SPANISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE (SPAP)

Graduate Degree Program
College: Arts and Humanities

Abstract
The Faculty of the Department of Spanish and Portuguese is committed
to excellence in teaching and mentoring, along with the production
of new knowledge that is the hallmark of a strong department. We are
known for our focus on intersections between language, literature,
culture, and politics, our community engagement, and our MA track
in Hispanic Applied Linguistics. We bridge several intellectual fields
across Spain and Spanish America and between North, Central and South
America, the Caribbean, and Brazil, as we rethink the specificity of our
cultures. The Department has been the home of major Latin American
and Spanish literary figures, to include Juan Ramon Jimenez, who taught
at the University between 1943 and 1951 and who, after being nominated
by the Department, received the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1956. His
legacy, as well as that of cultural critic Angel Rama, award-winning poet
Jose Emilio Pacheco, award winning writer and Professor Emeritus, Jorge
Aguilar Mora, and Professor Emerita, Graciela Palau de Nemes, among
others, continues to shape our thought, vision, and mission.

The Department is renowned for its multidisciplinary strengths in
Latin American and Lusophone literatures and cultures as well as its
faculty research in the areas of the history of ideas, Southern Cone
literature, Judeo-Latin American literature, Mexican literature, theater,
and performance, Latin American modernismo, colonial and transatlantic
discourses, Central American transnational cultures, U.S. Latinidades,
Quechua language and indigenous literatures, Caribbean-Archipelagic
poetics/politics, salsa and sabor, Brazilian cinema, Lusophone Africa and
African diaspora studies, deconstruction of the Cuban Revolution, and
contemporary reinscriptions of the nineteenth century.

Faculty members in the area of Spanish literature are recognized for their
work in the history of the Spanish language and philology from the Middle
Ages to the present, Medieval historiography and women narratives,
Golden Age poetics, Cervantes and Quevedo traditions, revisions of the
Enlightenment, romanticism (journalism and costumbrismo) and realism
(philosophical traditions), modern and postmodern narrative and poetics,
as well as representations of the Spanish Civil War and exile, particularly
in Latin America.

The Department is also at the forefront of Spanish Applied Linguistics,
language teaching pedagogy, language teacher education, language
use and identity, social and political issues in foreign language
teaching and learning, instructional technology, learner variables and
learning disabilities, language for specific purposes, cross-cultural
communication, and heritage language learning.

Mission
The Department of Spanish and Portuguese seeks to forge a strong
dialogue between, and within, our areas of specialization pertaining
to Latin America, Spain, and Portugal. To that end, we offer thorough
instruction in the diverse, complex, and globalized literatures, cultures,
and linguistics of the Spanish and Portuguese-speaking world. Our
students not only develop the critical language skills to communicate
in the target language but also gain an understanding of the cultures,
politics, histories, and literatures of the communities and national spaces
of the Americas, Spain, and Portugal.

Our goal is to foster learning and thought, develop critical perspectives,
and promote intellectual growth in our students. We teach across
interdisciplinary fields such as literature, film, popular and visual culture,
theatre, history, philosophy, critical theory, gender and queer studies,
philology, and linguistics in different cultural and geographic contexts.
We strive for the creation and discussion of new forms of knowledge
and the effective engagement of our students and faculty with the world.
We prepare students to become promising professionals in their chosen
careers.

Our M.A. and Ph.D. graduates are mentored by our faculty, engage in
substantive research projects, and benefit from rigorous training in the
teaching skills required by the profession. They are prepared to meet the
professional demands of highly competitive academic positions in the
United States and Latin America.

Financial Assistance
Financial assistance in the form of fellowships and assistantships is
available for qualified applicants.

Contact
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For information regarding the MA in Hispanic Applied Linguistics please
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Email: mlacorte@umd.edu (rlong12@umd.edu)
Website: http://sllc.umd.edu/spanish (http://sllc.umd.edu/spanish/)

Courses: SPAN (https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/graduate/courses/
span/)

Relationships: American Studies (AMST) (https://
academiccatalog.umd.edu/graduate/programs/american-studies-amst/)
Comparative Literature (CMLT) (https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/
graduate/programs/comparative-literature-cmlt/) English Language
and Literature (ENGL) (https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/graduate/
programs/english-language-literature-engl/) Second Language
Acquisition (SLPH) (https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/graduate/
programs/second-language-acquisition-slm/)
Theatre and Performance Studies (THPF) (https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/
graduate/programs/theatre-performance-studies-thpf/) Women’s Studies (WMST) (https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/graduate/programs/womens-studies-wmst/)

Admissions

General Requirements

• Statement of Purpose
• Transcript(s): Minimum 12 credits upper level literature/culture courses.
• TOEFL/IELTS/PTE (international graduate students (https://gradschool.umd.edu/admissions/english-language-proficiency-requirements/))

Program-Specific Requirements

• 3 Letters of Recommendation: The letters of recommendation must be in English or notarized translation.
• Writing Sample: A research paper written in Spanish, uploaded to the Upload Requirements section of the application.
• CV/Resume
• Description of Research/Work Experience (optional)
• Portfolio PDF Upload (optional)

In addition to Graduate School requirements, candidates must have a bachelor’s degree with a major in Spanish Language and Literature, or the equivalent in a related field with near native fluency in the written and spoken language.

For more admissions information or to apply to the program, please visit our Graduate School website (https://gradschool.umd.edu/admissions/application-process/step-step-guide-applying/).

Application Deadlines

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<tr>
<th>Type of Applicant</th>
<th>Fall Deadline</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Domestic Applicants</td>
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<tr>
<td>US Citizens and Permanent Residents</td>
<td>January 18, 2023</td>
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<tr>
<td>International Applicants</td>
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<tr>
<td>F (student) or J (exchange visitor) visas; A,E,G,H,I and L visas and immigrants</td>
<td>January 18, 2023</td>
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Other Deadlines: Please visit the program website at http://sllc.umd.edu/spanish (http://sllc.umd.edu/spanish/)

Requirements

• Spanish Language and Literature, Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.)
  (https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/graduate/programs/spanish-language-literature-spap/spanish-language-literature-phd/)
• Spanish Language and Literature, Master of Arts (M.A.)
  (https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/graduate/programs/spanish-language-literature-spap/spanish-language-literature-ma/)

Facilities and Special Resources

In addition to the resources of the University libraries, students have easy access to the Library of Congress, the Smithsonian Institution and other Washington-based libraries and archives. National Archives-II, located on University grounds, is readily accessible to the Campus community. Dr. Sosnowski is the founder and editor of the literary journal Hispamérica. The graduate students publish Animal de fondo.

In association with the Latin American Studies Center, the Department promotes original initiatives on Latin American topics. Postdoctoral Fellows and Visiting Professors are an integral part of our academic program. Also the Department hosts the Juan Ramón Jiménez Distinguished Lectures, the José Emilio Pacheco Distinguished Series, the interdisciplinary seminar “Hoy: Interdisciplinary Approaches to the Present”, and a series of lectures. In recent years, our faculty has been the recipient of major grants and fellowships from The Rockefeller Foundation, the National Endowment for the Humanities and the John Simon Guggenheim Foundation.