

PhD in Spanish – Spanish Literature Tracks

With a PhD in Spanish, you can delve into a diverse and exciting range of topics related to the cultures, language, linguistics, and literatures of the Spanish-speaking world. The program trains students for a variety of academic careers as well as for professions outside of academia

The Ph.D. in Spanish, with a concentration on Literature and Cultural Studies

The intent of the Ph.D. program in Spanish is to be as flexible as possible. Recognizing the many demands put upon the scholar in the modern world and the wide variety of specialized interests, every attempt will be made to plan a program of study, with the supportive guidance of the student's advisor that will best prepare the candidate for a productive career in the discipline of Hispanic studies. Thus, rather than specifying a general and rigid program of courses, broad areas of competence will be established, through an individualized program of study, that will be measured by the written and oral comprehensive examination administered at the end of formal course work and prior to the writing of the Ph.D. dissertation.

Literature

A typical doctoral program with a concentration on Literature will consist of a variety of graduate SPA courses in literature, selected among various geographical areas and historical periods, as approved by the student's supervisory committee. All students in this concentration must take SPA 545 (Concepts of Literary Criticism) during the first spring semester of the program.

Cultural Studies

A typical doctoral program with a concentration on Cultural Studies will consist of a variety of courses in culture, literature, and linguistics, diversified between geographical areas and historical periods, as approved by the student's supervisory committee. All students in this concentration must take SPA 545 during the first spring semester of the program.

Credits: 84 credit hours of graduate level work: 51 credits in SPA prefix courses (=18 graduate classes, including SPA 520 and two GRD 791 semesters), 18 credits of free choice (any combination of courses with a SPA prefix, non-SPA prefix, Independent Studies and/or Research and/or Internship), and 12 dissertation credits (SPA 799). Time to degree: 5 years.

All incoming Teaching Assistantship holding students starting the graduate program in Spanish are required to take SLC 591 (Methods of Teaching) during the first fall semester of their program of study. In the second year they will take SPA 520 (Preparing for Professional Careers, 1 credit hour), GRD 791 [Preparing Future Faculty and Scholars (PFx) two semester course, in each semester 1 credit-hour.

All students with 84 credit hours must pass the qualifying exam after completing 24 credit hours of coursework.

To ensure success, students are encouraged to meet the following milestones:

	Fall Semester		Spring Semester	
1 st year	9 credits	2 classes (SPA) + SPA 591	9 credits	2 classes (SPA) + SPA 545 (Lit. tracks only)
2 nd year	10 credits	3 classes (SPA) + CDH PFX (1 credit)	11 credits	3 classes (SPA) + Research SPA 520 (1 credit) + PFX (1 credit) Qualifying Exams (March) Students with 84 credits
3 rd year	9 credits	3 classes + Language Exam I	9 credits	3 classes
4 th year	9 credits	Research + Doctoral Exams	6 credits	Research
5 th year	6 credits	Dissertation	6 credits	Dissertation

Students with MA. Credits: 54 credit hours of graduate level work: 10 credits in SPA prefix courses (= 30 graduate classes, including SPA 520 and two PFF semesters), 12 credits of free choice (any combination of courses with a SPA prefix, non-SPA prefix, Independent Studies and/or Research and/or Internship), and 12 dissertation credits (SPA 799). Time to degree: 4 years.

To ensure success, students are encouraged to meet the following milestones:

	Fall Semester		Spring Semester	
1 st year	6 credits	1 class (SPA) + SPA 591	9 credits	2 classes (SPA) + SPA 545 (Lit. tracks only)
2 nd year	7 credits	2 classes (SPA) + CDH PFX (1 credit)	8 credits	2 classes (SPA) + SPA 520 (1 credit) + PFX (1 credit)

3 rd year	6 credits	Research + Doctoral Exams	6 credits	Research
4 th year	6 credits	Dissertation	6 credits	Dissertation

Tracks

There are a number of tracks available that you may pursue to help focus your research interests:

- Early-modern Iberian studies
- Mexican-American studies
- Visual studies

Course Requirements

Students may be admitted to the PhD program with either a bachelor's or a master's degree. If admitted with a bachelor's degree, students must complete a minimum of 84-credit hours. If admitted with a master's degree, they must complete a minimum of 54 credit hours.

	Credit Hours	
	Admitted with a Master's	Admitted with a Bachelor's
Core Courses	3	3
Concentration/Track Courses	18	18
Electives/Research Courses	21	51
Dissertation	12	12
Total Semester Hours Required	54	84

Core Course

SPA 520	Preparing for Professional Careers	1 credit
GRD 791	PFx: Preparing Future Faculty and Scholars	2 credits

Elective Courses

Electives should be chosen in consultation with the student's committee. Electives can be taken outside of the School of International Letters and Cultures.

Research and Dissertation Hours

Students may take 24 credit hours toward approved electives and/or research, SPA 792 Research. At least 12 credit hours must be SPA 799 Dissertation. Students must achieve candidacy before being eligible to enroll in SPA 799 Dissertation.

Supervisory Committee

Each students' supervisory committee must include at least three faculty members from the Spanish area

Comprehensive Exam, Dissertation Prospectus, and Candidacy

When students have completed or are close to completing the coursework, they may request permission to take the comprehensive exam. The PhD comprehensive exam is administered by the student's supervisory committee. PhD students achieve candidacy status after passing the comprehensive exam and successfully defending a dissertation prospectus.

Dissertation

A dissertation and final oral examination in defense of the dissertation is required. The dissertation must reflect the transdisciplinary nature of the degree by integrating research from multiple disciplines.

Additional Information and Questions

For additional information, please visit silc.asu.edu.