

## SPANISH FOR THE PROFESSIONS BS

### Spanish for the Professions

College of Arts & Humanities  
 Department of World Languages & Cultures  
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 Website: [www.mnsu.edu/languages](http://www.mnsu.edu/languages)

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#### The undergraduate Spanish program seeks students who want to go further!

The undergraduate Spanish degree programs serve students who are seeking intermediate and advanced proficiency in the Spanish language and immersion in cultural studies. These students understand the impact that advanced language proficiency and cultural expertise can have on a successful career, whether they continue in the study of Spanish at the post-graduate level or utilize their skill in a vast number of areas such as business, international relations, social work, law, government, education or health care. An ability to speak to many more people in different cultural environments, and write with an eye to cultural and linguistic diversity for a variety of professional settings here and around the world, is one of the most sought after skills in nearly all professional fields. Candidates with high competency can often earn more and can advance more rapidly in their careers.

#### Choosing BS Spanish for the Professions as your degree program

The BS Spanish for the Professions degree program prepares students for using Spanish in a variety of professional fields or for graduate work in Spanish where a higher level of language proficiency and cultural knowledge about Spanish-speaking communities is required. The coursework emphasizes the development of communicative competency, cultural competency and literacy (reading skills, translation of documents for the professions, etc.) to work in the 21st century workplace where Spanish is required. General education courses are incorporated from a variety of areas to develop greater familiarity with areas studies associated with Spanish-speaking communities around the world. Specifically, courses focus on ethnic studies, anthropology, philosophy, environmental studies, etc. to develop a strong understanding of Spanish-speaking people and the environments where they work and live (Puerto Rico and the US, islands in the Caribbean, Central and South America, Europe and Africa). Over 400 million people speak Spanish around the world so the core competencies for this degree program centers on demonstration of skills in written and oral communication and competencies in multicultural literacy and cultures. This degree program requires study abroad immersion in a Spanish-speaking country or environment and encourages students to conduct internships that tie their minor and work in Spanish to their academic and career goals.

The Spanish program also offers other undergraduate degree programs (Spanish BA, Spanish BS) and works collaboratively with the College of Education to offer the BS Spanish Teaching degree program for preparing future K-12 Spanish teachers. For additional information on other undergraduate Spanish degree programs, check out Spanish or Spanish Teaching in the Online Undergraduate Catalog where you will find a discussion of the Spanish BA, BS and collaborative BS Spanish Teaching program. Then contact a Spanish faculty member to help you decide which major and learning opportunities are best for you!

#### Spanish for the Professions degree program

Choosing the BS Spanish for the Professions degree means you are committed to gaining a higher level of language proficiency, developing a broad understanding Spanish-speaking people and environments in which they live and work through general education, internships, and experiencing culture first-hand through a required study abroad in one or more environments where Spanish is spoken. While many of our BA and BS students are double majors in a variety of disciplinary areas, students in the BS Spanish for the Professions program develop greater breadth of knowledge through recommended general education courses and greater depth in knowledge of cultural and linguistic aspects of using Spanish in diverse environments through required study abroad, additional language study, a strong minor area of study and coursework focused on developing their careers through Spanish for the Professions 450, internships and study abroad coursework.

#### Coursework in the Spanish undergraduate program encourages you to go further by connecting language and cultural perspectives!

The focus on real-world communication in our classes promotes a student-centered environment with opportunities to exchange ideas and open minds to different ways of interpreting events from a variety of cultural perspectives. In depth study of language and cultures develops a deeper and more comprehensive understanding of other peoples' worldviews. Coursework fosters respect for other cultures through reading, practice and discussion, and offers opportunities for interaction with cultural products and perspectives from the broad variety of cultures in Puerto Rico and the United States and the twenty countries and numerous cultures where Spanish is an official language. Spanish is spoken in diverse communities in North, Central and South America, the Caribbean, island and continental communities in Europe and Africa and coursework in the BS Spanish for the Professions helps you develop the competencies and knowledge needed for working in the multifaceted environment where we use Spanish here in the US and abroad.

#### An experience abroad in a Spanish-speaking community can take you further as you gain expertise in specific cultural environments appropriate to your educational and career goals.

Study abroad is required for the BS Spanish for the Professions and is highly recommended for all Spanish undergraduate degree programs. The department currently has Minnesota State University, Mankato-approved fall, spring and summer study abroad options that meet degree requirements for Spanish in Ecuador, Spain and Costa Rica. By enrolling in a department-sponsored Spanish study abroad program, students will have the opportunity to experience language and culture in action in an environment that is unlike the U.S. and that is both designed for them (all courses meet program degree requirements) and that is suitable for developing first-hand experience that will be invaluable to them in future graduate study or their career of choice. Students who study abroad learn to negotiate meaning in new ways and, in some cases, decide to tie their cultural experience to their long-term academic and professional goals by returning to conduct research or an internship workplace. Meet with a Spanish faculty advisor early to determine which program is best suited to your personal and professional goals!

#### A Spanish undergraduate experience in the workplace can take the Spanish for the Professions major further by providing a career-focused internship experience while you are still an undergraduate student.

The BS Spanish for the Professions degree requires study abroad and encourages students to seek internship or Co-Op placement in a field where they would like to work while still an undergraduate major. Credits earned through the Spanish 498 internship count toward the integrative skills required for the program. This is an opportunity to explore the workplace environment associated with the minor as long as students are also using Spanish in the internship experience. These experiential credits count toward your Spanish for the Professions major! If appropriate, a student in this degree program. Students in this major who have already completed their study abroad experience and most of their academic courses in Spanish might also consider engaging in a unique longer term practical Co-Op experience in the professional workplace (SPAN 398 or VLC 398) before they complete their final 8-12 credits of Spanish coursework. Students who are interested in experiential learning opportunities should contact their faculty advisor early to map out the most appropriate path toward timely graduation.

#### Spanish 450: Spanish for the Professions is a career exploration course designed just for you!

In this Major Common Core course we ask you to conduct research on your desired career path with Spanish and to explore the workplace through research, development of a Career Day for World Language majors, development of broader professional integrative skills for the professions (writing letters, exploring translation and interpretation, development of broad professional vocabulary in Spanish for health, business and educational fields, development of presentational skills in Spanish, development of a bilingual CV, for example), and highlights opportunities for attendance at Career fairs for real job exploration.

#### The Spanish undergraduate program sets you on a new path for higher learning and cultural engagement for your future career!

All students in Spanish undergraduate programs are also encouraged to pursue scholarly activities, such as presenting at conferences like the SUR PLUS ULTRA Undergraduate Language Conference in our region or the Minnesota State University Undergraduate Research Symposium on our campus. This is particularly important for undergraduate Spanish majors who plan to continue on to a Masters degree or doctoral degree program but research can also play an important role in the BS Spanish for the Professions degree program.

All Spanish undergraduate majors are encouraged to participate in co-curricular activities that enhance language proficiency and encourage cultural engagement with native Spanish speakers through study abroad, Spanish Club, Spanish

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conversation table, Spanish language film events, international poetry recitals or Spanish-language theatrical performances, World Language Career Day, and by attending lectures and activities associated with broad topics that center on Latino and Spanish-speaking cultural events on campus.

**Students with prior Spanish language experience** or expertise should contact the Department of World Languages and Cultures for advanced placement testing before enrolling in their first Spanish course on our campus or for credit by exam, if they are seeking credit for prior experience.

**Students at the end of their programs will meet the National Standards for Foreign Language Learning.**

### Communicate in Languages Other Than English

- Standard 1.1: Students engage in conversations, provide and obtain information express feelings and emotions, and exchange opinions.
- Standard 1.2: Students understand and interpret written and spoken language on a variety of topics.
- Standard 1.3: Students present information, concepts, and ideas to an audience of listeners or readers on a variety of topics.

### Gain Knowledge and Understanding of Other Cultures

- Standard 2.1: Students demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between the practices and perspectives of the culture studied.
- Standard 2.2: Students demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between the products and perspectives of the culture studied.

### Connect with Other Disciplines and Acquire Information

- Standard 3.1: Students reinforce and further their knowledge of other disciplines through the foreign language.
- Standard 3.2: Students acquire information and recognize the distinctive viewpoints that are only available through the foreign language and its cultures.

### Develop Insight into the Nature of Language and Culture

- Standard 4.1: Students demonstrate understanding of the nature of language through comparisons of the language studied and their own.
- Standard 4.2: Students demonstrate understanding of the concept of culture through comparisons of the cultures studied and their own.

### Participate in Multilingual Communities at Home & Around the World

- Standard 5.1: Students use the language both within and beyond the school setting.
- Standard 5.2: Students show evidence of becoming life-long learners by using the language for personal enjoyment and enrichment

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### Academic Map/Degree Plan at [www.mnsu.edu/programs/#All](http://www.mnsu.edu/programs/#All)

#### POLICIES/INFORMATION

**Admission to Major** is granted by the department. Minimum University admission requirements are:

- a minimum of 32 earned semester credit hours.
- a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.00 ("C").

Contact the department for application and placement procedures.

**GPA Policy.** A grade of "C-" or better must be earned for major or minor credit.

**P/N Grading Policy.** Work done for a major or minor must be done for a letter grade above the second-year level. A grade of "P" must be earned for major or minor credit in all work done on a P/N basis.

**Proficiency Policies.** Students who wish to receive credit by examination may take tests to have their proficiency evaluated. Students may not take a proficiency test for a course in which they are enrolled. Students who have any previous Spanish experience must see a Spanish faculty member for placement advice before enrolling in a Spanish course. Contact the Department for details and see the department website for guidance.

**Fulfilling BA Language Requirement.** Students who wish to validate the BA Language requirement for previous study in French, German, Spanish, Swedish or Norwegian may do so by taking credit by exam. Students do not meet the BA language requirement merely because they have taken two years of high school language.

**Residency Requirement.** Transfer credits will be applied only if they are the equivalent of work offered by the Department of World Languages & Cultures for the major or minor in that language. In addition, a minimum of work must be taken at Minnesota State Mankato as follows. Major: A minimum of three upper division courses other

than SPAN 492 or SPAN 499, for a total of at least 8 credits. At least two of these courses must be at the 400 level. Minor: A minimum of two upper division courses other than SPAN 492 or SPAN 499, for a total of at least six credits.

Courses not required for a student's specific baccalaureate degree should be chosen according to these general guidelines:

#### - BA:

Emphasis on literature in upper-division courses; students will most likely pursue their education beyond the baccalaureate level.

#### - BS:

Emphasis on the ability to communicate in the language; presupposes knowledge of culture and civilization; students frequently have career goals in other disciplines for which a language is either required or recommended.

#### - BS Spanish Education:

Emphasis is on meeting the National Standards for Foreign Language Learning and Minnesota Board of Teaching competencies.

#### - BS Spanish for the Professions:

Emphasis is on the development of communicative competency, cultural competency and literacy to work in the 21st century workplace where Spanish is required.

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### SPANISH FOR THE PROFESSIONS BS

Degree completion = 120 credits

Spanish for the Professions is a degree that prepares students to work in a variety of careers where a high level of Spanish language and cultural competency associated with the Spanish-speakers of the 21st century are required. The required coursework emphasizes the development of communicative competency, cultural competency and literacy (reading skills, translation of documents for the professions, etc.) to work in the 21st century workplace where Spanish is required. Required general education courses in a variety of areas (geography, ethnic studies, anthropology, philosophy, environmental studies, for example) and advanced courses in culture, civilization and history enhance the student's understanding of the people, cultures, and environments where Spanish is used in the workplace (here in the US and in Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean and Central America and South America). Core competencies include demonstration of skills in written and oral communication and competencies in literacy and cultures. This program requires study abroad immersion in a Spanish-speaking country.

#### Required General Education

ANTH 240	Language and Culture (4)
CMST 203	Intercultural Communication (3)
CMST 212	Professional Communication and Interviewing (3)
ENVR 101	Perspectives in Environmental Science (4)
ETHN 150	Multi-Cultural/Ethnic Experience (3)
ETHN 204W	Perspectives on Latinos/Hispanics (3)
GEOG 103	Introductory Cultural Geography (3)
Select two (choose 6-8 credits)	
BLAW 131	Consumer Law & Ethics (3)
PHIL 224W	Business Ethics (3)
PHIL 240W	Law, Justice & Society (3)
PHIL 321W	Social & Political Philosophy (3)

#### Prerequisites to the Major

Spanish language equivalency (choose 4-5 credits)

Students must have the equivalent proficiency level of 102 to enter the major. One language course 101-202 may be used in General Education. Students whose proficiency level exceeds the minimum required should complete an elective course in Spanish or course at the appropriate level in another language of their choice.

SPAN 101	Elementary Spanish I (4)
SPAN 102	Elementary Spanish II (4)
SPAN 193	Individual Study Abroad: Elementary Spanish I (1-6)
SPAN 194	Individual Study Abroad: Elementary Spanish II (1-6)
SPAN 201	Intermediate Spanish I (4)
SPAN 202	Intermediate Spanish II (4)
SPAN 293	Individual Study Abroad: Intermediate Spanish I (1-6)
SPAN 294	Individual Study Abroad: Intermediate Spanish II (1-6)

#### Major Common Core

ENG 272W	Business Communication (4)
SPAN 210W	Composition & Conversation (4)
SPAN 450	Spanish for the Professions (4)

#### Major Restricted Electives

Integrative Skills (choose 14 credits)

SPAN 393	Individual Study Abroad: Advanced Spanish I (1-6)
SPAN 394	Supervised Study Abroad: Advanced Spanish II (1-6)

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- SPAN 396 Experiencing Diverse Cultures (1-3)  
SPAN 407 Topics in Translation (1-4)  
SPAN 498 Internship: Spanish for the Professions (1-4)  
Cultural Competency (choose 7-8 credits)  
HIST 442 History of Latin America (4)  
SPAN 355 Spanish Civilization (1-4)  
SPAN 356 Latin American Civilization (1-4)  
SPAN 496 Ind. Study Abroad: Topics in Spanish American Culture (1-6)  
SPAN 497 Ind. Study Abroad: Topics in Spanish Peninsular Culture (1-6)  
Literacy Competency (choose 8 credits)  
SPAN 365 Selected Readings (1-4)  
SPAN 395 Individual Study Abroad: Readings in Hispanic Literature (1-6)  
SPAN 402 Topics in Spanish Peninsular Literature (1-4)  
SPAN 403 Topics in Spanish American Literature (1-4)

### Major Unrestricted Electives

Spanish Electives (choose 8-11 credits)

Choose electives in consultation with an advisor.

- SPAN 256 Individual Study Abroad: Supervised Project (1-6)  
SPAN 301 Topics in Language (1-4)  
SPAN 310 Conversation and Composition (1-4)  
SPAN 365 Selected Readings (1-4)  
SPAN 395 Individual Study Abroad: Readings in Hispanic Literature (1-6)  
SPAN 401 Topics in Linguistics (1-4)  
SPAN 402 Topics in Spanish Peninsular Literature (1-4)  
SPAN 403 Topics in Spanish American Literature (1-4)  
SPAN 464 Internship: FLES (1-6)  
SPAN 492 Independent Study (1-3)  
SPAN 493 Ind. Study Abroad: Topics in Language and Linguistics (1-6)  
SPAN 494 Ind. Study Abroad: Topics in Spanish American Literature (1-6)  
(choose 0-3 credits)

Number of elective credits will depend upon total number of credits completed in the core and restricted and unrestricted electives.

SPAN 201 through SPAN 499

### Required Minor. Yes. Any

Recommended minors for Spanish for the Professions vary in credit length. The following minors fit within the 120 credit limit as they are 20 credits or less and pair well with this major: Corrections, Environmental Studies, Financial Planning, Human Resource Management, Marketing, Political Science, Social Welfare and Technical Communication. Other minors that exceed 20 credits that would also be an appropriate pair for this major are: Business Administration, Community Health, French, German, International Relations, Nonprofit Leadership, Psychology, Scandinavian Studies, Social Welfare, Sports Medicine.

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### COURSE DESCRIPTIONS SEE SPANISH