

PhD in Spanish – Spanish Linguistics Track

The School of International Letters and Cultures offers a graduate program leading to a PhD in Spanish. The program trains students for entrance into the academic profession (teachers and scholars) as well as for professions outside of academia.

The intent of the program 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 coursework and prior to the writing of the Ph.D. dissertation.

The **Spanish Linguistics** track offers advanced interdisciplinary graduate training that combines key areas in second language acquisition and teaching, applied linguistics, heritage language research and pedagogy, sociolinguistics and bilingualism. In addition to taking six core courses in Spanish Linguistics, students will opt to specialize in one of these three options: 1) SLA and teaching methodologies; 2) heritage language research and pedagogy; or 3) sociolinguistics and bilingualism.

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
Required track courses	18	18
Required focus area courses	12	12
Research	3	12
Dissertation	12	12
Electives	6	27
Total Semester Hours Required	54	84

Required Core Courses

SPA 520	Preparing for Professional Careers	1 credit hour
GRD 791	Preparing Future Faculty and Scholars	2 credit hours

Required Track Courses

SLC 598	Research Methods for Linguists	3 credit hours
SLC 598	Sociolinguistics	3 credit hours
SPA 544	Spanish Phonology	3 credit hours
SPA 598	Heritage Language Pedagogy	3 credit hours
SPA 598	Spanish Second Language Acquisition	3 credit hours
SPA 543	Structure of Spanish	3 credit hours

Required Track Courses

In the Ph.D. in Spanish program, students must complete 18 hours of coursework in the Spanish Linguistics track.

Required Focus Area Courses

Second Language Acquisition and Teaching Methodologies

SPA 591	Teaching Methodology TAs	3 credit hours
SPA 598	Language Program Administration	3 credit hours
SPA 544	Spanish for Specific Purposes Pedagogy and Curriculum Development	3 credit hours
SPA 691	Advanced Studies in Spanish Linguistics	3 credit hours

Required Focus Area Courses

Heritage Language Research and Pedagogy

SPA 542	Studies in the Spanish of the Southwest	3 credit hours
SPA 691	Heritage Language Research	3 credit hours
SPA 598	Topics in Bilingualism	3 credit hours
SPA 691	Advanced Studies in Spanish Linguistics	3 credit hours

Required Focus Area Courses

Sociolinguistics, Bilingualism, and Spanish in the US

SPA 542	Studies in the Spanish of the Southwest	3 credit hours
SPA 691	Heritage Language Research	3 credit hours
SPA 598	Topics in Bilingualism	3 credit hours
SPA 691	Advanced Studies in Spanish Linguistics	3 credit hours

Required Focus Area Courses

In the Ph.D. in Spanish program, students must complete 12 hours of coursework in the focus area of their choice.

Research and Dissertation Hours

Students may take 12 credit hours toward 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.

Elective Courses

Students may take 27 credit hours of elective courses. Electives should be chosen in consultation with the student's committee. Some electives may be taken outside of the School of International Letters and Cultures.

Supervisory Committee

Each student's supervisory committee must include members from at least two diverse disciplines to reflect the transdisciplinary nature of the degree.

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.