

# Bachelor of Arts in Spanish

## Why pursue a major in Spanish?

Spanish, the 2<sup>nd</sup> most common first language in the world with approximately 475 million speakers, is an official language in 21 countries and territories, including the United States, where Spanish is one of the official languages of Puerto Rico. Moreover, according to the *Instituto Cervantes*, the United States ranks 2<sup>nd</sup> behind Mexico in the number of Spanish speakers. Similarly, Portuguese, the official language in 9 nations, is spoken by approximately 258 million people across the world (the 6<sup>th</sup> most spoken language). Fluency in more than one language, intercultural sensitivity, and a deep understanding of literary and cultural texts create educated citizens who can contribute to the betterment of our society.

A major in Spanish demonstrates to future employers and/or graduate schools that you have the ability to communicate effectively in Spanish, a high level of cultural competency and intercultural awareness, and carefully refined analytical and writing skills. Our curriculum is designed to help students hone their oral and written language skills and to learn more about Hispanic and Luso-Brazilian cultures through literary and cultural studies. (See the degree requirements section for the Portuguese courses that can be counted toward the Spanish major.) This knowledge is highly beneficial for international career paths or for careers that engage the predominantly Hispanic populations in the United States. The major is useful in such diverse careers as advertising, marketing, journalism, health services, government, social welfare, and public administration (to name only a few). See the University Career Center's (<https://career.ku.edu/foreign-languages-international-studies/>) page (<https://career.ku.edu/foreign-languages-international-studies/>) for more information about careers in which you can use your Spanish major.

## Undergraduate Admission

### Admission to KU

All students applying for admission must send high school and college transcripts to the Office of Admissions. Prospective first-year students should be aware that KU has qualified admission requirements that all new first-year students must meet to be admitted. Consult the Office of Admissions (<http://admissions.ku.edu/>) for application deadlines and specific admission requirements.

Visit the International Support Services (<http://www.iss.ku.edu/>) for information about international admissions.

Students considering transferring to KU may see how their college-level course work will transfer on the Office of the University Registrar (<https://registrar.ku.edu/credittransfer/>) website.

## First- and Second-Year Preparation

Code	Title	Hours
<b>Spanish Major Prerequisite or Co-Requisite Knowledge</b>		
Majors must complete the following 2 courses (or one course in the case of heritage speakers who choose not to take SPAN 328). These hours do not contribute to the minimum number of hours required for the major. Majors must complete either SPAN 323 or 324 and SPAN 328, or SPAN 325. A grade of B- or higher is strongly recommended in order to go on to advanced-level Spanish classes.		
Intermediate Composition and Grammar. Satisfied by:		
SPAN 323	Spanish Composition and Cultural Analysis or SPAN 324: Grammar and Composition	
Intermediate Conversation. Satisfied by:		
SPAN 328	Intermediate Spanish Conversation	
Students who meet the qualifications may substitute SPAN 325 for the SPAN 323 or SPAN 324 and SPAN 328 requirements.		

## Requirements for the B.A. Major

Code	Title	Hours
<b>Spanish Introductory Knowledge</b>		
SPAN 340	Textual Analysis and Critical Reading	3
SPAN 346	Transatlantic Hispanic Cultures	3
<b>Spanish Major Core Knowledge and Skills</b>		
Majors must complete at least 1 course (3 hours) in each of following areas:		
Literature: Peninsular Spanish Literary and Cultural Studies. Satisfied by 1 of the following: 3		
SPAN 440	Topics in Transatlantic Hispanic Studies: _____	
SPAN 441	Special Topics in Spanish Literature and Culture: _____	
SPAN 443	Topics in Hispanic Studies - Peninsular Emphasis: _____	
SPAN 450	Medieval Spanish Studies: _____	
SPAN 451	Early Modern Spanish Studies: _____	
SPAN 452	Nineteenth Century Spanish Studies: _____	
SPAN 453	Twentieth Century Spanish Studies: _____	
Literature: Latin American Literary and Cultural Studies. Satisfied by 1 of the following: 3		
SPAN 440	Topics in Transatlantic Hispanic Studies: _____	
SPAN 442	Special Topics Latin American Literature and Cultures: _____	
SPAN 444	Topics in Hispanic Studies - Latin American Emphasis: _____	
SPAN 460	Colonial Spanish-American Studies: _____	
SPAN 462	Twentieth Century Spanish-American Studies: _____	
SPAN 463	National Traditions in Spanish America: _____	
SPAN 464	Reading and Analysis of U.S. Latino/a Literatures: _____	
Language: Advanced Spanish Composition and Grammar. Satisfied by:		
SPAN 424	Advanced Spanish Composition and Grammar	3
Language: Advanced Spanish language or linguistics. Satisfied by 1 of the following: 3		

SPAN 429	Spanish Phonetics	
SPAN 448	Spanish Language and Culture for Business	
SPAN 520	Structure of Spanish	
SPAN 522	Advanced Studies in Spanish Language: _____	
SPAN 570	Studies in Hispanic Linguistics: _____	
Language: Advanced language, linguistics, or Portuguese. Satisfied by 1 of the following:		3
SPAN 520	Structure of Spanish	
SPAN 522	Advanced Studies in Spanish Language: _____	
SPAN 570	Studies in Hispanic Linguistics: _____	
PORT 212	Intermediate Brazilian Portuguese I	
PORT 216	Intermediate Brazilian Portuguese II	
PORT 220	Intensive Intermediate Brazilian Portuguese	
PORT 347	Brazilian Studies: _____	
PORT 348	Portuguese Language and Brazilian Culture for Business	
PORT 365	Studies in Brazilian Film: _____	
PORT 388	Intermediate Brazilian Portuguese Conversation	
PORT 394	Special Readings in Brazilian Studies	
PORT 471	Studies in Brazilian Culture and Civilization: _____	
PORT 490	Intensive Advanced Portuguese	
PORT 540	Textual Analysis and Critical Reading	
PORT 565	Studies in Brazilian Film: _____	

Advanced Conversation. Satisfied by:

SPAN 428	Advanced Spanish Conversation	2
Spanish Major Required Electives. Majors must complete 2 additional courses (6 hours) from the following courses: any Spanish 400+ or 500-level course (literature, language or culture), or PORT 212 or higher (except PORT 300, PORT 346, and PORT 611).		6

**Capstone Course**

Spanish Major Capstone: Literature Colloquium. Majors must complete 1 (3 hour) capstone course in literature. Satisfied by 1 of the following:		3
SPAN 540	Colloquium on Hispanic Studies: _____	
SPAN 550	Colloquium on Spanish Film	
SPAN 560	Colloquium on Latin American Film	

**Total Hours** **32**

Majors are strongly encouraged to study abroad in a Spanish-speaking country. Please see your advisor about this opportunity.

### Major Hours & Major GPA

While completing all required courses, majors must also meet each of the following hour and grade-point average minimum standards:

**Major Hours**  
Satisfied by 32 hours of major courses.

**Major Hours in Residence**  
Satisfied by a minimum of 15 hours of KU resident credit in the major.

**Major Junior/Senior Hours**  
Satisfied by a minimum of 12 hours from junior/senior courses (300+) in the major.

**Major Junior/Senior Graduation GPA**

Satisfied by a minimum of a 2.0 KU GPA in junior/senior courses (300+) in the major. GPA calculations include all junior/senior courses in the field of study including F's and repeated courses. See the Semester/Cumulative GPA Calculator (<https://sis.ku.edu/gpa-calculator/>).

Below is a sample 4-year plan for students pursuing the BA in Spanish. To view the list of courses approved to fulfill Core 34, please visit the KU Core 34 page (<https://catalog.ku.edu/core34/>).

**Freshman**

Fall	Hours Spring	Hours
Core 34: English (SGE) <sup>010</sup>	3 SPAN 340 (Core 34: Arts and Humanities (SGE)) <sup>060*</sup>	3
Core 34: Social and Behavior Science (SGE) <sup>050</sup>	3 Core 34: English (SGE) <sup>010</sup>	3
Second Area of Study/ Elective/Degree/Junior-Senior Hours <sup>5</sup>	3 Core 34: Communications (SGE) <sup>020</sup>	3
SPAN 328	2 Core 34: Math and Statistics (SGE) <sup>030</sup>	3
SPAN 324, 323, or 325	3 SPAN 346	3
SPAN 101 (Online asynchronous orientation)	1	
<b>15</b>		<b>15</b>

**Sophomore**

Fall	Hours Spring	Hours
Core 34: Social and Behavior Science (SGE) <sup>050</sup>	3 Core 34: Natural and Physical Sciences (SGE) <sup>040</sup>	4-5
SPAN 424	3 BA Laboratory/Field Experience (LFE)	1
Second Area of Study/ Elective/Degree/Junior-Senior Hours <sup>5</sup>	3 Second Area of Study/ Elective/Degree/Junior-Senior Hours <sup>5</sup>	3
Second Area of Study/ Elective/Degree/Junior-Senior Hours <sup>5</sup>	3 Second Area of Study/ Elective/Degree/Junior-Senior Hours <sup>5</sup>	3
SPAN 428	2 SPAN 442, 444, 460, 461, 462, or 463 (Latin American Literary and Cultural Studies) <sup>7</sup>	3
	SPAN 429, 448, 520, 522, or 570 (Advanced Spanish language or Linguistics)	3
<b>14</b>		<b>17-18</b>

**Junior**

Fall	Hours Spring	Hours
SPAN 441, 443, 450, 451, 452, or 453 (Peninsular Spanish Literary and Cultural Studies) <sup>8</sup>	3 Core 34: Arts and Humanities (SGE) <sup>060</sup>	3
Second Area of Study/ Elective/Degree/Junior-Senior Hours <sup>5</sup>	3 SPAN 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 446, 448, 450, 451, 452, 453, 460, 461, 462, 463, 470, 471, 474, 494, 520, 522, 540, 550, 560, or 570 (Spanish Major Required Elective)	3

Second Area of Study/ Elective/Degree/Junior- Senior Hours <sup>5</sup>	3 Core 34: US Culture (SGE) <sup>070</sup>	3
Second Area of Study/ Elective/Degree/Junior- Senior Hours <sup>5</sup>	3 Second Area of Study/ Elective/Degree/Junior- Senior Hours <sup>5</sup>	3
Second Area of Study/ Elective/Degree/Junior- Senior Hours <sup>5</sup>	3 Second Area of Study/ Elective/Degree/Junior- Senior Hours <sup>5</sup>	3
<b>15</b>		<b>15</b>

**Senior**

Fall	Hours Spring	Hours
SPAN 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 446, 448, 450, 451, 452, 453, 460, 461, 462, 463, 470, 471, 474, 494, 520, 522, 540, 550, 560, or 570 (Spanish Major Required Elective)	3 SPAN 540, 550, or 560 (Capstone Course) <sup>4</sup>	3
SPAN 520, 522, 570, PORT 212, PORT 216, PORT 220, PORT 347, PORT 348, PORT 365, PORT 388, PORT 394, PORT 471, PORT 475, PORT 490, PORT 540, PORT 547, PORT 548, or PORT 565 (Language: Advanced language, linguistics, or Portuguese)	3 Core 34: Global Culture (SGE) <sup>070</sup>	3
Second Area of Study/ Elective/Degree/Junior- Senior Hours <sup>5</sup>	3 Second Area of Study/ Elective/Degree/Junior- Senior Hours <sup>5</sup>	3
Second Area of Study/ Elective/Degree/Junior- Senior Hours <sup>5</sup>	3 Second Area of Study/ Elective/Degree/Junior- Senior Hours <sup>5</sup>	3
Second Area of Study/ Elective/Degree/Junior- Senior Hours <sup>5</sup>	3 Second Area of Study/ Elective/Degree/Junior- Senior Hours <sup>5</sup>	2
<b>15</b>		<b>14</b>

**Total Hours 120-121**

<sup>1</sup> The BA requires completion of two courses of collegiate-level writing instruction. Students who test out of Composition will still need to complete ENGL 102 (or equivalent) and one additional English course.

<sup>2</sup> Initial SPAN placement determined by online Spanish placement module or previous SPAN college-credit. The Spanish department recommends that students with some prior Spanish experience begin with SPAN 111 or higher, by placement. Only students with no prior Spanish experience should begin in SPAN 104 and discussion with an advisor is recommended.

<sup>3</sup> Visit this page (<https://catalog.ku.edu/liberal-arts-sciences/#ba-quantitative-reasoning>) for a list of courses that fulfill the BA Quantitative Reasoning requirement.

<sup>4</sup> Spanish majors must have completed 6 credit hours of Hispanic Literature coursework (SPAN 440, SPAN 441, SPAN 442, SPAN 443, SPAN 444, SPAN 450, SPAN 451, SPAN 453, SPAN 452, SPAN 460, SPAN 461, SPAN 462, or SPAN 463) before taking the Spanish Capstone course.

<sup>5</sup> Hour requirements (incl. 45 jr/sr hrs) are typically met through Core 34, degree, major, second area of study and/or elective hours. Students completing the BGS with a major must choose a secondary area of study. Individual degree mapping is done in partnership with your advisor.

<sup>6</sup> Advanced Language or Portuguese (Choose one): SPAN 520, SPAN 522, SPAN 570, PORT 212 or higher Portuguese language course.

<sup>7</sup> Latin American Literature (Choose one): SPAN 440, SPAN 442, SPAN 444, SPAN 460, SPAN 461, SPAN 462, SPAN 463

<sup>8</sup> Peninsular Spanish Literature: SPAN 441, SPAN 443, SPAN 450, SPAN 451, SPAN 452, SPAN 453.

Please note:

All students in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences are required to complete 120 total hours of which 45 hours must be at the Jr/Sr (300+) level.

\*Courses with a \* designate courses that are degree requirements but can also be taken to fulfill the indicated Core 34 requirement. If another course is used to fulfill the Core 34 requirement, the course listed is still required as a degree requirement.

**Notes:**

\* - This course is a Required major course and is also part of Core 34: Systemwide General Education. If this course is not taken to fulfill the Core 34:SGE requirement, it must be taken in place of elective hours.

\*\* - This course is a Recommended Core 34: Systemwide General Education course. This specific course is not required but is recommended by the program's faculty.

\*\*\* - This course is a Required Core 34: Systemwide General Education course. This program is approved by the Kansas Board of Regents to require this specific Core 34: Systemwide General Education course. If a student did not take this course it must be taken in addition to other degree requirements.

At the completion of this program, students will be able to:

- critically analyze a broad range of literary, historical and cultural products with a clear understanding of the contexts in which they were produced.
- compare and contrast their own cultural and academic experiences with the Hispanic and/or Portuguese sphere of influence in order to be more engaged citizens of the global community.
- compose effective academic essays that include a developed thesis statement and the use of coherent argumentation, and that demonstrate sophisticated linguistic abilities with respect to writing in Spanish.
- communicate orally in Spanish with sufficient accuracy and clarity to convey their intended message without misrepresentation or confusion.
- contribute to inclusive professional and learning communities and articulate the importance of diversity, equity and inclusion in future educational programs and careers.

## Departmental Honors

Undergraduates contemplating honors work should consult their advisors. A declaration of intent form must be submitted to the department. The department notifies students of acceptance to candidacy for honors. At graduation, the student must have a minimum grade-point average of 3.5 in Spanish. 6 hours in SPAN 496 Honors in Spanish generally are required, which may be fulfilled in a variety of ways as described below.

While enrolled in SPAN 496, the student completes 2 courses, one in Peninsular literature and the other in Spanish American literature, from the following options:

1. Graduate courses at the 700 level;
2. Upper-division literature courses at the 500 level, including SPAN 540, SPAN 550, and SPAN 560 (only available to students who have already completed the 500-level capstone requirement);
3. An independent study course (may only be taken once for SPAN 496 credit).

The student takes 2 courses for SPAN 496 credit and writes 2 honors papers under the supervision of 1 or more faculty members. Each 3-hour SPAN 496 course will include a major research paper. A committee of 3 faculty members (chosen by the student when possible) reads these papers, and the student then makes an oral summary of their content.

## Study Abroad

The department offers summer programs in Barcelona, Spain; Buenos Aires, Argentina, Salvador (Bahia), Brazil. KU offers semester/academic year programs in San José, Costa Rica, Buenos Aires, Argentina, and Salamanca, Spain. More information is available from the Office of Study Abroad (<http://www.studyabroad.ku.edu/>).

Graduate students have the opportunity to teach and conduct research during summer sessions in Buenos Aires, Argentina; or Barcelona, Spain. The department also has a graduate exchange agreement with the Universidade de Santiago de Compostela, Spain.