Romance Languages Major, B.A.–Hispanic Linguistics

Contact Information
Department of Romance Studies
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Spanish, the world’s third largest language and second in terms of native
speakers, is spoken by nearly 500 million people across the globe. The
over 50 million Hispanics in the United States have become the fastest-
growing social and political segment in North America. Because of its
prominence, learning to communicate in Spanish can be essential for
those entering the global economic market and numerous professions.

Spanish studies at UNC–Chapel Hill thrives on innovative literary,
linguistic, and theoretical approaches to the Spanish-speaking world,
and includes the study of indigenous, Afro-descendant, Asian, and other
cultures. Students obtain well-grounded and comprehensive critical
knowledge of the literatures, languages, and cultures of Spain and the
Americas, often through collaborative research with a faculty member.
Qualifying students have the opportunity to pursue an honor’s thesis with
one of our faculty members.

Department Programs

Majors

• Romance Languages Major, B.A.–French and Francophone Studies
  (http://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/programs-study/romance-
  languages-major-ba-french-francophone-studies)
• Romance Languages Major, B.A.–Italian
  (http://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/programs-study/romance-
  languages-major-ba-italian)
• Romance Languages Major, B.A.–Portuguese
  (http://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/programs-study/romance-
  languages-major-ba-portuguese)
• Romance Languages Major, B.A.–Hispanic Literatures and Cultures
  (http://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/programs-study/romance-
  languages-major-ba-hispanic-literatures-cultures)
• Romance Languages Major, B.A.–Hispanic Linguistics (p. 1)

Minors

• French Minor (http://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/programs-
  study/french-minor)
• Italian Minor (http://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/programs-study/
  italian-minor)
• Portuguese Minor (http://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/programs-
  study/portuguese-minor)
• Hispanic Studies Minor (http://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/
  programs-study/hispanic-studies-minor)
• Spanish for the Professions Minor (http://catalog.unc.edu/
  undergraduate/programs-study/spanish-professions-minor)

Graduate Programs

• M.A. in Romance Languages and Literatures
  (http://catalog.unc.edu/graduate/schools-departments/romance-
  studies)
• Ph.D. in Romance Languages and Literatures
  (http://catalog.unc.edu/graduate/schools-departments/romance-
  studies)

Requirements

In addition to the program requirements listed below, students must

• attain a final cumulative GPA of at least 2.0
• complete a minimum of 45 academic credit hours earned from UNC-
  Chapel Hill courses
• take at least half of their major course requirements (courses and
  credit hours) at UNC-Chapel Hill
• earn a minimum of 18 hours of C or better in the major core
  requirements (some majors require 21 hours).

For more information, please consult the degree requirements section of
the catalog (http://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/general-education-
curriculum-degree-requirements/#degreerequirementstext).

Core Requirements

Gateway Course:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SPAN 262</td>
<td>Introduction to Spanish and Spanish American Literature for Heritage Learners (for heritage speakers)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or SPAN 260</td>
<td>Introduction to Spanish and Spanish American Literature</td>
<td></td>
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Core Courses:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SPAN 326</td>
<td>Spanish Grammar and Composition for Heritage Speakers (for heritage speakers)</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>or SPAN 300</td>
<td>Spanish Composition and Grammar Review</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Two introductory Hispanic linguistics courses:</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>SPAN 376</td>
<td>Phonetics and Phonology</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>SPAN 377</td>
<td>Grammatical Structure of Spanish</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two specialized Hispanic linguistics courses chosen from: 1</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>SPAN 375</td>
<td>Spanish of the United States</td>
<td></td>
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<td>SPAN 378</td>
<td>Afro-Hispanic Language Contacts</td>
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<td>SPAN 397</td>
<td>Undergraduate Seminar in Language and Linguistics</td>
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<tr>
<td>SPAN 677</td>
<td>Spanish Syntax</td>
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<tr>
<td>SPAN 678</td>
<td>Cultural and Linguistic History of the Spanish Language</td>
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<td>SPAN 679</td>
<td>Spanish Pragmatics</td>
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<td>SPAN 680</td>
<td>First- and Second-Language Acquisition of Spanish</td>
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<td>SPAN 682</td>
<td>Spanish Sociolinguistics</td>
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<tr>
<td>SPAN 683</td>
<td>Guarani Linguistics</td>
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</table>

One course in a language relevant to Spanish chosen from: 3
will recommend that the student who has defended the thesis graduate

supervisor. The director of honors, in consultation with the examiners,

Two additional faculty members, to be agreed upon by the student and

thesis will be completed and the student examined by the supervisor and

seminar is central to the research project chosen. In the 692H course the

in the spring semester. FREN, ITAL, PORT, SPAN 398 Undergraduate

Students) in the fall semester of the senior year, and 692H Honors Thesis

emphasis (FREN, ITAL, PORT, or SPAN 691H Research for Advanced

of enrollment in a special topics course in the language of the major

honors thesis. Specific coursework for the major with honors consists

their major courses. Eligible honors candidates will formulate a topic

given to the best graduating senior in French; it includes a cash award.

are recommended as candidates for the Jacques Hardré Award, which is

national French honor society. Those with outstanding records in French

Students have the opportunity to be inducted into Pi Delta Phi, the

French Undergraduate Awards

(919) 962-7002.

General inquiries concerning any of these programs should be addressed
to the Study Abroad Office, CB# 3130, FedEx Global Education Center,

Students from UNC–Chapel Hill and from other institutions may earn up

to 30 semester hours of undergraduate credit in these programs, which

students of the Romance languages

Study Abroad Office sponsors several yearlong, semester-long, and

summer programs appropriate for students of the Romance languages

and has special arrangements with the Department of Romance Studies

for the UNC in Montpellier, UNC in Seville, and Florence programs.

Students from UNC–Chapel Hill and from other institutions may earn up
to 30 semester hours of undergraduate credit in these programs, which

are open to qualified undergraduates regardless of academic major.

Students may satisfy up to 50 percent of their major coursework abroad.

the experiential education (EE) General Education requirement and is

always connected to a specific course.

Students also find opportunities to speak Spanish and meet native

Spanish speakers in an informal weekly Tertulia. Additional activities

such as lectures, receptions, and films are organized by the department

and student organizations such as CHispA (Carolina Hispanic

Association). Numerous volunteer opportunities using Spanish are

available in the local community through CHispA, Campus Y, UNC

Hospitals, and other organizations.

For further opportunities to speak French, students are encouraged to

participate in the weekly meeting of the Table Française and become

members of the French club, les Francophiles. Departmental lectures and

film series are also offered.

Students wishing to speak Italian may participate in a weekly

conversation table, La Tavola Italiana. They may also attend

departmental lectures and film series and participate in the Italian

Literary Contest.

Students who wish to practice Portuguese can meet weekly for the “bate-
papo” (chat).

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(919) 962-7002.

Undergraduate Awards

French

Students have the opportunity to be inducted into Pi Delta Phi, the

national French honor society. Those with outstanding records in French

are recommended as candidates for the Jacques Hardré Award, which is

given to the best graduating senior in French; it includes a cash award.
Italian
Students are nominated for membership in Gamma Kappa Alpha, the Italian honor society, by undergraduate instructors. The society recognizes “outstanding scholastic performance in the fields of Italian language and literature” and encourages students “to acquire a greater interest in, and a deeper understanding of, Italian culture.” The Kimberly Kyser Award for Excellence in Italian is awarded to the most outstanding student in Italian and includes a cash prize.

Portuguese
Each year the department awards the Camões Prize to the outstanding student in Portuguese during that year. The prize carries a monetary award made possible by a donation from the Gulbenkian Foundation.

Spanish
Students have the opportunity to be inducted into Sigma Delta Pi, the national Spanish honor society. Those with outstanding records in Spanish are recommended as candidates for the Stoudemire Award, which is given to the best graduating senior in Spanish and includes a cash prize. The Thomas Henry Wilson, Sr. Award provides an undergraduate with a major or minor in Spanish support to conduct research during the summer in a Spanish-speaking country.