What courses do Spanish majors take?

Spanish majors take an exciting array of courses that cover a broad range of topics dealing with the literatures, cultures and linguistic systems of Spain, Latin America, Brazil and Portugal. Courses may explore different historical periods or authors, diverse genres like theater or cinema, special topics and current affairs, or Spanish linguistics (applied, comparative, historical, and theoretical). After completing a set of core requirements that offer a solid foundation of cultural and linguistic knowledge, Spanish majors—in close contact with faculty/staff advisors—choose a series of electives that address their own intellectual passions. Among the varied courses Spanish majors take are:

- Cinema of the Spanish Speaking World
- Chicano Culture
- History of the Spanish Language
- Brazilian Literature and Culture
- Portuguese for Spanish-Speaking Students
- Golden Age Literature of Spain
- Great Works of Latin American Literature
**Where can I study abroad?**

Majors and minors are strongly encouraged to take advantage of the many available study abroad Programs: UC Education Abroad Program (UCEAP), the official study abroad program for the University of California, UC Davis Quarter Abroad, UC Davis Summer Abroad, and Independent Programs. Not only do these programs help students perfect their language skills, they also provide first-hand cultural immersions that make students more informed global citizens.

**What is the faculty like?**

The faculty is made up of experts in diverse fields of Spanish and Portuguese language and culture. All are passionate researchers and dedicated, dynamic teachers. The Chronicle of Higher Education ranked our department first in the nation for all public and private universities in the area of faculty research productivity.

**What can I do with my Spanish major?**

Spanish majors have gone on to pursue successful careers in a variety of fields. Some are drawn to education, and have found work in primary schools, high schools and universities across the country and beyond. Others use their Spanish major as a springboard to graduate school, law, business or EVEN medical school. Others are hired by national and international firms directly after graduation.

- International business liaison
- Medical school / Health care industry
- Graduate school in Education / Teaching
- Special events/arts industry professional
- Law career
- Marketing & Business

“**As a future physician, my major in Spanish helped me connect to my patients both linguistically and culturally.**

During my time at UC Davis, I volunteered at the free student-run Imani Clinic and worked as a Spanish translator there. This helped improve my bedside manner and made me a stronger applicant for medical school. Today, I still use my language skills to care for underserved Spanish speaking communities in the free MEDIC clinics at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health. Although I knew that I wanted to go to medical school during my time at UC Davis, I never would have imagined that I would end up majoring in Spanish. **After taking a few classes out of interest, I realized how important Spanish could be for me and my career goals.**”

Kirollos Gendi (2nd yr. Medical School Student), Graduated - June 2012