PhD in Spanish linguistics

Graduate faculty

Updated: January 2024
PhD in Spanish linguistics
Core faculty

Research
- Sara Beaudrie, Professor of Spanish linguistics, Associate director
- Alvaro Cerron-Palomino, Faculty head of Spanish, Associate professor of Spanish
- Michael Gradoville, Assistant professor of Spanish
- Barbara Lafford, Professor Emeritus, Spanish
- Marta Tecedor Cabrero, Assistant professor of Spanish

Other
- Hope Anderson, Clinical assistant professor, Assistant to the director of digital services
- Omar Beas, Associate teaching professor of Spanish
- Steven Flanagan, Associate teaching professor of Spanish
- Anne Walton-Ramirez, Teaching professor

PhD students are also welcome to study with our research faculty not listed above. A full list of faculty may be found at: https://silc.asu.edu/about/people.
PhD in Spanish linguistics
Core faculty: Spanish and Portuguese

Professor Beaudrie’s research interests include heritage language development and classroom instruction, language program development, bilingualism, heritage language assessment and literacy development and critical approaches to heritage language pedagogy. She has published numerous articles in peer-reviewed journals and presented in national conferences on heritage language pedagogy and development. She is the co-author of the book “Heritage Language Pedagogy: Research and Practice” and co-editor of the books “Spanish as a Heritage Language in the United States: The State of the Field,” “Innovative Strategies for Heritage Language Teaching: Guidelines for the Classroom” and, most recently, “Heritage Language Teaching: Critical Language Awareness Perspectives for Research and Pedagogy.”

Research interests:
Heritage language pedagogy, second language acquisition, second language writing, Spanish, bilingualism, Spanish applied linguistics

Areas of graduate mentoring:
Language program administration, Spanish second language methods, Spanish heritage language pedagogy, Spanish heritage language research and bilingualism language, ideologies, politics and education.
PhD in Spanish linguistics

Core faculty: Spanish and Portuguese

Professor Cerrón-Palomino obtained a doctorate in Hispanic linguistics at the University of Southern California. His teaching and research interests include variationist sociolinguistics, dialectology and historical linguistics. Cerrón-Palomino’s main area of research is morphosyntactic variation in understudied varieties of Spanish, both monolingual and bilingual. His publications include articles in journals like Spanish in Context, Sociolinguistic Studies, Lingüística, Studies in Hispanic and Lusophone Linguistics and the International Journal of Bilingualism, among others.

Research interests:
Classics, linguistics, Spanish, statistics, syntax and morphology

Areas of graduate mentoring:
Advanced topics in sociolinguistics, semantics, history of the Spanish language, Spanish language in America, studies in the Spanish Southwest

Alvaro Cerron-Palomino
PhD in Hispanic linguistics
Faculty head of linguistics
Associate professor of Spanish
PhD in Spanish linguistics
Core faculty: Spanish and Portuguese

Michael Gradoville teaches upper-division and graduate-level Spanish linguistics courses in addition to general linguistics courses within the School of International Letters and Cultures. His research interests include usage-based linguistic theory (especially in phonology), sociophonetics, corpus linguistics, quantitative research methodologies in linguistics and language variation and change. His research activity includes varieties of Spanish and Portuguese spanning the Western hemisphere. His work has appeared in journals such as the Journal of Phonetics, Lingua, Corpus Linguistics and Linguistic Theory, and the International Journal of Bilingualism. Prior to his arrival at ASU, Gradoville taught at the University of New Mexico, Indiana University and Spelman College. He is also a Fulbright Scholar.

Research interests:
Linguistics-research methodology, phonetics and phonology, Portuguese, sociolinguistics, Spanish

Areas of graduate mentoring:
Spanish phonology, research methods for linguistics, project-based learning, heritage language learning

Michael Gradoville
PhD in Hispanic linguistics and general linguistics
Assistant professor of Spanish
Barbara Lafford is a professor emeritus of Spanish in the College of Integrative Sciences and Arts where she has served as the associate dean of extended education and head of the languages and cultures faculty. After arriving at ASU, she published in the areas of Spanish sociolinguistics, second language acquisition, Spanish applied linguistics, computer assisted language learning and languages for specific purposes and experiential learning. She has also worked with the Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College, the School of Social Work and the College of Nursing and Health Innovation to create Spanish courses focused on the needs of students in those fields so they can interact effectively with the community they serve. Under her leadership, the College of Integrative Sciences and Arts created an undergraduate minor and certificate in Spanish for the professions. Professor Lafford has participated in her profession at the national level in several capacities. She has served as associate editor for the Applied Linguistics section of Hispania, chair of the Board for the Computer-Assisted Language Instruction Consortium and she held the post of editor for the Monograph/Focus Issue Series of the Modern Language Journal from 2005–14.

**Research interests:**
Applied linguistics, Spanish

**Areas of graduate mentoring:**
Spanish linguistics, sociolinguistics, second language acquisition, research methods in linguistics, the use of technology to teach second languages, Spanish for the professions and Spanish applied linguistics
Marta Tecedor earned her doctorate in second language acquisition from the University of Iowa, with a specialization in technology. She teaches graduate and undergraduate courses in teaching methods, second language acquisition, computer-assisted language learning and Spanish language. As an applied linguist, her primary area of research is computer-assisted language learning with a focus on flipped and online curricular models. In her current research, she examines how the use of multimedia technologies can be incorporated in the foreign language classroom to promote the development of linguistic, interactional and intercultural competencies. Over the past few years, her work on these topics has appeared in peer-reviewed journals, such as Foreign Language Annals, Hispania, ReCALL, Computer Assisted Language Learning and Pragmatics.

**Research interests:**
Curriculum design, linguistics and online education in the areas of online teaching and learning, second language acquisition and Spanish

**Areas of graduate mentoring:**
Online learning, topics in applied linguistics, Spanish second language acquisition
Hope M. Anderson earned a doctorate in second language acquisition and teaching from the University of Arizona with a specialization in second language pedagogical theory and program administration. She coordinated the hybrid Spanish program at the University of Arizona and the lower-level Spanish program at the University of Massachusetts Lowell before coming to ASU. Her research interests include hybrid language pedagogy and curriculum design. She published her first book, “Blended Basic Language Courses: Design, Pedagogy, and Implementation,” in 2018. At ASU, she teaches Spanish linguistics and other Spanish content courses. She is the founder of Teaching Solved, LLC, which aims to help teachers help students learn languages through useful tech tools.

Research interests:
Second language acquisition, Spanish, applied linguistics, pedagogical studies, curriculum design

Areas of graduate mentoring:
Second and foreign language teaching and learning, proseminar, second language acquisition
Omar Beas is originally from Lima, Peru. He received his doctorate in linguistics from the University of Southern California in 2007. He was a lecturer in Spanish at several institutions in Los Angeles, California before moving to Phoenix, Arizona in 2012. From 2012–2014, he served as a visiting assistant professor at the School of International Letters and Cultures at the Arizona State University, where he currently works as an associate teaching professor.

**Research interests:**
Spanish, typology, phonetics, syntax and morphology, second language acquisition, phonology

**Graduate teaching:**
Second language acquisition
Steven Flanagan is currently the director of Spanish second language acquisition and has studied and worked at ASU since 2013. He has spent time in Mexico as well as several years living and working abroad in Spain during which time he attended the Universitat d’Alacant and honed his language skills. He has taught various basic, intermediate and advanced undergraduate Spanish courses ranging from SPA 101 to SPA 413 in both hybrid and completely online formats as well as graduate level courses in second language teaching methodologies. His primary focus is to concentrate on contributing in meaningful ways to the pedagogical and service growth of the Spanish and Portuguese program in the School of International Letters and Cultures and ASU. In addition to these efforts, he conducts research focused on post-secondary teacher training, language curriculum design and online and hybrid language learning related to increasing student success. He was the 2020–2021 recipient of The College of Liberal Arts and Science’s Outstanding Instructor Award.

Research interests:
Second language acquisition, Spanish, applied linguistics, higher and postsecondary education and online education in the areas of online teaching and learning, teaching and teacher education

Areas of graduate mentoring:
Spanish language coordinator
Anne Walton-Ramirez has been teaching Spanish at Arizona State University since 1996 and became full-time faculty in 1999. She studied translation and second language acquisition, among other areas of research, while pursuing a master’s degree. During her PhD studies, she studied English linguistics with a focus on semantics and syntax. She is currently the coordinator for upper division second language courses.

**Research interests:**
Spanish, linguistics, translation

**Areas of graduate mentoring:**
Coordinator for second language courses