Spanish and Portuguese Studies (SPS) offers a Bachelor in Arts in Spanish and Master of Arts degree in Hispanic Studies. In autumn 2013, we admitted our first cohort of students in our innovative new PhD program.

Undergraduates expand and refine their language skills while engaging in the study of literature written in Spanish, as well as Hispanic cultural studies and linguistics. The BA prepares graduates for advanced degrees in education and doctoral programs, as well as careers in business, law, and medicine. In recognition of the growing importance of Spanish, many of our students are double majors.

Our rigorous MA program attracts students from Latin America, Spain and the U.S. Recruiting from the same pool of applicants, our PhD features unique emphasis on public humanities. It is the first program in the country to do this. Our department trains a significant number of Washington state's teachers of Spanish.

Our department offers many enriching opportunities for studying abroad. Our students can study in many different cities of Latin America and Spain, including Cádiz and León in Spain, Oaxaca (Mexico), and Quito (Ecuador). The programs range from second- to fourth-year of study in language, literature, and culture. These popular programs feature home stays with host families, field trips, and opportunities for internships.

Third-year Spanish sponsors numerous service learning opportunities, providing students the opportunity become engaged in their community and further their knowledge of language and culture. Through service learning opportunities, students engage in meaningful collaborations with local Spanish-speaking communities in Seattle as they become global citizens. The success of study abroad and experiential learning has led us to require all Spanish majors to do one or the other as part of their degree requirement.

Spanish and Portuguese Studies is home to the Center for Heritage Learning, which serves heritage learners in our programs at UW as well as supports heritage learner initiatives in the high schools and fosters community engagement.
Research

Our scholarly interests are board and varied, ranging over the literature, culture, and linguistic profiles of 20 Spanish-speaking countries as well as Portugal and Brazil. We have formed intellectual partnerships across campus, and most of our faculty hold joint or adjunct appointments in Comparative Literature, Latin American and Caribbean Studies, Jewish Studies, and European Studies, or work closely with the Simpson Center of the Humanities and the Center for West European Studies. Recent scholarly and creative activities include publications by a highly regarded Latin American poet on our faculty, as well as monographs on Cervantes, modern urbanism and urbanity, early modern book production, and specialized articles on linguistics and various topics on literature and culture.

Outreach

Spanish and Portuguese Studies considers relationships with its communities—university, local, and statewide, including the Hispanic, Brazilian, Native Latin American, Afro-Latin American, and Sephardic Jewish communities—a vital part of its mission. Outreach activities, most of which are open to the public, include readings by distinguished Spanish, Latin American, and U.S. Latino authors; lectures by recognized scholars; workshops for K-12 teachers; film series; conferences and symposia; music and dance performances; and service learning courses that send students into the community as volunteers.

We work closely with community organizations such as Seattle Arts and Lectures, the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM) Center for Mexican Studies at UW, Casa Latina, Centro de la Raza, Entre Hermanos, Puentes, Consulado de México, Immigrant Families Advocacy Project (IFAP), Latino Community Fund of Washington, and St. Vincent de Paul.

Faculty

Spanish and Portuguese Studies faculty have received major awards, including:

1. American Book Award
2. Fulbright Awards
3. National Endowment for the Humanities grants
4. UW Royalty Research Fund awards
5. Simpson Center Society of Scholars fellowships

![Monte Alban, Oaxaca, Mexico](image)

FACULTY (Autumn 2016)

- 3 Professors
- 3 Associate Professors
- 1 Assistant Professor
- 1 Principal Lecturer
- 1 Senior Lecturer
- 7 Lecturers
- 1 Teaching Associate
- 5 Emeritus Associate
- 1 Visiting Lecturer

AREAS OF SCHOLARSHIP AND RESEARCH

- Twentieth-century Latin American Poetry
- Twentieth-century Spanish Poetry
- Mexican Literature
- Colonial Latin American Literature
- Literature of the Spanish Golden Age
- Art and Literature of the Spanish Civil War
- Spanish, Mexican, and Chicano Film Studies
- Hispanic Cultural Studies
- Medieval Spanish Literature & Oral Hispanic Balladry
- Food and Culture
- Applied Linguistics
- Second Language Acquisition
- Spanish Linguistics

![UW students on Spanish and Portuguese Studies Study Abroad](image)

last update: June 2016