Department of Modern Languages and Literatures

The Department of Modern Languages and Literatures offers the Master of Arts Degree in Spanish and a Certificate in Spanish Translation Studies.

Master of Arts Degree in Spanish

The Master of Arts degree in Spanish offers the student the opportunity for an in-depth view of Hispanic studies in three specialized areas: literature, culture, and linguistics, underscoring the unity of the Hispanic world rather than its national components. Elective courses in Linguistics (LNG) and Translation and Interpreting Studies (TIS) offer an opportunity to further the student’s grasp of the Spanish language in its geographical, cultural, and social variations.

Program Admission Requirements

In addition to satisfying the University-wide graduate admission requirements, applicants are expected to have 12 or more upper-division hours in Hispanic cultures, literature, or linguistics and a mastery of oral and written skills in Spanish in an academic register. Upper-division grammar, oral communication, and language skills courses may not be included in this requirement.

A grade point average of 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale) is required in undergraduate upper-division coursework in Spanish. These requirements may be waived in unusual circumstances upon the approval of the Graduate Program Committee.

Admission determinations are based on the grade point average, undergraduate coursework, fluency in Spanish, the personal statement, and the letters of recommendation.

Application Materials

In addition to filing the regular University application for admission, all applicants must submit to the Spanish Graduate Committee, for evaluation, a one- to two-page statement written in Spanish describing the objectives of proposed graduate study and at least two academic letters of recommendation which address the candidate’s potential for research and suitability for graduate-level work.

Degree Requirements

The number of semester credit hours required for this degree, exclusive of coursework or other study required to remove admission deficiencies, is 36. A maximum of one grade of “C” shall be applicable toward coursework for the Master of Arts degree.

Degree candidates must complete the following requirements:

A. 3 semester credit hours of required coursework:
   SPN 5373 Introduction to Graduate Hispanic Studies (This course must be taken within the first 18 hours of graduate work.)
   3

B. 27 semester credit hours distributed as follows:
   9 hours in culture (SPN)
   9
   9 hours in Spanish language and linguistics (SPN and LNG)
   9

C. Electives
   6 semester credit hours of electives in Spanish (SPN), Linguistics (LNG), Translation and Interpreting Studies (TIS) or other courses as approved by the Graduate Advisor of Record. TIS 6013 Practicum in Translation cannot be applied towards the degree.
   6

D. Comprehensive Examination
   The satisfactory completion of a comprehensive examination, to be taken toward the end of a student’s 36-hour program. Students are advised to speak with the Graduate Advisor of Record when close to 27 hours.

E. Thesis Option
   SPN 6983 Master’s Thesis (The satisfactory completion of a thesis in accordance with University regulations as stated under “Options for Master’s Degrees” in Chapter 4, Master’s Degree Regulations. If this option is chosen, up to 6 semester credit hours of thesis credit may be used in place of the electives in item C.)

Total Credit Hours

36

   • Certificate in Linguistics (p. 1)
   • Certificate in Spanish Translation Studies (p. 2)

Graduate Certificate in Linguistics

The Graduate Certificate in Linguistics is a 12-semester-credit-hour concentration available to degree-seeking students who have been admitted to any UTSA graduate program and who qualify for admission to the certificate program, as well as special graduate students who meet all the requirements outlined in the UTSA Graduate Catalog.

The Graduate Certificate in Linguistics offers coursework in the advanced, interdisciplinary study of language for students working at the masters or doctoral level. This certificate will also enhance students’ employment credentials as college and university writing instructors, editors or professional writers in corporate, non-profit, and educational settings. Requirements: One foundations course (LNG 5003, SPN 5903, ENG 6033, ESL 5003) and 9 additional semester credit hours of approved graduate linguistics courses. Courses may be repeated when topics vary but not more than six (6) hours of any one course may be applied to the certificate without the approval of an advisor. No course in which a grade lower than “B” is earned may be used to complete a Certificate in Linguistics. In order to receive this certificate, students must maintain a 3.0 average GPA in the above courses.

Individuals interested in the Graduate Certificate in Linguistics should contact the Graduate Office of the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures.

Program Requirements

A. Foundation Course
   Select one course from the following:
   LNG 5003 Introduction to Linguistics
   SPN 5903 Topics in Hispanic Linguistics
   ENG 6033 Language and Linguistics
   ESL 5003 Linguistics for Second Language and Bilingual Specialists

B. Elective Courses
   9

9 hours in literature (SPN) 9

Certificate in Linguistics

Certificate in Spanish Translation Studies

Department of Modern Languages and Literatures
Select three of the following courses:

- LNG 5013  Sociolinguistics
- LNG 5153  Topics in Contemporary Linguistics
- SPN 5843  History of the Spanish Language
- SPN 5853  Spanish of the United States
- SPN 5863  Spanish Phonetics and Phonology
- SPN 5883  Spanish Morphology and Syntax
- SPN 5903  Topics in Hispanic Linguistics
- ENG 6033  Language and Linguistics
- ESL 5003  Linguistics for Second Language and Bilingual Specialists
- ESL 5013  Foundations of Second Language Acquisition
- ESL 5083  Pedagogical Grammar
- ESL 6013  Second Language Acquisition Research
- BBL 5123  Sociolinguistics and Education
- BBL 7033  Seminar in Advanced Research Methods
- BBL 7233  Seminar in Second Language Learning & Multilingualism
- BBL 7243  Seminar in Applied Linguistics

Total Credit Hours 12

Graduate Certificate in Spanish Translation Studies

The Certificate in Spanish Translation Studies is a 15-hour option in Spanish graduate studies which introduces students to the theory and practice of translation (written) and interpreting (oral) between Spanish and English. Offerings include training in translation and interpreting studies theory, cultural competency, ethics, the practice of language mediation in various settings, and current best practices.

Entrance and Exit Requirements

In addition to meeting University-wide admission requirements either as a special graduate student or a degree-seeking student in a graduate program, all prospective students who are not already admitted to the M.A. in Spanish must pass a written entrance examination in Spanish and English to determine linguistic competence and general cultural preparation.

Entrance- and exit-level skills in both languages will be no lower than Level 3 and Level 4, respectively, according to the U.S. Government’s Interagency Language Roundtable (ILR) Skill Level Descriptions for Translation Performance.

Program Requirements

The Certificate in Spanish Translation Studies consists of 15 semester credit hours including an introduction to theory and practice and the meta-language of translation studies. Courses in Spanish linguistics strengthen the interdisciplinary underpinnings of the Certificate, and the practicum, TIS 6013 Practicum in Translation, provides training in and reinforcement of written and/or oral translation skills by means of a translation case study, a supervised internship, or a service learning project. A maximum of one grade of “C” shall be applicable toward coursework for the Certificate in Spanish Translation Studies.

Students must complete the following requirements:

A. 9 semester credit hours from the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TIS 5043</td>
<td>Principles of Translation and Interpreting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TIS 5123</td>
<td>Theory and Practice of Translation or Interpreting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TIS 5973</td>
<td>Topics in Translation and Interpreting Studies</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

B. 3 semester credit hours from the following:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SPN 5023</td>
<td>Writing and Editing in Spanish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPN 5843</td>
<td>History of the Spanish Language</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPN 5863</td>
<td>Spanish Phonetics and Phonology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPN 5883</td>
<td>Spanish Morphology and Syntax</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPN 5893</td>
<td>Spanish Dialects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPN 5903</td>
<td>Topics in Hispanic Linguistics</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

C. Practicum in Translation

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>Course Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TIS 6013</td>
<td>Practicum in Translation</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Total Credit Hours 15

Students will take the Practicum during their last semester of enrollment in the Certificate Program. In consultation with the instructor, they will select an area of interest and define a task within that area. Project translation work will normally be exclusively into the student’s dominant language.