

Department of Hispanic and Italian Studies

Contact Information:

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Administration:

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The formal study of Spanish and Italian consists of courses in language at the basic, intermediate, and advanced levels, as well as courses in linguistics and the literature and culture of the countries where these languages are spoken.

The Department of Hispanic and Italian Studies offers programs leading to the Bachelor of Arts with majors in Spanish (with an optional concentration in Spanish for the Professions) and in the Teaching of Spanish. Minors are offered in Spanish, Spanish for the Professions, and Italian and Italian American Studies, in addition to a Certificate of Academic Spanish for Heritage Speakers.

The Spanish and Italian major and minor programs expose students to innovative critical and theoretical approaches to literary, cultural, and linguistic studies. Thus, a student majoring or minoring in Spanish or Italian acquires skills in critical thinking, analytical ability, and language proficiency that provide a solid foundation for graduate and professional studies, as well as a variety of careers. Teacher education forms an integral part of the department's offerings in Spanish.

BA with a Major in Spanish

The BA with a Major in Spanish allows students to pursue the study of the Spanish language through a diverse set of subjects that include literature, cultural studies, linguistics, and professional and medical Spanish. Students can focus on one or more of these subjects, depending on their academic and future professional goals. While many students complete the major as their singular field of interest, many others complete the degree as a double-major together with one of the many other offerings present in LAS and UIC. Students in this major will be able to:

- Develop advanced oral and written proficiencies in the Spanish language.
- Bolster their overall critical thinking, analytical, oral communication, and writing skills.
- Acquire an advanced level of cultural competency and awareness of social justice as they pertain to the Hispanic world.
- Acquire an advanced level of knowledge in the field of Hispanic Linguistics.

Minor in Italian and Italian American Studies

The Department of Hispanic and Italian Studies offers a Minor in Italian and Italian American Studies. Through course work, study

abroad and internship experience, mentoring, and other social and cultural encounters, the minor advances learners' proficiency in global communication skills, critical thinking and problem solving, and engagement with the ideological and concrete realities of their own world, enhancing their opportunities for careers and advanced study at the local, national, and international levels.

Portuguese

Portuguese serves the Spanish major through its courses for speakers of Romance languages.

Study Abroad Programs—Spanish

The Spanish program strongly encourages all majors to take advantage of the variety of study abroad opportunities in Spanish-speaking countries available to UIC students, including faculty-led summer programs in Alcalá de Henares, Spain and Oaxaca, Mexico. A significant portion of the credits for the major in Spanish may be earned through Study Abroad Programs. Majors will be awarded credit hours for courses completed abroad that are equivalent to courses offered at UIC by the Spanish Program. Approval for course equivalencies is required from the director of undergraduate studies for the Spanish program. For information on other study abroad opportunities please visit the [UIC Study Abroad Office](#).

Study Abroad Programs—Italian

The Italian program encourages all students to take advantage of the variety of study abroad opportunities in Italy available to UIC students (e.g., faculty-directed programs, Fall or Spring term, or Summer term). Students who wish to be considered for study abroad should consult the director of undergraduate studies concerning prerequisites and requirements. For general information about study abroad opportunities, please visit the [UIC Study Abroad office](#).

Endorsement for the Teaching of Spanish

Endorsement is available to students obtaining full licensure in an approved UIC Teacher Education major. To teach Spanish as a second subject in Illinois public schools one must apply for, meet all requirements, and receive an Endorsement from the State Board of Education. For information on requirements and application procedures for a second subject endorsement in Spanish, contact the Council on Teacher Education.

Endorsement for the Teaching of Italian

Endorsement is available to students obtaining full licensure in an approved UIC Teacher Education major. To teach Italian as a second subject in Illinois public schools one must apply for, meet all requirements, and receive an Endorsement from the State Board of Education. For information on requirements and application procedures for a second subject endorsement in Italian, contact the Council on Teacher Education.

Distinction

Students who earn a 3.75/4.00 GPA in all courses taken in the Department of Hispanic and Italian Studies at UIC will be awarded departmental distinction.

Degree Programs

- BA with a Major in Spanish
- BA with a Major in Spanish, Concentration in Spanish for the Professions
- BA in the Teaching of Spanish
- BA with a Major in Italian (suspended)

Minors

- Minor in Spanish
- Minor in Spanish for the Professions
- Minor in Italian and Italian American Studies

Campus Certificate

- Certificate for Academic Spanish for Heritage Speakers