



University of Colorado Denver

Department of Modern Languages

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www.cudenver.edu/clas/modlang

M.A. in Spanish

University of Colorado Denver

Application Deadlines:

Fall & Summer Admission – March 15th; Spring Admission - October 15th

Please see the attached checklist of materials required for application. All materials should be sent directly to the Department of Modern Languages.

Program Description:

The Master of Arts Program in Spanish at the University of Colorado at Denver and Health Sciences Center offers an alternative to exclusively literary studies that traditionally lead to doctoral programs. By integrating language, literature and cultural studies with ancillary work in other disciplines, the degree provides the broader expertise that will lead to or enhance careers in teaching, government, social services, business and international trade. Students will tailor the program to their specific interests and needs by developing a topical focus including courses within and outside the Dept. of Modern Languages.

Student Learning Goals

- to understand the intricacies of the Spanish language and its history
- to develop a working knowledge of some of the most important works created in Spanish, in disciplines including literature, film, linguistics, and cultural history
- to develop the linguistic proficiency in Spanish to engage in intellectual discussion in both academic and non-academic settings using standard pronunciation, grammar and vocabulary
- to think, speak and write analytically and critically about culture.

Admission Standards:

Regular Admission: For regular admission to the graduate program in Spanish, applicants must:

1. Hold a baccalaureate degree in Spanish from an accredited institution, or hold a baccalaureate degree in another discipline and have language skills that meet the Departmental standards.
2. Demonstrate promise or ability to pursue advanced study and research, as shown by previous scholastic records.
3. Have at least a 2.5 undergraduate grade-point average on all previous work and a 3.0 grade-point average in courses taken in Spanish at the baccalaureate level.
4. Demonstrate Spanish oral and written proficiency at the Advanced level, as defined by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages.
5. Present three letters of recommendation, at least two of which should come from former college-level instructors.
6. If a native speaker, must be proficient with the English language and able to speak, read and write at a graduate school level.

Full-Time Program Faculty in Spanish

Michael Abeyta (Ph.D., University of California, Davis), Associate Professor of Spanish, Specialist in Spanish American Literature.

Devin Jenkins (Ph.D., University of New Mexico), Assistant Professor of Spanish, Specialist in Sociolinguistics, Bilingualism, Phonology and Historical Linguistics. Also, Second Language Acquisition.

Andres Lema-Hincapie (Ph.D. in Hispanic Literature, Cornell University), Assistant Professor of Spanish, Specialist in Spanish Peninsular Literature.

Amy VonCanon (Ph.D., University of Iowa), Assistant Professor of Spanish, Specialist in Applied Linguistics, Pragmatics and Second Language Acquisition.

Curriculum Description:

Program requirements: All students will be required to complete 33 credit hours of course work, distributed with respect to one of the following two options:

Thesis option (27 hours of coursework + 6 thesis hours):

- 3 hours SPAN 5000 Introduction to Graduate Studies in Spanish
- 15 hours Literature / Culture and Linguistics, including at least 6 in Literature / Culture and 6 in Linguistics
- 6 hours Courses outside the Modern Languages Department, as approved by advisor
- 3 hours Elective, as approved by advisor
- 6 hours Thesis preparation and writing

Non-thesis option (33 hours of coursework):

- 3 hours SPAN 5000 Introduction to Graduate Studies in Spanish
- 18 hours Literature / Culture and Linguistics, including at least 6 in Literature / Culture and 6 in Linguistics
- 6 hours Courses outside the Modern Languages Department, as approved by advisor
- 6 hours Elective, as approved by advisor (May include another course outside the Modern Language Department.)

Sample Curricula:

Below are three sample curricula for the M.A. program in Spanish, with varying topical foci for each. The first two reflect the non-thesis option and the third shows the option with thesis. While these curricula are only samples, they show how individual students can tailor their areas of emphasis to suit their individual needs. No more than two undergraduate courses may be applied toward the M.A. degree, and then only in ancillary fields outside the Department of Modern Languages.

Sample curriculum for non-thesis option, with topical focus on Mexico.

- SPAN 5000 Intro to Graduate Studies in Spanish
 SPAN 5010 History of the Spanish Language
 SPAN 5980 Special Topics (ST): Dialectology
 SPAN 5980 Hispanic Sociolinguistics
 SPAN 5160 Masterpieces of Spanish-American Literature
 SPAN 5220 Mexican Literature
 SPAN 5410 Modernism
 SPAN 5620 *Don Quijote*
- ANTH 5740 Ethnography of Mexico and Central America
 HIST 5411 Modern Mexico
 HIST 5412 Mexico and the U.S.: People and Politics on the Border

Sample curriculum for non-thesis option, with topical focus on Hispanic/Latino Cultural History:

- SPAN 5000 Intro to Graduate Studies in Spanish
 SPAN 5010 History of the Spanish Language
 SPAN 5980 ST: Dialectology
 SPAN 5160 Masterpieces of Spanish-American Literature
 SPAN 5150 Masterpieces of Spanish Literature
 SPAN 5970 ST: Contemporary Spain through Novel and Film
 SPAN 5970 ST: Culture, Ethnicity, and National Identity in Spain
 SPAN 5970 ST: 20th-Century Spanish-American Writers
- ANTH 5740 Ethnography of Mexico and Central America
 ETST 4768 Chicano/a Narrative and Social History
 HIST 5415 Social Revolutions in Latin America

Sample curriculum for thesis option, with topical focus on Linguistics:

- SPAN 5000 Intro to Graduate Studies in Spanish
 SPAN 5010 History of the Spanish Language
 SPAN 5980 ST: Dialectology
 SPAN 5980 ST: Hispanic Sociolinguistics
 SPAN 5980 ST: Semantics
 SPAN 5160 Masterpieces of Spanish-American Literature
 SPAN 5130 Medieval Spanish Literature
- LLC 5800 Sociolinguistics: Language Variation and its Implications for Teaching
 LLC 5160 Foundations of Bilingual Education
 SPAN 5940 M.A. Thesis (6 hours)

Spanish and Modern Language Course offerings:

SPAN 5000	Intro to Graduate Studies in Spanish		*required
MLNG 5690	Methods of Teaching Modern Languages (Hybrid course-four Saturday workshops)	Von Canon	*required for TA's - teaching assistants

Upper Division Elective Courses in the Department of Modern Languages

- SPAN 5010 History of the Spanish Language (Jenkins)
- SPAN 5510 Contemporary Span-American Novel (Schmidt)
- SPAN 5130 Medieval Spanish Literature (Bollard)
- SPAN 5150 Masterpieces of Spanish Literature (Bollard, Izurieta)
- SPAN 5160 Masterpieces of Spanish-American Literature (Schmidt)
- SPAN 5220 Mexican Literature (Schmidt)
- SPAN 5300 Generation of 1898 (Izurieta)
- SPAN 5310 Seminar in Spanish Creative Writing (Izurieta)
- SPAN 5400 Romanticism in Spain (Izurieta)
- SPAN 5410 Modernism (Schmidt)
- SPAN 5500 Nineteenth Century Spanish Novel (Izurieta)
- SPAN 5520 Golden Age Drama (Bollard)
- SPAN 5540 Race, Class, and Gender in Spanish Golden Age Lit. (Bollard)
- SPAN 5620 *Don Quijote* (Bollard)
- SPAN 5920 Basque Film (Izurieta)
- SPAN 5970 Special Topics Courses in Literature and Film: (Izurieta)
 - o The Basque Terrorist in Literature and Film
 - o Contemporary Spain through Novel and Film
 - o Culture of Contemporary Spain - Narrative
- SPAN 5980 Special Topics Courses in Linguistics: (Jenkins)
 - o Dialectology
 - o Hispanic Sociolinguistics
 - o Spanish in the United States
 - o Semantics

Partial List of Ancillary/Elective courses that support the M.A. in Spanish

From the School of Business Administration

- FNCE 4370 International Financial Management
- MKTG 4580 International Transportation
- MKTG 4200 International Marketing
- MGMT 4400 Introduction to International Business

From the School of Education--Language, Literacy and Culture Area

- LLC 5030 Language and Literacy: Acquisition, Processes, and Cognition, Part I
- LLC 5035 Language and Literacy: Acquisition, Processes, and Cognition, Part II
- LLC 5160 Foundations of Bilingual Education
- LLC 5800 Sociolinguistics: Language Variation and its Implications for Teaching
- LLC 5825 Methods and Materials in of Language Teaching

From the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

- ANTH 5160 Topics in Language, Society and Culture
- ANTH 5740 Ethnography of Mexico and Central America
- CMMU 5270 Intercultural Communications
- ECON 6410 International Trade
- ECON 6420 International Finance
- ENGL 5601 Principles and Practices of Adult Second Language Acquisition
- ENGL 6210 Methods of Teaching English as a Second Language
- ETST 4558 Chicano/a and Latino/a Politics
- ETST 4616 Special Topics: Chicanos/as and Latinos/as
- ETST 4768 Chicano/a Narrative and Social History
- HIST 5411 Modern Mexico
- HIST 5412 Mexico and the U.S.: People and Politics on the Border

HIST 5415
PSC 5135

Social Revolutions in Latin America
Seminar: Political Economy of Central America

From the College of Arts and Media
FA 5610 Pre-Columbian Art

** No more than one undergraduate course (3 credit hours) may be applied toward the M.A. degree, and then only in ancillary fields.

For more information on Provisional Acceptance, Graduation Requirements, and the acceptance of Transfer Credit, please see the web page for the Department of Modern Languages:
www.cudenver.edu

A Note about Transcripts

Be aware that the office of Admissions in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, at the University of Colorado at Denver and Health Sciences Center, requires official original transcripts from every institution of higher education that you have ever attended. This means:

- The transcript must be an “Official Transcript” issued from one university to another, not an “Issued to Student” copy or a photocopy of one in your possession.
- We need an official transcript from every institution of higher education where you have taken a college-level course, whether you took one class or completed an undergraduate degree.
- If you are currently completing your final semester of undergraduate work, please have one official copy of your current transcript sent with the application, and have two official copies sent once you have graduated, showing completion of your bachelor’s degree. These are required before acceptance to the program can be granted.
- If you received your undergraduate degree outside of the United States, you will need to have an official original transcript sent in a sealed envelope directly to our department from your international institution of higher education. The office of Admissions will not accept a copy of your international transcript. We know this may present a problem for you if you only have one original copy of your transcript from your country of origin. Please contact the Modern Languages office to discuss further – 303-556-4893.
- For international transcripts, the office of Admissions additionally requires an official English translation of your transcript from a transcription service (such as World Education Services, www.wes.org, for example).

Spanish and English Proficiency Requirements

Levels of Spanish and English proficiency will be determined through an oral interview with the Graduate Committee for each applicant. In order to successfully engage in classroom activity at the graduate level, students in the Spanish MA program at UCD are expected to have advanced levels of speaking, reading and writing in both Spanish and English. If the applicant proves deficient in any area or language, the Grad Committee has the right to refuse admittance.

Information for Graduate Students from the University of Colorado Denver catalog states: “A student who is noticeably deficient in the use of standard English in all oral and written work may not obtain an advanced degree from the University of Colorado. Ability to use the language with precision and distinction should be cultivated as an attainment of major importance. The university reserves the right to test English proficiency for non-native speakers of English to confirm and validate sufficiency for credit-bearing course work and degree programs. Each

department will judge the qualifications of its advanced students in the use of English. Reports, examinations and speech will be considered in estimating the candidate's proficiency."

Any non-native speaker of English who has not earned a degree from a University in the United States is required by the Department of Modern Languages take the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) and pass it with a minimum written score of 550, internet score of 80 or a computer score of 213 in order to be admitted into the Spanish MA program. See www.ets.org.

International Students

If you are currently living out of the U.S. and/or have an international address, you are considered an international student and must apply to the Spanish MA program through the UCD Office of International Education. The application fee is \$75 and a Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) is required. Please contact their office directly at: 303-315-2230, or visit <http://www.cudenver.edu/International/International%20Education/Pages/default.aspx> for more information.

Teaching Assistantship (TA) position

At times, Teaching Assistantship (TA) positions become available in the Spanish MA program. If you are interested in applying for a TA position, please pick up an application in our office or download it online from the Spanish MA link at www.cudenver.edu/clas/modlang. All applicants are interviewed by the Spanish MA faculty and positions are competitive.

Thank you for your interest in our program!

For more information, contact us:

Department of Modern Languages
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or visit our website:
www.cudenver.edu/clas/modlang