

Hispanic Studies

The School of Humanities

Chair

Maarten van Delden

Professors

James A. Castañeda
Beatriz González-Stephan

Associate Professors

Robert Lane Kauffmann

J. Bernardo Pérez

Rafael Salaberry

Assistant Professor

Kate Jenckes

Degrees Offered: B.A. and M.A. in Hispanic Studies

The department offers courses on the literatures and cultures of the Spanish-speaking nations of the world, and on Spanish linguistics. The department stresses linguistic competence, interdisciplinary study, and a transnational perspective on Spanish and Spanish American literature and culture. In addition to courses on the novel, poetry, and the essay, the department also offers the opportunity to study film, art, cultural theory, translation, and gender. Our freshman seminars are conducted in English and stress written and oral communication. Qualified students may undertake independent work.

Degree Requirements for B.A. in Hispanic Studies

For general university requirements, see Graduation Requirements (pages 20–23). Both single and double majors must take at least one course in Hispanic linguistics, one course in Spanish literature and/or culture, and one course in Latin American literature and/or culture. No more than two courses taught in English may count toward the major in Hispanic studies. At least half of the courses for the major must be taken at Rice University.

Single Majors: Students majoring in Hispanic studies must complete at least 30 semester hours in upper-level courses (SPAN 330 and above) as follows:

- 1 course between SPAN 330-SPAN 359
- 4 courses between SPAN 360-SPAN 399
- 4 courses at the 400 level
- 1 elective course

Double Majors: Students double majoring in Hispanic Studies must complete at least 24 semester hours in upper-level courses (SPAN 330 and above) as follows:

- 1 course between SPAN 330-SPAN 359
- 3 courses between SPAN 360-SPAN 399
- 3 courses at the 400 level
- 1 elective course

For a list of recommended elective courses, please see department coordinator.

Honors. Every year, the department presents the *Cervantes Award for Outstanding Seniors* to its top students. The department also offers an honors program for majors excelling in their studies. Honors work consists of an independent research project leading to a substantial essay. It is undertaken in close cooperation with a departmental faculty member, who must first approve the thesis proposal.

Degree Requirements for M.A. in Hispanic Studies

For general university requirements, see Graduate Degrees (pages 65–70). For the M.A. degree, candidates must:

- Complete with high standing an approved program that normally includes 24 semester hours in advanced courses, plus 6 hours of thesis work
- Pass a reading examination in one foreign language (other than Spanish) that has been approved by the department
- Perform satisfactorily on a written comprehensive examination in Spanish, which tests students' competence in Hispanic literature and linguistics
- Take 1 semester of college Latin (or equivalent)
- Take SPAN 507 *Teaching College Spanish*
- Complete an acceptable thesis
- Perform satisfactorily on a final oral examination on the thesis

See SPAN in the Courses of Instruction section.