica)** 3 Credits
Language classes at intermediate or advanced level for students participating in the study abroad program in Costa Rica. This 5-week summer course includes family home stays, excursions, and internships in Costa Rica. Open to ALL majors, though intermediate Spanish knowledge expected.
Prerequisites: C or better in SPA 217 or SPA 332, and C or better in SPA 323 or SPA 324, or permission of the department chair. **Corequisite:** SPA 401.
Offered: occasionally.
- SPA 405 Spanish Literary Myths** 3 Credits
A focus on the construction of three Spanish and French literary myths: Don Quixote, Don Juan and Carmen. Students will study its original sources, development, transformation, and historic interpretation, as well as its contemporary versions based on literature, visual arts and music. Exclusive use of Spanish in class.
Prerequisites: C or better in SPA 217 or SPA 332, and C or better in SPA 323 or SPA 324. Or, permission of the department chair.
Offered: spring 2019.

- SPA 410 Finding Your Way: The Camino Pilgrimage** 1 Credit
The El Camino study tour is a 10-day walk following one of the oldest medieval pilgrimage routes to St. James Cathedral in Santiago de Compostela, located in the Northeast part of Spain. Santiago de Compostela is a legendary burial place of St. James, venerated by Christians around the world. Participants of the trip will be exposed to the history, politics, and culture that contributed to the construction of the legendary pilgrimage and will be able to place it in a contemporary, European context. The tour is preceded by a series of lectures, readings and film sessions, and a rigorous physical preparation for the 100+kilometers journey needed to obtain an official certificate of the pilgrim. Please note that there is an additional fee for travel. Students should contact the instructor to determine the fee.
Restrictions: Strict selection process (including, but not limited to: physical ability to complete the walk, commitment to the values of the Camino & those of the Department of Modern Languages, Literatures, and Cultures (e.g. multiculturalism and open-mindedness).
Offered: occasionally in spring with the walk in May/June.
- SPA 415 Roman, Arab and Jewish Spain: Journey in Time** 1 Credit
This study tour takes students to Southern Spain and its historic cities of Mérida, Sevilla, Córdoba, and Granada. They delve into aspects of the culture of Spain that distinguish her from other nations and geographic regions. The formation of this unique and unrepeatable identity is rooted in the historic and cultural foundations with emphasis on Roman, Arab, and Jewish Spain. The impact of these three cultures on the Iberian Peninsula marked the beginning of the formation of Spain's national identity in terms of language, religion, law, literature, architecture, infrastructure, agriculture, and gastronomy.
Prerequisite: None. **Corequisite:** None.
Offered: occasionally.
- SPA 420 Personal Narrative: Understanding Reality and the Self in Contemporary Spanish Narrative.** 3 Credits
An examination of cultural themes (identities, stereotypes, customs and traditions) in the essayist work of the best contemporary Spanish writers: Lucía Etxebarria, Javier Marías, Juan José Millás, Rosa Montero, Soledad Puértolas, Rosa Regás, and Manuel Vincent. Emphasis on vocabulary building and idiomatic structure of the language. Exclusive use of Spanish in class.
Prerequisites: C or better in SPA 217 or SPA 332, and C or better in SPA 323 or SPA 324. Or, permission of the department chair.
Offered: occasionally in spring.
- SPA 436 Detective Fiction: Murderous Seduction** 3 Credits
Explores the detective novel and film in Spain and Latin America focusing on socio-political interpretations & cultural contexts, the characteristics of the genre, motivations for writing/reading such fiction, and the classification of this fiction as low/high-brow. We will also explore the deconstruction of the genre and the detective novel as self-parody. Exclusive use of Spanish in class.
Prerequisites: C or better in SPA 217 or SPA 332, and C or better in SPA 323 or SPA 324. Or, permission of the department chair.
Offered: occasionally in fall.
- SPA 453 Almodóvar and La Movida: The Films of Pedro Almodóvar** 3 Credits
Exploration of the transgressive, revolutionary, titillating films of Pedro Almodóvar and the birth of a new Spain after the death of Franco, tracing the trajectory and development of his cinematic narrative technique from his earliest films to his more recent films, exploring the excoriation of class, gender, sexuality, politics, and identity in his oeuvre. Exclusive use of Spanish in class.
Prerequisites: C or better in SPA 217 or SPA 332, and C or better in SPA 323 or SPA 324. Or, permission of the department chair.
Offered: occasionally in fall.
- SPA 455 Spanish Short Fiction** 3 Credits
A study of Spanish short-short literary fiction, Almodóvar's cinematography and graffiti art as expressions of Postmodern high and low cultures. Exclusive use of Spanish in class.
Prerequisites: C or better in SPA 217 or SPA 332, and C or better in SPA 323 or SPA 324, or permission of the department chair.
Offered: occasionally in spring.
- SPA 456 Cuban Cinema of the Revolution** 3 Credits
This course explores how film is politically charged in Cuba. How do directors work around and within the Cuban government's censorship to critique the Revolution as well as balance that critique with a love for the country and its people? Addresses how countryside and Havana are not just architecture or geography, but characters in their own right. Explores issues of race, gender, sexuality, class, and religion within Cuba and the exile community.
Prerequisites: C or better in SPA 217 or SPA 332, and C or better in SPA 323 or SPA 324, or permission of the department chair. No prerequisite for non SPA credit.
Offered: occasionally.
- SPA 457 Cuba Immersion Experience** 3 Credits
Delving deep into the history, culture, economics, and politics of Cuba, this course explores the complex character of the largest Caribbean island, and its complicated relationship to the US. This course is a follow up to SPA 456: Cuban Cinema of the Revolution. Students should take SPA 456, though some exceptions may be made at the discretion of instructor. The course runs three weeks in Havana and the provinces in late December through first weeks of January. Course will include site visits, lectures and visits on history, politics, society, medicine, gender and sexuality, labor, religion, and education. Home stays included.
Prerequisites: C or better in SPA 217 or SPA 332, and C or better in SPA 323 or SPA 324, or permission of Chair.
Offered: occasionally.
- SPA 459 The Body Erotic/The Body Politic: Sexuality as Political Discourse in Latin America and Spain** 3 Credits
Explores how 'deviant' sexuality (homosexuality, lesbianism, incest, and miscegenation) are used as political discourse in contexts where political dialogue is restricted. Examines how art deals with issues of the sexual body in terms of the political body, exploring the political uses of the body as well as the sexualization of the political. Exclusive use of Spanish in class.
Prerequisites: C or better in SPA 217 or SPA 332, and C or better in SPA 323 or SPA 324. Or, permission of the department chair.
Offered: occasionally in fall.
- SPA 460 Lorca and his Époque** 3 Credits
An examination of Spain's Generation of '27 as a cultural vanguard of the 20th century. Emphasis on multidisciplinary oeuvre by Federico García Lorca and his closest circle of friends: Salvador Dalí, Luis Buñuel and Manuel de Falla.
Prerequisites: minimum grade of C in SPA 217 or SPA 332, and C or better in SPA 323 or SPA 324; or permission of chair/instructor.
Offered: occasionally in spring.

SPA 490 Spanish Capstone Portfolio Project 1 Credit

Graduating majors will collect a portfolio of their work during their time at Canisius. Students will summarize their experience of studying Spanish through a 5-10 page reflective paper (written in the target language) discussing the progress they have made in skills (reading, writing, speaking, listening) and knowledge (culture). Students will also summarize how their knowledge of Spanish will impact their futures (graduate school, year of service, career, community, personal life). In this reflection, students should also synthesize the three areas of extracurricular experience and their impact on their skills and cultural knowledge: A) Study Abroad; B) Service Learning, Internships/Volunteer sites; C) Cultural Activities. Students should also critique the program, and suggest improvements to curriculum. The final project will conclude with an oral presentation of the above, with Q&A, for peers and faculty. This course will be required of all graduating majors entering AY 17/18 (graduation 2021 and later). Current students are strongly encouraged to register.

Prerequisite: successful completion of all other requirements in the major (may be concurrently registered in final elective).

Offered: every fall and spring semester.

SPA 499 Independent Study 1-6 Credits

Study and work with a faculty supervisor. Project to be determined by faculty agreement. Independent studies require an application and approval by the associate dean.

Prerequisites: C or better in SPA 217 or SPA 332, and C or better in SPA 323 or SPA 324. Or, permission of the department chair.