Hispanic Literatures and Culture

Spanish is the second most widely spoken language in the world and the second language of the United States. In our society, knowing Spanish is not just an asset; it is increasingly a necessity. The Spanish language program offers a sequence of courses ranging from basic to advanced. Students at all levels develop proficiency in speaking, listening, reading, and writing while also studying the cultures and societies of the contemporary Spanish-speaking world. The Hispanic Literatures and Culture concentration enables students to develop advanced Spanish skills while acquiring a solid background in the complex history, literature, cultures, and intellectual traditions of Spain, Latin America, and the Latino-U.S. The department offers a variety of courses on topics related to literary history and theory; multicultural contact; linguistics and the history of the language; visual culture, film, and performance studies. Interdisciplinarity is a hallmark of the department, and students in this concentration are encouraged to broaden their perspectives by taking relevant courses in other departments. Most choose to strengthen their academic preparation by participating in a study abroad program in Spain or Latin America and by engaging with Hispanic communities in the United States.

The concentration requires a minimum of ten courses. 700-level courses provide fundamental tools for critical analysis and opportunities for developing advanced skills in the Spanish language. In courses at the 1000 level, students explore particular authors, genres, periods, or special topics and continue to hone their skills in literary and cultural analysis.

Prerequisite

HISP 0600 Advanced Spanish II (Pre-requisite)

Required courses: one of the following 0700 level courses

HISP 0730 Encounters: Latin America in Its Literature and Culture
HISP 0740 Intensive Survey of Spanish Literature
HISP 0760 Transatlantic Crossings: Readings in Hispanic Literatures

Up to two more 0700 level courses including, additionally:

HISP 0710 Culture and Advanced Spanish Language (any course in the series)
HISP 0750 Topics in Hispanic Culture/Civilization (any course in the series)

Elective Courses

Select at least three 1000-level courses in Hispanic Studies at Brown. These provide more specialized preparation in major areas of Hispanic Studies, including works and topics from across the centuries and pertaining to both Spain and Latin America. Concentrators must take at least six courses (at either the 0700 or 1000 level, with a maximum of three 0700 level courses) in Hispanic Studies at Brown, including one with the WRIT designation.

Concentrators are reminded that up to four related courses from Study Abroad, transfer credit, and other departments at Brown (e.g., Comparative Literature, History, Ethnic Studies, Anthropology) may be applied toward the concentration in Hispanic Studies as long as they deal with Spanish or Latin American themes and/or Peninsular or Latin American culture. While there is a list of acceptable related Brown courses on the Hispanic Studies website, individual courses may be discussed with the Concentration Advisor on a case by case basis. Please note that a maximum of two courses for the concentration can be taken in English, and one course can be taken S/NC. Students planning to pursue honors in the concentration must take all courses for a grade.

Total Credits = 10

E-Portfolio: As their capstone work, all Hispanic Studies concentrators must complete an E-Portfolio in ASK in their last year of studies. We encourage you to share your written work, your projects, and your reflections on concentration-related experiences (study abroad, community work, internships, etc.) with the wider public at Brown and beyond, but only as you see fit.

Honors Thesis or Project

Students with an excellent record in their Hispanic Studies courses will be eligible to write an Honors Thesis or write and produce an Honors Project. Typically the Honors Thesis is a major research paper of approximately 40 to 80 pages in Spanish, depending on the topic and treatment necessary. Alternatively, a student may, with prior permission of the Hispanic Studies Concentration Advisor, present a film, gallery exhibition, or other appropriate project, together with a paper that clearly demonstrates the academic foundations and relevance of the project. For additional details regarding Honors Thesis in Hispanic Studies, please refer to our website or consult with the Concentration Advisor.

Concentration Advisor:
Silvia Sobral
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This document should contain certain fonts with restrictive licenses. For this draft, substitutions were made using less legally restrictive fonts. Specifically:
Helvetica was used instead of Arial.
The editor may contact Leepfrog for a draft with the correct fonts in place.