

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 51 credits

Minimum Residence Credit Requirement 32 credits

Minimum Graduate Coursework Requirement 33 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/>).

In practice all doctoral coursework (with the exception of some language requirements or some doctoral minors) is designed exclusively for graduate students.

Overall 3.00 GPA required.
Graduate GPA Requirement 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: The Preliminary Examination must be taken after course requirements have been 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 of a minimum of four members, at least one of whom must be from outside the student's program in 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 Knowledge of other languages is essential for doctoral research. Candidates must demonstrate proficiency in either one or two languages appropriate for their area of research, to be decided in consultation with their advisor. Students are urged to fulfill the language requirements as early as possible in their doctoral studies. In any event, these must be fulfilled prior to the Preliminary Examination.

While any language may be used to fulfill the language requirement, the most common ones are those with regular course offerings or reading knowledge exams like Spanish (for candidates in Portuguese) or Portuguese (for candidates in Spanish), French, Italian, Latin, German, Arabic, Hebrew, Quechua and Yucatec Maya. Proficiency is defined as the level reached in any of the courses or pairs of courses listed below (or their equivalent), with the grades indicated, or a score of "Advanced High Pass/High Pass" on the UW Extension Reading Knowledge Exam if it is offered.

Graduate School Breadth Requirement All doctoral students are required to complete a doctoral minor or graduate/professional certificate. Refer to the Graduate School: Breadth Requirement in Doctoral Training policy: <https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1200> (<https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1200/>).

If choosing a minor, the doctoral candidate must present a minor in work done outside of Spanish. The minor should be in an area related to the major field of interest. Portuguese, French, Comparative Literature, and Latin American, Caribbean and Iberian Studies are among the most common minors. Distributed minors (for a minimum of 9 credits) must be approved by the advisor. Requirements for the minor are established by the respective department. Since the minor should complement the student's major area of concentration, the student should arrange their program with the minor department as early as possible in the doctoral career. For a minor in Portuguese, the student should have a minimum of 9 credits beyond PORTUG#160;301/PORTUG#160;302. Also, courses taken to fulfill the language requirement cannot count toward the minor in Portuguese. Similarly, courses taken for a minor in Educational Psychology, Curriculum & Instruction, or Second Language Acquisition cannot also be counted as Research Design courses.

REQUIRED COURSES

Students select a major area and two supporting fields: literature or linguistics. The major is the area of specialization; the student is expected to have a thorough knowledge of the currents, primary works and critical bibliography pertaining to it.

The program provides multiple opportunities for the development of analytical skills, and integrated with those skills an extensive knowledge of theoretical issues. The selection of the major and supporting fields is made by the beginning of the second semester of doctoral studies.

Independent Study

With prior department approval and when courses are not available, up to 3 credits of SPANISH 899 Independent Reading may be applied towards degree requirements.

In the semester before taking the Preliminary Examination, a student may apply SPANISH 899 Independent Reading designed to work toward the dissertation proposal as one of the two courses, as long as another course is taken in the department. This exception may only apply once, even in the case that the Preliminary Examination is postponed.

Spanish PhD with a Concentration in Literature ¹

Students are expected to know the most significant writers and works and the most important currents and developments. Student must also have a good knowledge of critical bibliography.

This pathway is based on **six** literary areas:

1. Medieval Literature
2. Golden Age Literature
3. Modern Peninsular Literature
4. Spanish American I Literature (Colonial to 1900)

5. Spanish American II Literature (20th and 21st Century)
6. Latinx Studies

With advisor approval, linguistics field may be used as a supporting field only.

Code	Title	Credits
Core		
Students must complete the following course.		
SPANISH 770	Introduction to the Profession	3
Major Area		12
Advanced Courses (minimum of 6 courses)		18
In consultation with advisor, students must complete at least six courses numbered 600 or above. At least two of these courses must be in the major. With advisor approval, students may complete one advanced course outside of the department.		
Breadth		9
Electives/Research		
Coursework can be completed from the following courses:		9
²		
SPANISH 801	Seminar-Spanish American Literature	
SPANISH 802	Seminar-Spanish American Literature	
SPANISH 851	Seminar in Golden Age Prose: Cervantes Don Quijote	
SPANISH 852	Seminar in Golden Age Prose	
SPANISH 861	Seminar-Modern Spanish Literature	
SPANISH/ A A E/ANTHRO/ C&E SOC/ GEOG/HISTORY/ LACIS/POLI SCI/ PORTUG/ SOC 982	Interdepartmental Seminar in the Latin-American Area	
Total Credits		51

¹ These pathways are internal to the program and represent different curricular paths a student can follow to earn this degree. Pathway names do not appear in the Graduate School admissions application, and they will not appear on the transcript.

² Other courses may be used to satisfy these requirements with advisor approval.

Spanish PhD with a Concentration in Linguistics ¹

Students are expected to know the most significant linguistic schools and approaches and the most important currents and developments. Students must also have a good knowledge of critical bibliography.

Students select a pathway from the three areas; the other two automatically become supporting fields. The **three** linguistics areas are:

1. Theoretical/Formal Spanish Linguistics
2. Language Variation and Change
3. Applied Linguistics and Second Language Acquisition

Code	Title	Credits
Core		
Students must complete the following course.		
SPANISH 770	Introduction to the Profession	3
Major Area		12
Students in the Applied Linguistics and Second Language Acquisition Area are required to take two graduate-level Research Design courses chosen in consultation with the student's advisor. (See "Language Requirements" above)		6
Advanced Courses (Minimum of 6 courses)		18
In consultation with advisor, students must complete at least six courses numbered 600 or above. At least two of these courses must be in the major. With advisor approval, students may complete one advanced course outside of the department.		
Breadth		9
Electives/Research		
Coursework can be completed from the following courses:		3
²		
SPANISH 446	Topics in Spanish Linguistics	
SPANISH 630	Topics in Hispanic Linguistics	
SPANISH 899	Independent Reading	
Total Credits		51

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² Other courses may be used to satisfy these requirements with advisor approval.