Hispanic and Classical Studies

The School of Humanities

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Degrees Offered: B.A. and M.A. in Spanish, B.A. only in classics

Studies are available in classics, Greek, Latin, Portuguese, and Spanish. For information on the B.A. degree in classics, see the section on the classics major (page 130). Undergraduate majors in Hispanic studies select one of four options: literature, language and linguistics, translation, or Latin American studies. Qualified upper-class students may also undertake independent work. To provide students with the opportunity to live and study in a Spanish-speaking environment, the department offers the fall semester in Chile.

Degree Requirements for B.A. in Hispanic Studies

For general university requirements, see Graduation Requirements (pages 17–19). Requirements for the Hispanic studies major differ according to the option selected. For the B.A., students must complete the following:

Literature option—30 semester hours (10 courses) in Spanish at the 300 level or higher

Language and linguistics option—at least 27 hours (9 courses) in Spanish language and Spanish linguistics at the 300 level or higher; and 1 course in linguistics (e.g., LING 200 Introduction to the Scientific Study of Language, LING 300 Linguistic Analysis, or LING 305 Historical Linguistics); prerequisite: semester of college Latin or equivalent

Translation option—Open to students who have passed the qualifying examination offered during the first week of each semester. At least 27 hours (9 courses) in Spanish at the 300 level or higher; 1 course in linguistics (LING 394, Structure of the English Language).

Latin American studies option—at least 30 hours (10 courses) in Spanish at the 300 level or higher; prerequisite: intermediate level of proficiency in Portuguese

Students should read the Options for Spanish Majors (available in departmental office) and consult with departmental adviser regarding specific course requirements and the recommended sequence. The department must approve all major programs of study. At least half of the courses for the major must be taken at Rice University.
Fall Semester in Chile. The department offers a fall semester in Chile in conjunction with the University of Chile in Santiago. Rice students in good standing are eligible for this program, which gives them access to a variety of courses at the University of Chile. Since its inception in 1989, the program has attracted students from universities all over the U.S. Brochures and application materials are available in the department office. Internships available.

Degree Requirements for M.A. in Hispanic Studies

For general university requirements, see Graduate Degrees (pages 72–73). 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, which 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 one semester of college Latin (or equivalent)
- Take SPAN 610 *Topics in Language Methodology*
- Complete an acceptable thesis
- Perform satisfactorily on a final oral examination on the thesis

See PORT (page 472) and SPAN (pages 501–507) in the Courses of Instruction section.