

## **HISPANIC STUDIES NEW CURRICULUM (for students entering in fall 2021)**

Hispanic Studies at Illinois Wesleyan University seeks to develop students' proficiency in Spanish as it is used in Spain and in the Americas and to expose students to the literature and culture of other societies in the Spanish-speaking world. Our language, literature and culture classes address both transnational themes and what is particularly Spanish/Latin American/Latinx about the issues that each course studies.

Advanced work in Spanish focuses on honing the four language skills of speaking, reading, listening, and writing while providing a foundation for acquiring competence in dealing with a variety of considerably more complex communicative, cultural and literary materials. All majors and minors will explore courses in the following three curricular areas and be required to take one core course in each area:

- (1) In ***Communities, Communication, and Language*** students explore Spanish as a world language as it is spoken in Spain, the Americas and elsewhere with emphasis on oral and written communication strategies. Various 200-level classes focus on specific pre-professional development in the health care, non-profit, and business sectors. The core course is Span 303: Communicating Across Cultures in the Spanish-speaking World.
- (2) In ***Cultures and Identities*** students analyze and compare issues of identity and inequity within the rich cultural diversity of the Spanish-speaking world. The core course is Span 307: Reading and Writing Culture.
- (3) In ***Texts and Con(texts)*** students interpret and synthesize primary and secondary literary and/or visual texts placing them in the socio-cultural context in which they arise. The core course is Span 308: Introduction to Literature.

### ***Learning Goals of the major in Hispanic Studies***

Upon completion of a major, students should demonstrate: 1) an intermediate-high or advanced proficiency in Spanish, 2) an awareness of the complexity of issues of cultural difference, 3) the ability to analyze literary works in Spanish and, 4) an appreciation for the aesthetic and intellectual currents of the Spanish-speaking world. The major sequence lists minimum requirements only: students are encouraged to strengthen their program of study by taking additional upper-level courses. In particular, one should seek a balance between courses dedicated to Spain, Latin America, and Latinx in the US, striving for a broad knowledge of issues in all three contexts.

Study abroad programs are available through affiliated colleges and universities and given the measurable effects a study abroad experience has on language and cultural competencies, it is highly recommended for all majors and minors. Students select a program with a faculty advisor according to the student's individual needs, goals, and abilities. The Hispanic Studies Program offers scholarships for studying abroad through the Luis Leal Fund. (<https://www.iwu.edu/study-abroad/>)

*For those who will become teachers*

Hispanic Studies majors who seek teacher licensure declare a second major in Secondary Education. Refer to the Educational Studies section in this Catalog and the [Teacher Education Program Handbook](#) for further information (<http://www.iwu.edu/edstudies/handbooks/>).

***Major Sequence in Hispanic Studies:***

Ten Hispanic Studies courses beyond the basic language sequence including:

- 1) The three core curriculum courses:  
SPAN 303     Communicating Across Cultures in the Spanish-speaking World  
SPAN 307     Reading and Writing Culture (W, G)  
SPAN 308     Introduction to Literature (Lit, G)
- 2) At least two additional courses in *Cultures and Identities* taken from courses numbered SPAN 320-339.
- 3) At least two additional courses in *Texts and Con(texts)* taken from courses numbered SPAN 340-369.
- 4) Three additional Hispanic Studies elective courses above SPAN 201. One of these can be a cross-listed SPAN/LC course.

Additional notes:

- Although study abroad is not required for the Hispanic Studies major and minors, it is highly encouraged.
- Span 203 is meant as a bridge class between the basic sequence and the core curriculum; once Span 303 has been taken, students cannot enroll in Span 203.
- One class from requirements (2) or (3) must be focused on pre-1900 literature or culture.
- One LC class with a focus on Spain, Latin America, and/or Latinx in the US can count toward the major.
- For advanced students, an independent research project is highly encouraged (Span 491). Please speak with Hispanic Studies faculty about this possibility.

*Learning Goals of the minors*

Students who complete one of the three minor programs should be able to demonstrate: 1) an intermediate level of oral skills in both speaking and comprehension, 2) the ability to write, constructing an extended argument with analysis of historical or literary texts, and 3) an understanding of the variety of Hispanic cultures around the globe.

Students with a minor sequence in Hispanic Studies for Nursing and the Health Care Professions and those with a minor sequence in Hispanic Studies for Business, Accounting, Entrepreneurship, Finance and Marketing will acquire specialized language and cultural competency skills that will better prepare them for their respective areas of employment.

Hispanic Studies Minors are strongly encouraged to participate in IWU's Spain Program in the spring of their sophomore year. The Hispanic Studies Program offers scholarships for studying abroad through the Luis Leal Fund. Please visit the [IWU Study Abroad Office webpage](#), and discuss options with your academic advisor.

***Minor Sequence in Hispanic Studies:***

Six Hispanic Studies courses beyond SPAN 201 including:

- 1) The three core curriculum courses:  
SPAN 303 Communicating Across Cultures in the Spanish-speaking World  
SPAN 307 Reading and Writing Culture (W, G)  
SPAN 308 Introduction to Literature (Lit, G)
- 2) One additional course in *Cultures and Identities* taken from courses numbered SPAN 320-339
- 3) One additional course in *Texts and Con(texts)* taken from courses numbered SPAN 340-369
- 4) One elective which can be a cross-listed SPAN/LC course

***Minor Sequence in Hispanic Studies for Nursing and the Health Care Professions:***

(See also Spanish language study for Nursing Majors.)

Six Hispanic Studies courses beyond SPAN 201 including:

- 1) The three core curriculum courses:  
SPAN 303 Communicating Across Cultures in the Spanish-speaking World  
SPAN 307 Reading and Writing Culture (W, G)  
SPAN 308 Introduction to Literature (LIT, G)
- 2) Span 230 Medical Spanish and Cultural Competency for Health Care
- 3) One additional course in *Cultures and Identities* taken from courses numbered SPAN 320-339
- 4) One additional course in *Texts and Con(texts)* taken from courses numbered SPAN 340-369

***Minor Sequence in Hispanic Studies for Business, Accounting, Finance, Entrepreneurship and Marketing:***

Six Hispanic Studies courses beyond SPAN 201 including:

- 1) The three core curriculum courses:  
SPAN 303 Communicating Across Cultures in the Spanish-speaking World  
SPAN 307 Reading and Writing Culture (W, G)  
SPAN 308 Introduction to Literature (LIT, G)
- 2) SPAN 250 Business Spanish and its Cultural Context or BARC 250
- 3) One additional course in *Cultures and Identities* taken from courses numbered SPAN 320-339
- 4) One additional course in *Texts and Con(texts)* taken from courses numbered SPAN 340-369

Additional notes for all three minor sequences:

- Although study abroad is not required for the Hispanic Studies majors and minors, it is highly encouraged.
- Span 203 is meant as a bridge class between the basic sequence and the core curriculum, once Span 303 has been taken, students cannot enroll in Span 203.
- One SPAN/LC class can count toward the minor.
- SPAN 311 Spanish Across the Curriculum with a focus on business law or marketing is recommended for the Minor in Business, Accounting, Entrepreneurship, Finance, and Marketing.

- For advanced students, an independent research project is highly encouraged (SPAN 491). Please speak with Hispanic Studies faculty about this possibility.

## HISPANIC STUDIES COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

### Basic Language Sequence

**101 Elementary Spanish** An introduction to the Spanish Language and culture that emphasizes the basic language skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Primary emphasis is placed on interpersonal and presentational oral skills and on functioning in real-life situations in a Spanish-language cultural context. Taught in Spanish. Offered each spring.

**102 Elementary Spanish II** A continuation of basic language skills developed in 101, with exposure to more complicated structural forms as well as cultural issues. Primary emphasis is placed on interpersonal and presentational oral skills and on functioning in real-life situations in a Spanish-language cultural context. Taught in Spanish. Prerequisite: SPAN 101 or equivalent. Offered each fall.

**201 Intermediate Spanish (LA)** This course continues the proficiency-oriented approach of the Beginning Spanish sequence. It is designed to strengthen the basic language skills introduced in 101 and 102 with an emphasis on interpersonal and presentational oral skills. Students have to attend one weekly conversation session. Taught in Spanish Prerequisite: SPAN 102 or equivalent. Offered each semester.

### Hispanic Studies Core Curriculum for Majors and Minors

**303 Communicating Across Cultures in the Spanish-Speaking World** Practice of advanced oral communication strategies and a thorough review of basic problems of Spanish grammar for English-speakers. The class focuses on practicing interpersonal, presentational, and interpretive communication skills while comparing and contrasting different cultures within the Spanish-speaking world and placing the language in the socio-cultural context where it arises. Prerequisite: Span 203 or equivalent. *Offered each semester.*

**307 Reading and Writing Culture (W, G)** In this assignment-based course, students will strengthen reading and writing skills in Spanish through a variety of cultural texts; use writing as a tool for discovery, and explore research paths beyond the basics (accessing authoritative, quality information; using information ethically, and understanding MLA-style conventions). Prerequisite: Spanish 303 or equivalent. *Offered annually.*

**308 Introduction to Literature (LIT, G)** An introduction to literary analysis. Major authors, themes, and genres from both Latin America and Spain are included, with basic concepts of contemporary literary criticism and theory. Prerequisite: Spanish 303 or equivalent. *Offered annually.*

### Communities, Communication, and Language Courses

**203 Spanish as a World Language (G)** This course reviews Spanish structural forms and builds vocabulary in the context of developing speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills, and examines the diverse Spanish-speaking cultures. In-class time focuses on the development of

interpersonal and presentational skills, while out-of-class time will be directed toward the development of interpretative skills. Cannot be taken if the student has already taken Span 303. *Offered each semester.*

**223 Radio Latina (.5)** A weekly guided conversation with Hispanic Studies faculty and students. If you are curious about current events in the Spanish-speaking world and you want to practice your reading and speaking skills in Spanish, this class is for you. Credit/No Credit. Doesn't count for Hispanic Studies Major/Minors. Prerequisites: Spanish 201 or equivalent. *Offered occasionally.*

**230 Medical Spanish and Cultural Competency of Health Care (U)** This course is designed for students planning to work in health care and who want to acquire more skills in medical Spanish. We will discuss Hispanic culture in the U.S., particularly how it relates to health care. Students will participate in an informal internship at a local community clinic. Prerequisite: Spanish 201 or equivalent. *Offered each fall semester.*

**240 Spanish for Social Justice (U)** Students develop language skills and cultural competency for situations that focus on social justice. Fieldwork in one of the following areas--immigration, housing, education, employment and voter rights--is a key part of the course. Prerequisite: Spanish 201 or equivalent. *Offered alternate years, spring semester.*

**250 Business Spanish and its Cultural Context (G)** This course is designed for students planning to work in business, accounting, finance, entrepreneurship, or marketing and who want to acquire more business-related language and cultural competency skills before entering the workforce. Students will read and analyze business documents in Spanish, present oral reports, and work 1-3 hours/week as part of a group project related to the local Latinx community. Prerequisite: Spanish 201 or equivalent. *Offered alternate years, spring semester.*

**300 Intensive Language Study (Abroad only)** When taken abroad in an approved program. This course should be an intensive practice of intermediate/advanced oral and written communication skills in the language. Credit should be discussed and approved by the department chair before departure. Prerequisite: Spanish 203 or equivalent. *Offered each semester.*

**301 Topics in Hispanic Studies (Abroad only)** Taken abroad in an approved program. Subject matter might include anthropology, economics, history, literature, political science, or other. Credit should be discussed with the department head before departure. Prerequisite: Spanish 303. *Offered as needed.*

**305 Travel Seminar** Travel with a faculty member to countries in which Spanish is spoken. Will include independent projects, a daily journal, and field trips to cultural monuments, museums, and other sites of interest. An experience in linguistic and cultural immersion. Prerequisites vary. *Offered occasionally.*

**311 Spanish Across the Curriculum** Taken in conjunction with a course outside the department, this course integrates Spanish language and cultural competency with studies in disciplines commonly taught in English. For example, Business Law and Marketing in Spanish. May be repeated as topics change. Prerequisite: SPAN 303 or equivalent. *Offered occasionally.*

**317 Introduction to Spanish Linguistics (FR)** Examines Spanish language as a functional system of communication. Emphasis is on general principles of linguistic analysis: sound, form, order and on linguistic changes related to temporal, regional and social pressures. Prerequisite: SPAN 303. *Offered occasionally.*

### **320-339 Cultures and Identities Courses**

**321 The Spanish Baroque (IT)** This course examines the intellectual history of the Spanish Baroque from the seventeenth-century to expressions of the neo-Baroque today. Works studied may include Calderón's theatre, Velázquez's painting, Zayas' novels, essays by Wölfflin and Sarduy, and Gehry's Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao. This course fulfills the pre-1900 requirement. Prerequisite: SPAN 307 *Offered in alternate years.*

**322 The New Spanish Citizen (IT, G) (Cross-listed with LC 222)** This class explores citizenship as it relates to cultural identity in the Iberian Peninsula. Through the lenses of art, film, and literature, we will analyze how different notions of home and belonging have shaped contemporary Spanish society over time. Prerequisites: SPAN 307. *Offered in alternate years.*

**324 Muslim Spain: the Rise and Fall of the Caliphate of Cordoba (912-1031) (CHC) (Cross-listed with LC 234)** This course studies Islamic Spain from the cultural splendor of al-Andalus, with a focus on the Caliphate of Córdoba (912-1031), to its legacy present in Spain today. We will explore accounts of paradise and expulsion and analyze the complex portrait of Muslims, Christians, and Jews coexisting as they transformed the Western world. This course fulfills the pre-1900 requirement. Prerequisite: SPAN 307 *Offered in alternate years.*

**326 Latin American Film (AR, G)** This course will strive to understand the scope and relevance of Latin American film, in general, and the specifics of the filmic production of Mexico, Brazil, Cuba and Argentina. The course will develop the ability to read, understand and discuss films as a unique medium and teach the ability to understand films as cultural products that are the result of particular historical conditions. Prerequisites: SPAN 307 or equivalent. *Offered in alternate years.*

**327 Latin American Revolutionaries** This course will analyze different instances of insurgency in Latin America, including peaceful leftist mobilizations and violent revolutions. We will look at the development of national identities, the wars of independence in the Americas, the Mexican Revolution, the Cuban Revolution, the Cold War, Central America's civil wars, transnationality and immigration. Prerequisite: SPAN 307 or equivalent. *Offered in alternate years.*

**328 Pre-Columbian and Colonial Latin America (CHC)** This course will study the pre-Columbian background of the Americas, the conquest period, and three centuries of Spanish colonial rule. Students will understand the interplay between culture, power, encounter, and exchange in the Americas, as well as the basic frameworks of Hispanic culture, the organizing

principles of various Mesoamerican and Andean cultures, and the material frameworks of conquest and colonization. This course fulfills the pre-1900 requirement. Prerequisites: SPAN 307 or equivalent. *Offered in alternate years.*

**332 Resisting Dictatorship: Spain and Chile (CHC, G) (Cross-listed with LC 232)** This class explores how Chilean and Spanish societies endured decades-long brutal dictatorships and how both nations emerged as democratic systems in the late 20th century. We will examine the ongoing legacies of dictatorship and the politics of memory as these play out in contemporary Spain and Chile. Prerequisite: SPAN 307. *Offered in alternate years.*

**334 Cultures of the Spanish-speaking Caribbean (CHC)** Introduction to the cultures of Cuba, The Dominican Republic and Puerto Rico. Focus on historical development of culture and national identity, given the multicultural Indigenous, Spanish and African heritage, to understand the complexities of race, color, class. Students analyze the question of equity, justice and power in contemporary Caribbean societies. Prerequisite: SPAN 307. *Offered in alternate years.*

**336 Underground Hip Hop Culture in the Spanish-speaking Caribbean (CHC, G)** Focus on the underground hip hop movement that affirms Afro-Hispanic identity through lyrics which examine the notion of beauty through an Afrocentric lens rather than one of the dominant Eurocentric culture. We analyze critical issues that affect justice, equity and inclusion for self-identifying Black and Indigenous People of Color (BIPOC). Prerequisite: SPAN 307. *Offered in alternate years.*

#### **340-369 Texts and Con(texts) Courses**

**341 *Don Quijote: The First Modern Novel* (LIT) (Cross-listed with LC 241)** This course formulates and develops our ideas of Cervantes, of Spain in the 16th and 17th centuries, and of literature in general. It explores the multiplicity of genres and cultural practices that exist within *Don Quijote* and examines its enduring influences on both literature and popular culture. This course fulfills the pre-1900 requirement. Prerequisite: SPAN 308. *Offered alternate years.*

**344 Dangerous Texts (LIT, G) (Cross-listed with LC 244)** This course explores contemporary Spanish literature as a site for denunciation and resistance. What makes a text dangerous? How does the Spanish society deal with this threat? How does it affect the nature of writing? We will analyze different genres and authors from the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries. Prerequisite: SPAN 308. *Offered in alternate years.*

**346 Visual Cultures of Modern Spain (IT, G) (Cross-listed with LC 246)** Analysis of main aesthetic, cultural, and philosophical questions as articulated in Spanish film and the visual arts. Prerequisite: SPAN 308. *Offered in alternate years.*

**347 Latin American Short Story (LIT)** This course will study the short story in Latin America, including Quiroga, Rulfo, Cortazar, Borges, Bombal, Garcia Marquez and Allende, and the principal literary, social and political movements that produced those stories, such as Regionalism, the Avant Garde, Existentialism, the Boom, the post-Boom and Feminism. Prerequisite: SPAN 308 or equivalent. *Offered in alternate years.*

**348 Latin American Women Writers (LIT)** This course will provide a general knowledge of Latin American women writers through a literary, cultural and historical study. We will establish the historical importance and cultural contributions of Sor Juana, Gomez de Avellaneda, Bombal, Ferre, Mastretta and Allende, including their marginalization from the canon and emergence from traditional inaccessibility to the production of official culture. Prerequisite: SPAN 308 or equivalent. *Offered in alternate years.*

**351 Identity and Alterity in Latino Literature (LIT, U)** Explores literature by Latinos/as/xes born or raised in the United States to examine the notion of individual and collective identity. How do they define their identity in relation to that of their parents and ancestors, or fellow Americans? We analyze prose from the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries. Prerequisite: SPAN 308. *Offered alternate years.*

**353 Afro-Latino/x Literature (LIT, U)** Analysis of Afro-Hispanic literature from Latin America and the United States to understand the representation of racial and cultural identity through literature. Focus on understanding denial and affirmation of blackness in the Caribbean and other Latin American nations. Emphasis on literary readings and critical texts by authors from these nations. Prerequisite: SPAN 308. *Offered in alternate years.*

#### **Independent Research in Hispanic Studies Courses**

**395 Directed Study in Spanish** A project of interest to the student related to the advanced study of the Spanish language, or the cultures and literatures of Spanish-speaking countries. Normally topics may not duplicate the content of regularly offered courses. Prerequisites: Consent of instructor and the chair of the department. Students must submit a plan of study prior to enrollment, see form [here](#). *Offered as needed.*

**397 Internship** Opportunities to apply linguistic and cultural skills in a professional context in a wide variety of professional areas and locations including local, domestic, and international sites. Visit the [Career Center](#) for procedures and requirements. Prerequisites: Spanish 303 and consent of instructor. *Offered occasionally.*

**491 Advanced Directed Study** A major research project developed in consultation with a Hispanic Studies faculty member. Emphasizes original research in Spanish, and may lead to the completion of a research honors project. Prerequisites: Hispanic Studies majors and minors with senior standing, and consent of department chair. Students must submit a plan of study prior to enrollment, see form [here](#). *Offered as needed.*