

HISPANIC STUDIES

THE SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES

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DEGREES OFFERED: BA AND MA 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. Freshman seminars are conducted in English and stress written and oral communication. Qualified students may undertake independent work.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS FOR BA IN HISPANIC STUDIES

For general university requirements, see Graduation Requirements (pages 16–19). Both single and double majors must take at least 1 course in Hispanic linguistics, one course in Spanish literature and/or culture, and 1 course in Latin American literature and/or culture. No more than 2 courses taught in English may count toward the major in Hispanic studies. More than 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 the department coordinator.

Honors—Every year, the department presents the Cervantes Award for Outstanding Seniors to its top students. The department also offers to outstanding majors the opportunity to do honors work during their final year of study. Honors work consists of an independent research project leading to a thesis and is undertaken under the direction of a departmental faculty member. Students wishing to do honors work must submit a thesis proposal to be approved by

the department before the end of the semester prior to the semester in which they will register for the honors thesis (SPAN 495).

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS FOR MA IN HISPANIC STUDIES

For general university requirements, see Graduate Degrees (pages 61–62). For the MA degree, candidates must:

- Complete with high standing an approved program that normally includes 27 semester hours in advanced courses, plus 9 hours of thesis work
- Pass a reading examination in 1 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 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.