
Major in Romance Languages

A cross-departmental **9-course** major in the study of two romance languages—Spanish, Portuguese, French, or Italian—comprised of courses from the relevant College departments. All majors take a course in composition, a course in conversation, and an introductory literature/culture course in each of the two languages, along with 2 advanced electives in the primary language and one advanced elective in the second language. When Spanish is one of the two languages, these courses are required: Advanced Grammar and Composition, Advanced Conversation, and Critical Approaches. Electives are chosen from groups C or D below.

THE MAJOR

Group A: Advanced Language (4 courses)

Spanish: [Advanced Grammar and Composition \(SPAN-UA.0100\)](#)

Required, offered every semester. If waived, this course is replaced by an elective from group C or D below. At-home/heritage speakers take “Advanced Spanish for Spanish speakers” instead.

Second language: one Composition Course. See the relevant department for details.

Spanish: [Advanced Conversation \(SPAN-UA.0101\)](#)

Required, offered every semester. Native speakers replace this with an elective from group C or D below.

Second language: one Conversation course. See the relevant department for details.

Group B: Foundations (2 courses)

Spanish: [Critical Approaches \(SPAN-UA.0200\)](#)

Required; offered every semester. Prerequisite: SPAN-UA.0100. The course is a pre-requisite for most upper level courses taught in Spanish.

Second language: One introductory literature/culture course. See the relevant department for details.

Group C: Core Courses/Electives (3 total)

Romance Language majors choose two electives in their primary language; one elective in their secondary language (see that department for course offerings). Electives in Spanish are drawn from Groups C or D.

In the Department of Spanish and Portuguese, Core Courses offer broad introduction to fields of inquiry in literature, cultural studies, film, performance or visual culture. Romance Language majors must take courses offered in Spanish; all of carry as a pre-requisite SPAN-UA 0200 “Critical Approaches.” Course offerings vary by term. Recent course offerings include:

[Cultural History of Spain; Cultural History of Latin America; Fictions of power; Is Spanish one language? Latin American cinema; Photography and Literature; Theatre of the Golden Age; Transatlantic avant-gardes](#)

Group D: Advanced Seminars / Special Courses

Recommended for juniors and seniors. Seminars are smaller classes that offer in-depth study of particular topics. Most of courses are taught in Spanish and carry as a pre-requisite SPAN-UA.0200 "Critical Approaches."

[Topics Seminars](#). Two or three offered per semester, topic varies by faculty expertise.

[Junior Research Seminar](#). Offered every spring; recommended for honors students.

[Honors Thesis Seminar](#). Offered every fall; followed by 4 points of Thesis Writing in the spring. Required for honors students.

For majors, by permission: [Internship](#) • [Directed Research/ Independent Study](#), for 2–4 credits.

Romance Language majors may not count any course taught in English toward the major.

Double majors may double count one relevant course with their other major with the permission of the Director of Undergraduate Studies in Spanish and Portuguese.

Honors Program

Students with a general and major GPA of 3.65 or above are encouraged to participate in the Honors Program. Those interested are encouraged to take the Junior Research Seminar in the spring of the junior year. Honors majors enroll in a year-long (8-point) colloquium in the senior year, the Honors Thesis Seminar (4 of these points count toward the major.) The honors thesis is an extended research paper on a topic of the student's choice and directed by a faculty adviser, written in Spanish or English. Students offer an oral presentation of the thesis in the spring of senior year.

AP Credit

4 or 5 in Spanish Language: language requirement fulfilled; credit for SPAN-UA.0004. Enroll in Advanced Grammar & Composition (SPAN-UA.0100)

5 in Spanish Literature: credit for either Advanced Grammar & Composition (SPAN-UA.0100) or Critical Approaches (SPAN-UA.0200) based on the decision of the Director of Language Programs.

Non-NYU Credits: Majors may count a maximum of 4 courses from other institutions toward the major.

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