

PhD in Hispanic Studies

Admission Requirements

Applicants are considered on an individual basis. The program will accept and review applications for the fall semester only. Transcripts for all undergraduate and any graduate work must be uploaded along with all other requirements.

In addition to the Graduate College minimum requirements, applicants must meet the following [program requirements](#) (for details, please consult the [department website](#)).

- **Prior Degrees** BA, MA or Equivalent, Spanish or related field.
- **Grade Point Average** At least 3.50/4.00 for all graduate courses.
- **Tests Required** Applicants are urged to take the GRE. Results (if taken) are to be included in CV along with submitting them directly from GRE Testing Institution to Office of Admissions (UIC code is: 1851).
- **Minimum English Competency Test Score**
 - **TOEFL** 80, with subscores of Reading 19, Listening 17, Speaking 20, and Writing 21 (iBT Test); 60, with subscores of Reading 19, Listening 17, Writing 21 (revised Paper-Delivered Test). **OR**,
 - **IELTS** 6.5, with subscores of 6.0 for all four subscores, **OR**,
 - **PTE-Academic** 54, with subscores of Reading 51, Listening 47, Speaking 53, and Writing 56.
 - Results are to be included in CV, as well, as submitting them directly from TOEFL Testing Institution to Office of Admissions (UIC code is: 1851).
- **Samples of Writing in Spanish** Applicants are required to submit two samples of their written work in Spanish in the form of an essay for an academic course.
- **Letters of Recommendation** External applicants with an MA in Hispanic Studies or related field must provide at least three recommendation letters from faculty in the applicant's MA program.
- **Personal Statement** A statement of 500 words is required in which applicants should address their reasons for applying to the Hispanic Studies PhD program in the concentration desired, Hispanic Linguistics or Hispanic Literary and Cultural Studies.
- **CV/Resume** Please include GRE scores (if taken) and TOEFL results (main score and 4 subscores).
- **Transcripts** Applicants must upload transcripts for all undergraduate and any graduate work with all other requirements.
- **Other Requirements** Students who enter the PhD program with an MA awarded by a department in a related field may be required upon admission to take complementary course work as appropriate in consultation with the advisor.
- **Nondegree Applicants** None at the PhD level.
- **Deadlines** [Application deadlines](#) for this program are listed on the Graduate College website.

Degree Requirements

In addition to the Graduate College minimum requirements, students must meet the following program requirements:

- **Minimum Semester Hours Required** 96 from the baccalaureate.
- **Course Work** In addition to the stated 37 hours for the master's degree or their equivalent, candidates must complete:

Course	Title
Courses Required for Both Concentrations	
LCSL 504	Professional Development Workshop II
Didactic course work at 400- and 500-levels (a minimum of 32 hours)	

Hispanic Literary and Cultural Studies Concentration

Course	Title
Concentration Courses	
A minimum of 8 graduate courses (32 hours), which must include the following:	
SPAN 535	Concepts and Methodologies in Hispanic Literary and Cultural Studies
Two additional 500-level courses	
Five electives at the 400- or 500-level chosen in consultation with the graduate advisor	
Graduate courses directly related to the field of study may be taken outside the department in consultation with the student's academy advisor.	

Course	Title
Electives exclude the following courses:	
LCSL 502	Theoretical and Research Foundations of Communicative Language Teaching
LCSL 503	Professional Development Workshop I
LCSL 504	Professional Development Workshop II
SPAN 590	Preliminary Examination and Dissertation Prospectus Preparation
SPAN 596	Independent Study
SPAN 598	M.A. Thesis Research
SPAN 599	Ph.D. Thesis Research

Hispanic Linguistics Concentration

Course	Title
Concentration Courses	
A minimum of 8 graduate courses (32 hours) which must include the following:	
SPAN 510	Advanced Spanish Phonology
SPAN 512	Syntactic theory and Spanish syntax
Three additional 500-level courses	
Three electives at the 400- or 500-level chosen in consultation with the graduate advisor. Electives may be taken in other UIC programs and departments as long as they relate to the student's concentration and are approved by the student's academic advisor.	

Course	Title
Electives exclude the following courses:	
LCSL 502	Theoretical and Research Foundations of Communicative Language Teaching
LCSL 503	Professional Development Workshop I

LCSL 504	Professional Development Workshop II
SPAN 590	Preliminary Examination and Dissertation Prospectus Preparation
SPAN 596	Independent Study
SPAN 598	M.A. Thesis Research
SPAN 599	Ph.D. Thesis Research

Other Requirements

- **Examinations**
 - *Preliminary Examination*: Required; written and oral.
- **Dissertation** Required. No more than 31 hours of SPAN 599 can be applied to the degree. The dissertation should be based on original research in the candidate's concentration, Hispanic Literary and Cultural Studies or Hispanic Linguistics.
- **Other Requirements**
 - Unless exempted by the director of graduate studies, all students must serve as teaching assistants for at least one year.
 - All students will need to demonstrate reading knowledge at a scholarly level of two languages other than Spanish and English. At least one of these needs to be a Romance language. This requirement can only be waived if the candidate holds a BA or equivalent in the language(s) with which he/she wishes to satisfy this requirement.

Interdepartmental Concentrations

Students earning a graduate degree in this department may complement their courses by enrolling in select concentrations after consulting with their graduate advisor. Interdepartmental concentrations available for this degree include:

- [Gender and Women's Studies](#)
- [Latin American and Latino Studies](#)
- [Neuroscience^a](#)
- [Violence Studies](#)

^a Available to doctoral students in the Hispanic Linguistics Concentration.