SPANISH (SPAN)

SPAN 502: Theory and Techniques of Teaching Spanish
1-3 Credits

Audio-lingual orientation.

SPAN 507: Hispano-Romance Linguistics
3 Credits/Maximum of 9

History, development, and linguistic description of Old Spanish and related Romance languages of the Iberian Peninsula.

SPAN 508: Generative Syntax
3 Credits

This course offers foundations of generative syntax. It addresses the advantage of a scientific model to explain human knowledge of language that also makes predictions about its representation in the mind.

SPAN 509: Functional Syntax
3 Credits

This course covers foundations of functional syntax. It addresses the advantages of a scientific approach to explain human knowledge of language that makes predictions about its representation in the mind.

SPAN 510: Spanish Descriptive Linguistics: Phonology
3 Credits

No description.

SPAN 513: Acquisition of Spanish as a Second Language
3 Credits

Analysis of research on the acquisition of syntax, phonology, lexicon, discourse. SPAN 513 Acquisition of Spanish as a Second Language (3)

An in-depth analysis of current research carried out on the acquisition of Spanish as a second language. Focus will be on syntax, phonology, lexicon, discourse, and pragmatics. Specific topics covered include the following: null-subjects, clitics; movement and word order, tense and aspect, mood, agreement features, grammaticalization, modality, negation, functional categories, tutored vs. untutored learners, UG vs. non-UG effects, the Noun Phrase Accessibility Hierarchy, markedness, cohesive devices, speech acts, metaphors, idioms, the lexicon and culture, the phonological systems, including suprasegmentals. In addition to developing an understanding of the current research on the acquisition of Spanish as a second language, students will learn how to read the research literature from a critical perspective and how to read empirical data presented in published research that might result in alternative interpretations from those espoused by authors of published work. This goal will be achieved in two ways: requiring students to submit via e-mail to the professor and other students in the seminar two- to three-page critiques of assigned readings; and oral presentations in class of readings selected by the student(s). Some of the critical reports and presentations will be carried out jointly, and others will be done individually. Students will also learn how to design and implement empirical research on the acquisition of Spanish as well as how to write up the results of this research in a potentially publishable research report. Finally, they will have the opportunity to present their research findings to the Penn State applied linguistics community, in a mini in-house workshop at the end of the course. In preparation for this, time will be set aside near the end of the seminar for students to present and discuss their research with their colleagues in the course. Most of the readings for the course will be preselected by the professor; however, students will also be expected to carry out independent reading of publications not included in the course syllabus and present and critique what they read in the seminar.

Prerequisite: introduction to Hispanic linguistics

SPAN 514: Hispanic Dialectology
3 Credits/Maximum of 6

Early fragmentation among the peninsular dialects; their status today, Judeo-Spanish; descriptive analysis of modern Spanish American dialects.

SPAN 519: Current Statistical Practice in Language Science
3 Credits

Our primary goal in this course is to explore how to analyze and interpret quantitative data in language science. Part of this goal will be to gain familiarity and proficiency with a range of quantitative techniques common in language science. Reflecting trends in the field, linear and logistic mixed effects regression will be a major focus in addition to more well-known (e.g. ANOVA, multiple regression, chi-square) techniques. We will also spend some time exploring other methods such as multidimensional scaling, generalized additive modeling, and conditional inference trees, as well as more specialized techniques (e.g. drift-diffusion modeling). A more important goal is to learn to think critically about quantitative data and how we can learn from it. This includes a critical view of quantitative research in general, questions of measurement, the many decisions involved in analytic strategy, model structure and interpretation, and the ability to extend students’ knowledge to new techniques independently.

Recommended preparation: Completion of an introductory graduate level course in statistics, or advanced undergraduate courses. Experience with regression and familiarity with common software for statistical analysis in language science.

Cross-listed with: LING 519

SPAN 528: Seventeenth-Century Spanish Literature
3 Credits/Maximum of 9

Prose and poetry of major authors: works and trends of the late Golden Age and Baroque period.

SPAN 537: Golden Age Theatre
3 Credits/Maximum of 6

Major works of Lope de Vega, Tirso de Molina, Calderon, and others.

SPAN 561: The Cinematic Pluriverse of Pedro Almodóvar
3 Credits

This seminar will examine the cinematic imagination of Spain’s most internationally celebrated filmmaker, Pedro Almodóvar. Topics to be considered will include Almodóvar’s lensing of gender politics, sexuality,
multiculturalism, and national identity in post-dictatorial Spain; his nimble negotiation of the local and the global; his taste for cinephilic self-referentiality and hybridity of genre; and a distinctive tendency toward thematic idiosyncrasy all of which are signature features of his postmodern 'brand.' Significant attention will be devoted to approaches and trends within the vast corpus of scholarly criticism dealing with the filmmaker's oeuvre, and our engagement with film theory will arise organically out of the references from these texts. Some basic tools, techniques, and language of film analysis will be considered, as will a general understanding of field-specific norms of film studies as practiced in North American and U.K. Hispanism.

SPAN 566: Contemporary Spanish Poetry

3 Credits

Various currents in Spanish poetry from the generation of 1927: Lorca, Aleixandre, Salinas, Guillen, Alonso, Alberti, Hernandez, Otero, and others.

SPAN 568: Early Spanish American Literature

3 Credits/Maximum of 9

Content varies; selected topics from colonial period, romanticism, and the nineteenth century before modernism.

SPAN 571: Latina/o Studies: Foundations in the Field and Its Teaching

3 Credits

A foundation in the field and strategies for teaching Latina/o Studies to undergraduates. This course provides a foundation in U.S. Latina/o Studies Literature and its contexts, with two separate but related goals. The first is to get a grasp on the U.S. Latina/o Studies canon that integrates humanities and social science approaches in order to analyze critical historical contexts that have shaped the emergence and evolution of the field of Latina/o Studies in U.S. higher education and academia, such as early colonial enterprises in the South and the Southwest, Spanish and U.S. imperialism, the Chicano and Young Lords movements during the 1960s, immigration patterns from the Caribbean and Latin America, government policies towards Latinos and Latin American writers, including José Martí, Brazilian modernists, Jorge Luis Borges, concrete poets Augusto and Haroldo de Campos, Octavio Paz, and Julio Cortázar, to discussions of translation by reading their works on translation as theory and practice alongside key essays in translation studies by, among others, Walter Benjamin, Jacques Derrida, Gayatri Spivak, Lawrence Venuti, and Emily Apter. It also considers the importance of translators like Gregory Rabassa, Suzanne Jill Levine, and Elizabeth Bishop in disseminating Latin American literature within the United States. Building on these insights, students will consider the recent phenomenon of Latin American literature in translation and re-translation to recognize translation as a linguistic and aesthetic challenge governed by, in part, the political and economic demands of the global, literary market.

SPAN 587: Stylistic and Literary Criticism

3 Credits

Major theories of literary criticism applied to Hispanic literature.

SPAN 589: Technology in Foreign Language Education: An Overview

3 Credits

Approaches to the uses and research applications of multimedia and other educational technologies applied to the teaching of foreign languages. (also crosslisted with SPAN 589)

SPAN 596: Individual Studies

1-9 Credits/Maximum of 9

CREATIVE PROJECTS, INCLUDING NONTHESES, WHICH ARE SUPERVISED ON AN INDIVIDUAL BASIS AND WHICH FALL OUTSIDE THE SCOPE OF FORMAL COURSES.

SPAN 597: Special Topics

1-9 Credits/Maximum of 9

Formal courses given on a topical or special interest subject which may be offered infrequently.

SPAN 600: Thesis Research

1-15 Credits/Maximum of 999

No description.
SPAN 601: Ph.D. Dissertation Full-Time
0 Credits/Maximum of 999
No description.

SPAN 602: Supervised Experience in College Teaching
1-3 Credits/Maximum of 6
Supervised experience in teaching and orientation to other selected aspects of the profession at The Pennsylvania State University.

SPAN 610: Thesis Research Off Campus
1-15 Credits/Maximum of 999
No description.