

MASTER OF ARTS IN SPANISH



Why a master's degree in Spanish?

A diverse, globalized world demands the ability to communicate complex ideas across languages and cultures. The BGSU master's degree promotes advanced communication in Spanish and expanded knowledge about languages and cultures from Spain, Latin America, the Caribbean, and the United States.

For domestic and international students alike, a master's degree in Spanish provides interdisciplinary perspectives about the diverse Spanish-speaking world. The United States is currently the second largest Spanish-speaking country in the world, second only to Mexico. By the year 2050, it is projected that the United States will become the country with the highest Spanish-speaking population in the world at 132.8 million (U.S. Census Bureau).

Why a Spanish graduate program at BGSU?

BGSU's MA in Spanish is widely recognized nationally and internationally, attracting students from across the US and abroad. Students benefit from small classes and individual attention, allowing for the development of close student-faculty working relationships. In addition, BGSU students have the opportunity to study and work on our campus in Alcalá de Henares, Spain, for up to one academic year. Under the direction of our Resident Director, students acquire cultural and linguistic skills through immersion.

Learning outcomes

Graduates of the MA in Spanish will be able to:

- Discuss critically and analytically, both orally and in writing, a variety of topics related to the Spanish language as well as Spanish-speaking cultures and literatures
- Demonstrate advanced competence in the Spanish language
- Demonstrate familiarity with the theoretical issues and research tools in the broad fields of literature, culture and linguistics from Spain and Latin America

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact Graduate Coordinator, Dr. Amy Robinson,
College of Arts & Sciences, World Languages & Cultures,
at ma-spanish@bgsu.edu or call 419-372-7693.

Program strengths and uniqueness

- Wide range of courses including topics in Second Language Acquisition, Spanish in the US, Cultural Studies in Latin America, Spanish Literature, Translation Studies, and more
- BGSU's own Study Abroad Program in Alcalá de Henares, Spain, where students may spend up to one academic year
- Experiential learning in the US through connections with the local Latinx Community and in Spain through service learning and internship opportunities
- Teaching Assistant Program: students may gain valuable working experience as instructors of introductory Spanish language classes.
- Faculty that support interdisciplinary collaboration and community engagement
- Support for student research and professional development, such as student participation in BGSU's annual Latino/a/x Issues Conference, the regionally-based Ohio Latin Americanist Conference, our academic online journal, La BloGoteca de Babel

Professional opportunities

Spanish graduates are prepared for work in a variety of fields including teaching careers at the high school, community college, and university levels, international careers like study abroad administration and teaching English abroad, and business careers such as banking, economics, and international business.

Many of our graduates have also pursued service opportunities with organizations including US Latino/a/x serving organizations, AmeriCorps, and the Peace Corps. Others have enrolled in Ph.D. Programs in Literature, Linguistics, Second Language Acquisition, Cultural Studies, and more.



"This program really opens doors. The study abroad opportunity, the one-on-one interaction with engaging and distinguished faculty, and the push to pursue individual academic interests all made for excellent training."

— Dr. Matthew Barrile '11
Manager of Instructional Design and Development,
Univ. of Southern California

Admission requirements

Applicants to the MA or Dual MA programs should have an undergraduate major or minor in Spanish, and/or have a record of study in a Spanish speaking country, and/or be heritage or native speakers of the Spanish language. Note: Applicants who do not meet these requirements may be admitted in some circumstances.

The program strongly recommends that applicants have a minimum of a 3.0/4.0 undergraduate grade point average (GPA). Applicants are required to submit scanned copies of official or unofficial transcripts from all institutions where a degree was obtained. Upon admission, final official or notarized copies of transcripts from all institutions where degrees were earned and diplomas from international institutions must be submitted.

All applicants must submit a personal statement in Spanish, a writing sample in Spanish, and three (3) letters of recommendation. Optional additional materials are accepted, such as a resume/CV.

International applicants are also required to submit scores from the International English Language Testing System (IELTS), the Pearson Test of English Academic (PTEA), or the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). International students may take English proficiency classes as part of their degree program.

Cost of tuition

Please refer to www.bgsu.edu/offices/bursar for current information on tuition and fees.

Financial assistance

Full-time graduate students are eligible to receive a scholarship package including (up to full) tuition waivers to cover tuition costs and non-resident fees, plus a stipend for on-campus study and study abroad, if applicable.

Domestic students enrolled in four (4) or more credit hours are eligible to apply for financial aid using the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to calculate student contribution and financial need. You may apply online at www.fafsa.ed.gov.

Curriculum

A total of 36 credit hours of coursework at the graduate level are required, as well as a two-part comprehensive exam.

Sample Course Offerings (3 credit hours each)

- SPAN 6010: Teaching College Spanish
- SPAN 6200: Contemporary Spanish Civilization
- SPAN 6210: Contemporary Latin American Cultural Discourses
- SPAN 6260: Issues in Contemporary Mexican Literature and Culture
- SPAN 6270: Spanish American Cinema
- SPAN 6290: Latin American and Caribbean Music, Art, and Literature
- SPAN 6350: History & Identity in Spanish American Literature & Film
- SPAN 6360: Spanish American Women Writers
- SPAN 6550: Hispanic Linguistics
- SPAN 6800: Postcolonial Latin America
- SPAN 6800: Heritage Language Pedagogy
- SPAN 6800: Second Language Acquisition

Comprehensive Exam

Part I: Over the course of the first year, all Spanish M.A. students take a Qualifying Examination related to key fields and issues within "Spanish Studies": Spanish linguistics, literary criticism, and cultural studies. Specific instructions regarding the format of the exam are distributed prior to the first semester of study.

Part II: During the second year, beyond regular coursework, all students choose between writing a master's Thesis option or a "Final Project" option. Either option will be completed under the guidance of one faculty member director and will culminate with an oral presentation of the thesis or final project to a committee of three professors (including the director) by the end of the second year.

How to apply

Visit the BGSU Graduate College website at www.bgsu.edu/graduate/admissions.

For fall admission and funding consideration, the priority application deadline is February 15. Applications received after that date will be reviewed on a rolling basis.

