Spanish

Spanish is one of several major languages spoken on the Iberian Peninsula and throughout Latin America, as well as in various regions of the United States. The Department of Spanish and Portuguese offers an undergraduate major program in Spanish designed to provide students with a strong foundation in the language. It introduces them to the study of literary works and helps them develop an informed awareness of the respective cultures. The Spanish Honors program offers an in-depth and particularly challenging curriculum.

One of the principal goals of the Department of Spanish and Portuguese is to help students attain the highest possible level of language proficiency. The department encourages students to take advantage of several study abroad programs sponsored by the department in Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Mexico, Peru and Spain. These programs provide opportunities to gain greater exposure to the languages, literatures and cultures of the Spanish-speaking world.

Pursuing Spanish at Ohio State
Students do not need to have studied Spanish in high school since the department offers basic language instruction. However, students that have had prior instruction in the language may begin their major program earlier and progress toward advanced levels more rapidly.

All freshman applicants are considered within a competitive admission process for the Columbus campus; find admissions criteria at go.osu.edu/admissions. Upon admission to the university, students can declare a major in Spanish within the College of Arts and Sciences. Interested students should contact an undergraduate advisor in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese and in Arts and Sciences Advising.

During their studies, Spanish majors are encouraged to frequently meet with advisors to keep them on track throughout their major program. The key to successful completion of major study in another language is to carefully and efficiently select courses with a departmental academic advisor.

Spanish Requirements
Prerequisite requirements include Spanish 1101 (Spanish I) through 1103 (Spanish III) and Spanish 2202 (Reading Comprehension).

Successful completion of the Spanish Listening and Reading Proficiency Exam (SLRPE), indicated by a score of 80 percent or better on both portions of the test, is a prerequisite for entry into the Spanish major. Students are eligible for the exam as early as the seventh week of enrollment in Spanish 2200H or Spanish 2202. Students with an AP score of 4 or 5 or IB High 6 or 7 in Spanish should contact a departmental advisor about placement.

The major program requirements in Spanish include a minimum of 33 hours:

• an orientation of 12 credit hours in advanced language
• instruction including Advanced Grammar, Intermediate Spanish Composition, Introduction to the Study of Literature and Culture in Spanish, and Spanish Pronunciation
• a core of 21 credit hours of 4000-level course work, including at least one 5000-level Senior Seminar or Honors Seminar
• a minimum of three credit hours of electives
• an immersion requirement

Co-Curricular Opportunities
Over 40 percent of Spanish majors also carry another major such as engineering, business, nursing, social work, biology, international studies and linguistics. Due to the interdisciplinary interests of our students, the Spanish department offers many opportunities to learn and grow outside of the classroom. The departmental website has regularly updated pages with outreach and volunteer opportunities in education, social work, medical fields and community-based groups.

Many incoming students realize the importance of collaborating with professors to conduct research and/or write a thesis. There are opportunities for these students to receive scholarships, fellowships and other funding opportunities offered at Ohio State. After receiving such funding, many of our students have traveled to various Latin American countries, Spain and throughout the United States during the summer to complete their investigative work, and then finish their writing during the school year.

For more information, check these websites:
Spanish and Portuguese: sppo.osu.edu
Arts and Sciences: artsandsciences.osu.edu
Ohio State: osu.edu
Admissions: undergrad.osu.edu
Multicultural Center: multiculturalcenter.osu.edu
First Year Experience: fye.osu.edu
Contact information:
Honors & Scholars Programs
Ohio State offers the Honors and Scholars programs to create an environment of intellectual support and stimulation within a close-knit community of high-ability undergraduate students. Through these programs, students have access to smaller classes, undergraduate research opportunities, close working relationships with faculty, priority scheduling and unique housing options. Honors and Scholars programs represent great opportunities to be part of a smaller community within a large university. Learn more about the Honors and Scholars program at honors-scholars.osu.edu.

Career Prospects in Spanish
The knowledge of a second language is usually a key to acquiring strong writing skills. Employment in almost any field is open to a language major, especially in companies that do business with overseas clients. This can range from the banking industry to public relations to computer programming. Knowledge of a second language is also helpful in health care and in social work. A second language can be beneficial for employment in federal, state and local governments. The ability to do research and translation in another language also opens doors to careers.

Ohio State graduates with Spanish degrees have chosen a wide range of professions such as Spanish teacher, House of Representatives, Spanish-speaking loan/mortgage officer, technical writer for AT&T, lawyer, FBI field agent, and U.S. postal inspector in Puerto Rico.

Career Counseling and Job Placement
Students should utilize the Arts and Sciences Career Services Offices during their studies at Ohio State for help in writing résumés and for advice about enhancing their academic experiences with internships and jobs. Workshops and career fairs are organized on a regular basis through the ASC Career Services Office.

Students can explore career options by utilizing Career Connection as well as the Arts and Sciences Career Services Office. Providing complimentary services, Career Connection focuses on helping students establish a career direction, while the Arts and Sciences Career Services Office assists students with finding internships—experiences that are essential to testing out the suitability of career fields they are considering. Located in 48 Townshend Hall, the Arts and Sciences Career Services Office also assists seniors and recent graduates with finding entry-level career employment. More information about both offices is found at asccareerservices.osu.edu and careerconnection.osu.edu.

Apply to Ohio State
Apply online at undergrad.osu.edu/apply.html.

Curriculum Sample
This is a sample list of classes a student may take to pursue a degree in Spanish. Since university students need more than specific education in a narrow field, they also will take classes to complete General Education (GE) requirements. Because GE courses come from a variety of academic areas of study, this course work helps students develop fundamental skills essential to collegiate success and allows them to tailor these courses toward their interests. Note: This sample represents one of several possible paths to a degree in Spanish. Consult the departmental website, sppo.osu.edu, for details on each specific track.

Freshman Year:
Survey course 1
Freshman Seminar 1
Spanish III 4
Reading Comprehension 3
GE courses 20
Total hours 29

Sophomore Year:
Advanced Grammar 3
Spanish Pronunciation 3
Intermediate Spanish Composition 3
Introduction to the Study of Literature and Culture 3
GE courses 21
Total hours 33

Junior Year:
Masterpieces of Modern Spanish Literature 3
Introduction to Spanish Linguistics 3
Advanced Spanish Composition 3
Introduction to Spanish American Culture 3
GE courses 18
Total hours 30

Senior Year:
Contrastive Structures of Spanish and English 3
Modern Spanish Syntax 3
Senior Seminar 3
GE courses 14
Electives 3
Total hours 29

* Assumes student tested out of two Spanish courses. Eight hours of EM credit would be applied toward graduation.

Revised December 2013. Information subject to change. For the most up-to-date information on the Spanish program, please visit sppo.osu.edu.

Contact information:
Dan McCurley | Spanish and Portuguese
355 Hagerty Hall | 1775 College Road
Columbus, Ohio 43210-1340 | 614-292-6961