

PORTUGUESE AND SPANISH, PHD

REQUIREMENTS

MINIMUM GRADUATE SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS

Review the Graduate School minimum degree requirements (<https://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/#requirements>) and policies (<https://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/#policies>), in addition to the program requirements listed below.

MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

MODE OF INSTRUCTION

Face to Face	Evening/ Weekend	Online	Hybrid	Accelerated
Yes	No	No	No	No

Mode of Instruction Definitions

Accelerated: Accelerated programs are offered at a fast pace that condenses the time to completion. Students typically take enough credits aimed at completing the program in a year or two.

Evening/Weekend: Courses meet on the UW–Madison campus only in evenings and/or on weekends to accommodate typical business schedules. Students have the advantages of face-to-face courses with the flexibility to keep work and other life commitments.

Face-to-Face: Courses typically meet during weekdays on the UW–Madison Campus.

Hybrid: These programs combine face-to-face and online learning formats. Contact the program for more specific information.

Online: These programs are offered 100% online. Some programs may require an on-campus orientation or residency experience, but the courses will be facilitated in an online format.

CURRICULAR REQUIREMENTS

Requirement Detail

Minimum Credit Requirement	54 credits
Minimum Residence Credit Requirement	32 credits
Minimum Graduate Coursework Requirement	28 credits must be graduate-level coursework. Refer to the Graduate School: Minimum Graduate Coursework (50%) Requirement policy: https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1244 (https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1244/).
Overall Graduate GPA Requirement	3.00 GPA required. Refer to the Graduate School: Grade Point Average (GPA) Requirement policy: https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1203 (https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1203/).

Other Grade Requirements No other grade requirements.

Assessments and Examinations Preliminary Examinations

Students must take after course requirements are met. The prelim has two parts: a written part and an oral part. The written part of the exam has two components:

- 1) a series of take-home exams and
- 2) a 5 to 10-page dissertation prospectus plus bibliography.

An oral examination defense follows the written portions of the Preliminary Examination. The oral exam defense is approximately two hours long, at the discretion of the examining committee. It should cover both the take-home examinations and the dissertation prospectus. The candidate will receive a grade of pass or fail in the preliminary examination. In the case of failing the exam, it could be retaken once within a month (after consultation with the adviser). Should the dissertation prospectus be approved, the candidate will have a maximum of three months to officially defend a dissertation proposal.

The Doctoral Dissertation

The final oral examination for the PhD (the dissertation defense) will concentrate solely on the dissertation and generally does not exceed two hours in length. The examining committee is composed a minimum of four members, at least one of whom must be from outside the student's program in Portuguese & Spanish, and at least three of whom, including the dissertation director, should be designated as readers. This examination is held at least two weeks after the dissertation is submitted.

Language Requirements A knowledge of several languages is essential for doctoral research. Therefore, students are urged to fulfill the language requirements as early as possible in their doctoral studies. In any case, they must be fulfilled prior to the Preliminary Examination. The candidate must demonstrate advanced proficiency in a minimum of one language besides Spanish and Portuguese, to be determined in consultation with the adviser. The most common languages are French, Italian, Latin, German, and Arabic, depending on the candidate's major and minor. Advanced proficiency is defined as six college semesters with a grade of B or better. An advanced pass on the UW Division of University Outreach, Liberal Studies Reading Knowledge Examinations in French and German for graduate students will be accepted as an alternative. Exceptions to the above policies may be petitioned by the adviser to the Departmental Committee.

Graduate School Breadth Requirement A doctoral minor or graduate/professional certificate is not required. Students are required to complete between 18–21 credits in coursework taken in Spanish. All these credits must be taken as an advanced level course, numbered 600 or above.

REQUIRED COURSES

The Portuguese & Spanish PhD program in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese at the University of Wisconsin-Madison offers the following areas of study:

1. Portuguese Literature
2. Brazilian Literature
3. African Literature in Portuguese
4. Hispanic Literature or Linguistics

Student selects a major area, which is the area of specialization. Students are expected to have a thorough knowledge of the current, primary works and critical bibliography pertaining to the area of specialization. Knowledge of the most significant writers and works as well as the most important currents and developments in the supporting fields is expected.

Code	Title	Credits
Requirements		
Major Area		9
Supporting Field 1		6
Supporting Field 2		6
Literary Theory		3
Advanced Courses (minimum 5 courses)		15
Electives/Research		Variable
Total Credits		54

Course Options

Requirements may be satisfied with the following courses. Other courses may be used to satisfy requirements with advisor approval.

Code	Title	Credits
PORTUG 361	Portuguese Civilization	3
PORTUG/ GEN&WS 450	Brazilian Women Writers	3
PORTUG/ GEN&WS 460	Carmen Miranda	3
PORTUG 640	Topics in Luso-Brazilian Literature	3
PORTUG 642	Topics in Luso-Brazilian Culture	3
PORTUG 751	Seminar: Brazilian Literature	3
PORTUG 772	Seminar: Portuguese Literature	3
PORTUG 899	Independent Reading	1-3
PORTUG/A A E/ ANTHRO/C&E SOC/ GEOG/HISTORY/ LACIS/POLI SCI/ SOC/SPANISH 982	Interdepartmental Seminar in the Latin-American Area	1-3
SPANISH 630	Topics in Hispanic Linguistics	3
SPANISH 801	Seminar-Spanish American Literature	3
SPANISH 802	Seminar-Spanish American Literature	3
SPANISH 851	Seminar in Golden Age Prose: Cervantes Don Quijote	3
SPANISH 852	Seminar in Golden Age Prose	3
SPANISH 861	Seminar-Modern Spanish Literature	3

Two-Course Per Semester Requirement

Students must take a minimum of **two graduate-level courses in Portuguese and/or Spanish for credit each semester**, excluding Independent Reading (PORTUG 899 Independent Reading) courses, with the following exceptions:

1. The semester before taking the preliminary examination, a student may apply one instance of PORTUG 899 Independent Reading toward their dissertation proposal as one of the two graduate-level courses in Portuguese and/or Spanish if a second course is taken in the department. This exception may be granted only once despite delays in the preliminary examination.
2. Audited courses do not satisfy the requirement.
3. If this requirement delays the student's progress toward degree completion, a petition with advisor approval may be submitted. This is not applicable to students who have passed their preliminary examination.

Independent Study

A maximum of 3 credits of independent study (PORTUG 899 Independent Reading) in each of the areas of concentration may be used, with prior departmental approval, when corresponding courses are not offered in a timely fashion.

Advanced Courses

An advanced course is defined as a course numbered 600 or above in Spanish and numbered 400 or above, in Portuguese. In consultation with their advisor, students should ensure that they have a minimum of five advanced courses beyond the MA, if completed at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, or six advanced course beyond the MA if completed at another institution. At least two of these courses must be in the major. One of these advanced courses may be taken outside the Department, with the advisor's consent.

Course Exclusions

The following courses **do not satisfy** the PhD course requirements:

Code	Title	Credits
PORTUG 311	Fourth Year Composition and Conversation	3
PORTUG 312	Fourth Year Composition and Conversation	3
PORTUG 330	History of the Portuguese Language	3
PORTUG 361	Portuguese Civilization	3
PORTUG 362	Brazilian Civilization	3