

Interested in This Major?

Current Students: Contact Professor Nancy Bird-Soto at bird-soto@uwm.edu

Not a UWM Student yet? Call our Admissions Counselor at 414-229-7711 or email let-sci@uwm.edu

web: uwm.edu/spanish



Why Study Spanish?

Spanish is spoken by 400 million people worldwide and is an official language in 21 countries and a number of international organizations. Spanish is among the three most spoken languages in the world and, by some estimates, has more native speakers than English. In the U.S., Spanish is rapidly growing as a first or second language for many individuals. It is one of the six official languages of the United Nations.

The Spanish and Latino cultures also hold great historical importance in the arts, literature, philosophy, sociology, architecture, and the development of other languages.

▶ For these reasons, a Spanish major provides exceptional preparation for students interested in a career in business, international affairs, social services, government, health care, communication, translation, marketing, teaching or any profession that requires bilingual written or oral communication skills and cultural understanding.

Career Opportunities

Job seekers who are multilingual have a distinct advantage over the monolingual.



Business - Corporations need bilingual individuals who can translate and edit written documents, write advertising materials, make sales presentations, negotiate trade, conduct financial transactions and interpret law. Bilingual travel agents, tour guides, hotel and restaurant managers are needed, as are high-tech workers to produce bilingual web sites.



Health Care - Hospitals, clinics and insurance companies need translators to provide vital and time-sensitive information to patients and families, produce bilingual marketing materials and work in research.



Law and Criminal Justice - The ability to communicate with diverse populations qualifies individuals for roles in the legal and court system and law enforcement.



Media - As Spanish-language newspapers, magazines, radio, television and web sites grow, there is a demand for bilingual reporters, office staff and technical staff.



Government - Opportunities exist at the federal, state and local levels, including social work, diplomatic work, immigration, border patrol and security agencies.



Community work - Nonprofits increasingly provide social services to diverse populations and need bilingual administrators, accountants, office staff, lobbyists, fund raisers and event promoters.



Teaching - The demand for teachers at all levels has increased. Bilingual schools and Spanish immersion schools require both teachers and staff. English-as-a-Second-Language teachers benefit from in-depth knowledge of Spanish.

Spanish At UWM

The department prepares all students – native and non-native speakers, non-traditional and traditional students and working professionals – to read, speak, write and understand the language. It also assumes a leadership role in advancing Hispanic, U.S. Latino and Luso-Brazilian culture, not only on campus but in the Greater Milwaukee area and Wisconsin as well.

Requirements For The Major

The major in Spanish requires 33 credits at the 300-level and above, at least 15 of which must be taken at UWM. Students with two or more years of high school Spanish should take a placement exam. Those who test beyond first-semester Spanish and successfully complete a higher-level course with at least a B may receive up to 14 retroactive credits.

Requirements for the degree are:

Course #	Course Name
Spanish 308	Advanced Writing and Reading
Spanish 318 or Spanish 319	Advanced Speaking and Listening Advanced Speaking and Listening for Heritage Speakers
Spanish 341	Intro to Hispanic Linguistics
Spanish 350	Intro to Literary Analysis
Spanish 470	Survey of Hispanic Literature & Civilization
Spanish 472	Survey of Spanish-American Literature and Civilization
Spanish 474	Survey of Spanish Literature & Civilization
a capstone/research 500-level Spanish course	
9 elective credits at the 300-level or above	
completion of an advanced language proficiency exam	

Study Abroad

Studying abroad is strongly encouraged to gain practical experience. Through our Center for International Education (CIE), programs for credit are available in Argentina, Chile, Ecuador, Mexico, Peru and Spain. These range from semester-long and year-long programs to 1-week or 10-day experiences. Students also can explore non-UWM programs for which transfer credits may be available.

Scholarships and Financial Aid

Students should explore all possible opportunities for financial assistance, including the following:

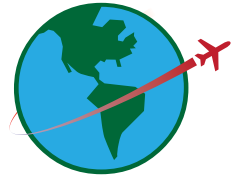
Meta Steinfort Scholarship – An annual award of \$1,000 given to a high-achieving Spanish major.

Alumni Award – When funds are available, an award of \$500 is given to an outstanding undergraduate Spanish major in odd-numbered years. A graduate student award is made in even numbered years.

Outstanding Undergraduate Achievement Scholarships – An annual award of up to two \$500 scholarships given to high-achieving Spanish majors.

Hilda Becher Modern Languages Scholarship – An award of \$1000 given to a high-achieving Spanish major or

minor who participates in the UWM Madrid summer study abroad.



Donald R. Shea Undergraduate Scholarship in Latin American and Caribbean Studies – An annual award of \$500 for study abroad or research in Latin American or Caribbean Studies sponsored by the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies.

Wisconsin Study Abroad Grant – Full-time, Wisconsin resident, undergraduate UWM students attending UWM-sponsored study abroad programs are eligible to apply for awards up to \$2,000.

Sigma Delta Pi Scholarships – Students who are members of this National Honor Society are eligible to apply for grants.

Graduate/Advanced Undergraduate Travel Award – This award, ranging from \$250 to \$500, supports field research, including internships, abroad or within the U.S., as well as travel to present a paper at a professional conference or workshop.

Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship – This scholarship program awards Pell Grant recipients up to \$5,000 to study abroad for a semester or year.

Council on International Educational Exchange Scholarship – CIEE hosts programs all over the world and offers numerous grant and scholarship opportunities.

Boren Scholarships – This program provides up to \$20,000 to study abroad in areas of the world that are underrepresented in study abroad. Selected students must commit to working for the U.S. government for at least one year after graduation.

American Institute for Foreign Studies – AIFS annually makes awards for study abroad to students demonstrating high academic achievement.

Phi Kappa Phi Study Abroad Grants – Forty-five \$1,000 grants are awarded nationally each year. Students do not have to be members of the Phi Kappa Phi honor society to apply.

Organizations and Events

Club Ñ is the Spanish language conversation club for anyone who wants to practice Spanish.

Sigma Delta Pi is the National Spanish Honor Society for Spanish students.

Luna Creciente is an online literary journal published by students.

Apuntes is the biannual Department newsletter.

Beyond the Major

In addition to the Spanish major, the Department offers:

- a minor in Spanish
- a minor in Business Spanish
- a certificate in Spanish for Health Professionals
- a minor in Portuguese

