

March 30, 2016

**TO: MARIA COLOMBI**, Spanish Department Chair  
**ANA PELUFFO**, Spanish Graduate Program Chair

**FROM: KYAW THA PAW U**, Graduate Council Chair

**RE: Spanish Graduate Program Degree Requirements**

Enclosed is a copy of the Spanish Graduate Program degree requirements as approved by Graduate Council on March 17, 2016. These degree requirements are now the official requirements for the Spanish Graduate Program and will be posted on the Office of Graduate Studies program webpage:

<https://gradstudies.ucdavis.edu/programs/gspa>

Thank you for your efforts on behalf of graduate education.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kyaw Tha Paw U".

Kyaw Tha Paw U, Chair  
Graduate Council

c: Nicole Baumgarth, Graduate Council Vice Chair  
Regan Scott-Chin, Graduate Studies Analyst  
Mandy Bachman, Program Coordinator

# **GRADUATE PROGRAM IN SPANISH DEGREE REQUIREMENTS**

**Revised: May 29, 2014**

**Graduate Council Approval: March 17, 2016**

## **M.A. PROGRAM**

### **1) Admission Requirements**

The Department offers a program of study leading to the M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in Spanish, with an emphasis in Spanish & Latin American literatures or Linguistics. Candidates will be recommended for admission to graduate study in Spanish provided they meet the requirements of the Graduate Studies office and the Graduate Program in Spanish:

- B.A. degree in Spanish or its equivalent
- 3.0 minimum GPA
- Three letters of recommendation
- Audio sample of Spanish language proficiency
- Sample of recent written work in Spanish
- TOEFL or IELTS scores, if required
- A complete online Office of Graduate Studies application, which includes a personal history statement and statement of purpose.

a) Prerequisites: N/A

b) Deficiencies: N/A

### **2) M.A. degree in Spanish, Plan II (comprehensive exam)**

This plan requires 36 units of graduate and upper division courses, all of which must be graduate courses in the major field. Not more than 4 units of research (299 or equivalent) may be used to satisfy the unit requirement. A comprehensive final examination in the major subject is required of each candidate. No thesis is required.

### **3) Course Requirements - Core and Electives (36 units total)**

**Students must choose a specialization in either Literature or Linguistics.**

#### **A) Specialization in Literature (Spanish and Latin American)**

##### **1) Required Core Courses (5 units total):**

SPA 203 Research Methodology (1 unit)

SPA 201 (4 units)

##### **2) Elective Courses (31 units total):**

Required electives:

- One course in linguistics, selected from SPA 205-215 or SPA 291 (4 units)

- Two courses in Spanish literary and cultural studies, selected from SPA 222-224 or SPA 252-265 (8 units total)
- Two courses in Latin American literary and cultural studies, selected from SPA 230-231 or SPA 272-285 (8 units total)
- Other electives for an additional 11 units: three (or more) graduate level courses taken within the Department of Spanish & Portuguese chosen with the approval of the advisor.

Students may take one course (4 of the 36 units) outside the Department of Spanish & Portuguese according to their research interests and academic needs.

### **3) Summary for the specialization in literature:**

36 units total: 5 units of required core coursework and 31 units of elective coursework. All units must be graduate level. No more than 4 units of SPA 299 may be included in this total. Minimum course load is 12 units each academic quarter. Per UC regulations students cannot enroll in more than 12 units of graduate level courses (200) per quarter.

### **B. Specialization in Linguistics**

#### **1) Required Core Courses (29 units total):**

- SPA 203 Research Methodology (1 unit)
- SPA 205 Spanish Phonology (4 units)
- SPA 206 Spanish Syntax (4 units)
- SPA 207 History of the Spanish Language (4 units)
- SPA 212 Applied Linguistics (4 units)
- One course in Spanish or Latin-American Literature (4 units)
- Two additional linguistics courses within the Department of Spanish & Portuguese (8 units total)

**2) Elective Courses (7 units total):** Two elective seminars chosen in consultation with the Graduate Advisor. Students may take these courses outside of the department according to their research interests and academic needs.

#### **3) Summary for the specialization in linguistics:**

36 units total: 21 units of required core coursework and 15 units of elective coursework. All units must be graduate level. No more than 4 units of SPA 299 may be included in this total. Minimum course load is 12 units each academic quarter.

#### **4) Special Requirements**

New graduate students with teaching appointments are required to take SPA 390 (The Teaching of Spanish in College) during their first quarter of teaching. Exceptions can be made for students with acceptable prior teaching experience. Students have the option of enrolling in 4 units of SPA 396 (Teaching Assistant Training Practicum) in any quarter in which they are teaching.

#### **5) Committees:**

##### **a) Admission Committee**

Once the completed application, all supporting material, and the application fee have been received, the application is submitted to the Admissions Committee. The admissions committee is the same as the Graduate Program Committee. This committee is appointed by the Department Chair and consists of the Graduate Program Chair and representatives from each area of specialization. Based on a review of the entire application, a recommendation is made to accept or decline an applicant's request for admission. That recommendation is forwarded to the Dean of Graduate Studies for formal approval of admission. Notification of admissions decisions will be sent by Graduate Studies. Applications must be submitted by the published deadlines to receive consideration.

#### **b) Course Guidance or Advising Committee**

Students are required to meet with the appropriate graduate mentor/advisor (see section #6, below) at the beginning of the first quarter of study and are strongly encouraged to meet with them each quarter thereafter.

#### **c) Comprehensive Examination Committee**

The comprehensive exam committee is determined by the Graduate Program Committee and consists of three professors from the program, who compose and administer the exam.

### **6) Advising Structure and Mentoring**

Our program believes that mentoring is a key aspect of a graduate student's experience. As students are admitted to the program they will be assigned a **graduate mentor (also called Major Professor)** for their first year. By the end of the first year, students should choose their own graduate mentor from among departmental faculty in their field. Their mentor will advise them regarding their degree requirements and encourage their professional development. (Mentoring guidelines can be found at <http://www.gradstudies.ucdavis.edu/gradcouncil/mentoring.pdf>.)

The **Graduate Advisor**, who is appointed by Graduate Studies, is a general resource for information on academic requirements, policies and procedures, and registration information for all students in the program. S/He has signatory authority for student petitions and forms.

### **7) Advancement to Candidacy**

MA students and the Graduate Advisor must complete the Candidacy application after completing one-half of their course requirements and prior to the quarter in which they take the comprehensive exam. Students normally advance to candidacy in the 5<sup>th</sup> quarter. The Candidacy form for the Master's Degree can be found online at: <http://gradstudies.ucdavis.edu/forms/index.html>. A completed form includes a list of courses the student will take to complete the degree requirements. If changes must be made to the student's course plan after s/he has advanced to candidacy, the Graduate Advisor must recommend these changes to Graduate Studies. If the Office of Graduate Studies determines that a student is not eligible for advancement, the department and the student will be told the reasons for the application's deferral. Some reasons for deferring include: GPA below 3.0, outstanding "I" grades in required courses, or insufficient units.

### **8) Comprehensive Examination Requirements**

**When students take the exam, they must be registered or in current filing fee status.** The results of the examination are reported by the committee to Graduate Studies using the Master's Report Form found at <http://www.gradstudies.ucdavis.edu/forms/>

### **A) Specialization in Literature**

i) Timing: The M.A. comprehensive exam is taken at the end of all coursework, typically in the sixth quarter of graduate study. At least one month prior to the exam, the student must advance to candidacy for the M.A.. See the graduate program coordinator for details. The exam committee and its chair are determined by the Graduate Program Committee and consists of three professors from the department, who compose and administer the exam; the chair of the exam committee may be the student's Major Professor.

The comprehensive exam contains two parts: an 8-hour written exam and a subsequent 1-hour oral exam. The format of the written exam is a combination of four essay questions and five brief identifications from a selection of ten.

The exam is based on the M.A. Reading List, which is drawn from all the required courses (see Graduate Handbook: <http://spanish.ucdavis.edu/en/handbook>). Students are responsible for all texts on the reading list, although probably not all will be covered on the exam due to time constraints. The questions are divided into the following sub-fields: Medieval/Golden Age, Modern/Contemporary Peninsular; Pre-1900, Modern/Contemporary Latin American.

The written exam, to which students may not bring any notes or reference materials, lasts one full day, from 8 am to 5 pm. Students are given the complete exam at 8 am and must turn in their typed responses by 5 pm. Students are required to take from a minimum of a half hour to a maximum of hour for a lunch break. Students should not look at any notes or reference materials during their break. There is no minimum or maximum number of pages for this exam; as a rough guideline, answers generally range from two to five double spaced pages for each question.

Following completion of the written exam, the oral exam is scheduled within the next seven days.

ii) Outcome: Should a student not pass either the written or oral component of the comprehensive exam, they will be allowed one additional retake of the exam, but only if the Graduate Advisor agrees. The second attempt will be scheduled within one quarter and will cover only the part(s) of the exam that the student failed. Students who fail to retake the exam within one quarter or who do not pass on the second attempt will be recommended to the Dean of Graduate Studies for disqualification from the program.

Students are encouraged to look at previous exams, which are available from the graduate program staff. There is available a list of suggested critical readings to accompany the M.A. Reading List. These readings are not required, but are provided to guide students in preparing for the exam. Students should also consult professors for guidance and assistance in preparing for the exam.

### **B) Specialization in Linguistics**

i) Timing: The M.A. comprehensive exam is taken at the end of all coursework, typically in the sixth quarter of graduate study. At least one month prior to the exam, the student must advance to candidacy for the M.A.. See the graduate program coordinator for details. The exam committee is determined by the Graduate Program Committee and consists of three professors from the department, who compose and administer the exam.

The comprehensive exam consists of an 8-hour written exam. The format of the written exam is six essay questions from three topics; two for each topic. The exam is based on the M.A. Reading List, which is drawn from all the required courses (see Graduate Handbook: <https://spanish.ucdavis.edu/en/handbook>). Students are responsible for all texts on the reading lists in the fields that they choose, although probably not all will be covered on the exam due to time constraints. Students choose two fields from among Phonology/Dialectology, History of Spanish, and Syntax; and one field from among Literature, Pragmatics, Semantics, Sociolinguistics, and Applied Linguistics.

The written exam, to which students may not bring any notes or reference materials, lasts one full day, from 8 am to 5 pm. Students are given the complete exam at 8 am and must turn in their typed responses by 5 pm. Students are required to take from a minimum of a half hour to a maximum of hour for a lunch break. There is no minimum or maximum number of pages for this exam; as a rough guideline, answers generally range from two to five double spaced pages for each question.

ii) Outcome: Should a student not pass the comprehensive exam, they will be allowed one additional retake of the exam, but only if their Graduate Advisor agrees. The second attempt will be scheduled within one quarter. Students who fail to retake the exam with one quarter or who do not pass on the second attempt will be recommended to the Dean of Graduate Studies for disqualification from the program.

Students are encouraged to look at previous exams, which are available from the graduate program staff.

**9) Normative Time to Degree**

Typically, students advanced to candidacy & complete the program in two years (six quarters). The minimum residence requirement for a Masters degree is three regular quarters of full-time enrollment (12 units per quarter). Two six-week summer sessions may be counted as the equivalent of one regular quarter for purposes of satisfying this requirement; a minimum of two units must be taken in each summer session.

<b>NORMAL PROGRESS SCHEDULE QUARTER</b>	<b>REQUIREMENT</b>
<b>1</b>	Meet with a faculty member in your field (potential Major Professor) to plan course of study. TAs teaching Spanish for the first time at UC Davis take SPA 390. Begin taking required courses.

<b>5</b>	Submit Master's Candidacy form to Graduate Studies. Prepare statement of purpose if considering continuing for Ph.D.
<b>6</b>	Graduate Committee selects exam committee members and coordinates with graduate program staff and student to determine exam date. The M.A. comprehensive exam must be taken before the end of the sixth quarter.

## 10) Typical Time Line and Sequence of Events

### Specialization in Literature

#### Year 1:

Fall	Winter	Spring
SPA 390	SPA 396	SPA 396
SPA 396	SPA grad seminar	SPA 201
SPA grad seminar	SPA lit seminar	SPA grad seminar
	SPA 203	

#### Year 2:

Fall	Winter	Spring
SPA 396	SPA 396	SPA 396
SPA grad seminar	SPA linguistics seminar	SPA grad seminar or 299
SPA grad seminar	Elective	SPA grad seminar or 299
		MA Exam

### Specialization in Linguistics

#### Year 1:

Fall	Winter	Spring
SPA 390	SPA 396	SPA 396
SPA 396	SPA 206	SPA 212
SPA 205	Elective	Elective
	SPA 203	

#### Year 2:

Fall	Winter	Spring
SPA 396	SPA 396	SPA 396
SPA literature seminar	SPA elective	SPA elective or 299
SPA 207	Elective	Elective or 299

		M.A. exam
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### **11) Sources of funding**

The Graduate Program Committee would like to ensure that all graduate students know how much financial aid they can expect to receive during their graduate studies in the Spanish Department. This financial aid policy is determined by university and departmental regulations (based on the department's fellowship allocation).

All graduate students making satisfactory progress towards the degree can expect to receive financial support as follows:

- 2 years to complete the M.A. only
- 5 years to complete the Ph.D. only
- or 6 years total to complete both the M.A. and Ph.D.

Financial aid can include student employment, Non-Resident Supplemental Tuition Fellowships, and any other grants and/or fellowships received from the university (for example, dissertation-year fellowships).

All students should remember that Teaching Assistantships are normally granted for 15 quarters of teaching and under no circumstances more than 18 quarters.

Given these limitations, we encourage all graduate students to plan accordingly and obtain appropriate on-going advice from their Major Professor in order to complete their degree in a timely fashion. Please keep in mind that given our limited fellowship allocation, the department cannot provide financial support beyond the limits stated above.

### **12) PELP, In Absentia and Filing Fee status.**

Information about PELP (Planned Educational Leave), In Absentia (reduced fees when researching out of state), and Filing Fee status can be found in the Graduate Student Guide:

<http://www.gradstudies.ucdavis.edu/publications/>



## **PH.D. PROGRAM**

### **1) Admission Requirements**

The Department offers a program of study leading to the M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in Spanish, with an emphasis in Latin American literature, Spanish literature, or linguistics. Candidates will be recommended for admission to graduate study in Spanish provided they meet the requirements of the Graduate Studies office and the Graduate Program in Spanish:

- B.A. degree in Spanish or its equivalent
- 3.0 minimum GPA
- Three letters of recommendation
- Audio sample of Spanish language proficiency
- Sample of recent written work in Spanish
- TOEFL or IELTS scores, if required
- A complete online Office of Graduate Studies application, which includes a personal history statement and statement of purpose.

- a) Prerequisites: N/A
- b) Deficiencies: N/A

### **2) Dissertation Plan B**

Plan B specifies a three member (minimum) dissertation committee, an optional final oral examination (made on an individual basis by the dissertation committee), and no exit seminar.

### **3) Course Requirements- Core and Electives (48 units total)**

Upon entering the program, students will choose a specialization in either literature or linguistics. The specific details of each student's program will be developed in consultation with the Graduate Advisor and/or the student's Major Professor with the following general requirements.

#### **A. Specialization in Literature (Spanish and Latin American)**

##### **1) Required Core Courses (9 units total):**

SPA 203 Research Methodology (1 unit)  
SPA 201 (4 units)  
SPA 202 (4 units)

##### **2) Elective Courses (39 units total):**

Required electives:

- Two courses in linguistics, selected from SPA 205-215 or SPA 291 (8 units total)
- Two courses in Spanish literary and cultural studies, selected from SPA 222-224 or SPA 252-265 (8 units total)

- Two courses in Latin American literary and cultural studies, selected from SPA 230-231 or SPA 272-285 (8 units total)
  - Two additional courses in the area of specialization (Latin American or Spanish Lit – selected from SPA 222-285) (8 units total)
  - Other electives for an additional 7 units: two (or more) graduate level courses chosen under the guidance of the advisor.
- Students may take up to two courses (8 of the required 48 units) outside of the Department of Spanish & Portuguese according to their research interests and academic needs.

### **3) Summary for the specialization in literature:**

48 units total: 9 units of required core coursework and 39 units of elective coursework. All units must be graduate level. The minimum course load is 12 units each academic quarter. Full-time students must enroll for 12 units per quarter including research, academic and seminar units. Courses that fulfill any of the program course requirements may not be taken S/U unless the course is normally graded S/U. Once course requirements are completed, students can take additional classes as needed and/or research class (299). Per UC regulations students cannot enroll in more than 12 units of graduate level courses (200) or more than 16 units of combined undergraduate and graduate level (100, 200, 300) courses per quarter.

## **B. Specialization in Linguistics**

### **1) Required Core Courses (33 units total):**

SPA 203 Research Methodology (1 unit)  
 SPA 205 Spanish Phonology (4 units)  
 SPA 206 Spanish Syntax (4 units)  
 SPA 207 History of the Spanish Language (4 units)  
 SPA 212 Applied Linguistics (4 units)  
 Two courses in Spanish or Latin-American Literature (8 units total)  
 Two additional linguistics courses within the Department of Spanish & Portuguese (8 units total)

### **2) Elective Courses (15 units minimum):**

Four (or more) additional elective graduate level seminars chosen with the approval of the advisor.

### **3) Summary for the specialization in linguistics:**

48 units total: 25 units of required core coursework and 23 units of elective coursework. All units must be graduate level. The minimum course load is 12 units each academic quarter. Full-time students must enroll for 12 units per quarter including research, academic and seminar units. Courses that fulfill any of the program course requirements may not be taken S/U unless the course is normally graded S/U. Once course requirements are completed, students can take additional classes as needed and/or research class (299). Per UC regulations students cannot enroll in more than 12 units of graduate level courses (200) or more than 16 units of combined undergraduate and graduate level (100, 200, 300) courses per quarter.

### **4) Special Requirements**

### **Foreign Language Requirement**

As early as possible, Ph.D. students will demonstrate competence in reading comprehension in two languages other than English and Spanish which are pertinent to the student's research, with at least one of these being French, German, Italian, or Portuguese. The second language can be one of these four languages also. The language requirement must be fulfilled before the qualifying exam.

Students may satisfy language requirements in any of the following ways:

- Take and pass an exam that tests reading comprehension and translation.
- Take and pass with a B+ or better three quarters of the language.
- Take and pass with a B+ or better the third quarter of the language (i.e., FRE 3, ITA 3, etc.)

If a student chooses to take the reading and translation exam, he or she should provide two books of critical literature in his or her subject for approval by the examiner. The exam will consist of material taken from these approved sources. Once the books are approved, the exam is set up by the graduate program staff and the books are returned to the student for final review. The test is made up of two sections: 1) ten or fifteen lines for idiomatic translation into English or Spanish, and 2) a section, chapter, or article for summarizing (not paraphrasing) the main ideas only. The student may use a dictionary and has two (2) hours to complete the exam. The final product must read well in English or Spanish.

### **Optional: Participation in a Designated Emphasis**

Spanish graduate students may participate in a Designated Emphasis (DE), a specialization that might include a new method of inquiry or an important field of application that is related to their existing Ph.D. program. The Designated Emphasis is awarded in conjunction with the Ph.D. degree and is signified by a transcript designation; for example, "Ph.D. in Spanish with a Designated Emphasis in Critical Theory." Programs approved as Designated Emphases include: African American and African Studies; Classics and Classical Receptions; Critical Theory; Feminist Theory and Research; Native American Studies; Second Language Acquisition; and Studies in Performance and Practice.

Students must complete all the requirements for the Spanish program, as well as the courses required for the selected DE (see the following list of DE requirements). A faculty member representing the DE must serve on the student's qualifying exam committee and dissertation committee. The student will be examined on the DE as part of the qualifying exam. Specific questions about DE requirements should be addressed to the staff contact or DE chair. Contact information can be found at <http://www.gradstudies.ucdavis.edu/programs/de.cfm>

## **5) Committees**

### **a) Admission Committee:**

Once the completed application, all supporting material, and the application fee have been received, the application is submitted to the Admissions Committee. The admissions committee is the same as the Graduate Program Committee. This committee is appointed by the Department Chair and consists of the Graduate Program Chair and representatives from each area of specialization. Based on a review of the entire application, a recommendation is made to accept or decline an applicant's

request for admission. That recommendation is forwarded to the Dean of Graduate Studies for formal approval of admission.

#### **b) Course Guidance or Advising Committee**

There is no course guidance committee; instead students are guided in developing a study plan in consultation with one of the Graduate Advisors (first year) and Major Professor (thereafter). While no specific plan of study must be submitted to the department, students are required to meet regularly with their advisors or Major Professors in order to ensure timely compliance with all requirements. A minimum of 12 units are required each quarter for full time students. These 12 units may be made up of required or elective courses and 299s.

#### **c) Qualifying Examination Committee**

At least two months prior to the Qualifying Exam, the student, in consultation with his/her Major Professor and Graduate Advisor, nominates five faculty members to serve on his/her Examination Committee; committees are approved by the Office of Graduate Studies. This committee should consist of the faculty members that the student expects to have on his/her Dissertation Committee, with the caveat that at least one member of the Examination Committee must be from outside the faculty membership of the program and at least three should be from the graduate program. In addition, if the student has completed a Designated Emphasis, at least one member of the Examination Committee must be affiliated with that program. These nominations are submitted to the Chair of the Graduate Committee for approval. Once approved at the departmental level, they are submitted to the Office of Graduate Studies for formal approval in accordance with Graduate council policy (DDB 80. Graduate Council B.1.). The Chair of the Examination Committee may be designated to be any professor except the Major Professor.

#### **d) Dissertation Committee**

Upon passing the qualifying exam, the student, in consultation with his/her Major Professor, nominates three (or more) faculty members to serve on his/her Dissertation Committee. These nominations are submitted to the Chair of the Graduate Committee for program approval. Once approved at the program level, they are submitted to the Office of Graduate Studies for formal approval in accordance with Graduate council policy (DDB 80. Graduate Council B.1.). The Major Professor serves as Chair of the Dissertation Committee.

### **6) Advising Structure and Mentoring**

During their first year, all students will be assigned an advisor in their area of academic interest. Beginning in the second year, the student, in consultation with the Graduate Advisor, will choose a mentor (Major Professor) who will guide them through the rest of their program, including the preparation of an appropriate reading list, which will constitute the basis for qualifying examination. The Department Graduate Advisor, who is appointed by the Dean of Graduate Studies, is a resource for information on academic requirements, policies & procedures, and registration. The signature of approval required on graduate studies forms is that of the Department Graduate Advisor. Mentoring Guidelines can be found on the Graduate Studies website:  
<http://gradstudies.ucdavis.edu/gradcouncil/mentoring.pdf>

### **7) Advancement to Candidacy**

Upon successful completion of all coursework with a minimum GPA of 3.0 and the qualifying exam, the student is given an application for advancement to candidacy by the examining committee chair. When the candidacy form is filled out and signed by the Graduate Advisor and Major Professor, the student pays the candidacy fee at the Cashier's office and submits the form to Graduate Studies. Students admitted to a Designated Emphasis must have the candidacy application approved by the director of the DE as well. Students entering directly into the PhD program are expected to advance to candidacy by the end of their ninth quarter; students who have earned an MA at UC Davis are expected to advance to candidacy by the end of their twelfth quarter.

Upon passing the qualifying exam, international students must advance to candidacy before the first day of the quarter to qualify for the Nonresident Supplemental Tuition Fee Reduction that quarter.

## **8) Qualifying Examination and Dissertation Requirements**

### **a) Qualifying Examination: General Information**

The Qualifying Examination for both the specialization in Literature and Linguistics is administered after the completion of all other program requirements, including the foreign language requirements, and consists of a written and an oral exam. The qualifying exam committee consists of five faculty members, at least three from the graduate program, and at least one from outside the graduate program. The committee includes the Major Professor (proposed dissertation director), who may not act as Chair. The Major Professor, in consultation with the candidate, proposes the membership of the exam committee to the Graduate Program Committee for approval. The recommendation of the Graduate Program Committee is forwarded to Graduate Studies, which has the final authority in the appointment of the committee. The form to request this appointment ("Qualifying Examination Application") is available from the graduate program staff or at the Graduate Studies web site ([gradstudies.ucdavis.edu](http://gradstudies.ucdavis.edu)). The candidate has the right to veto one name on the recommended list before it is passed to Graduate Studies. Students are encouraged to look at previous exams which are available from the graduate program staff.

### **Dissertation Prospectus**

Six weeks before the scheduled date for the qualifying exam, the student must present a dissertation prospectus to his or her exam committee members. A copy should also be submitted to the graduate program staff for inclusion in the student's academic file. This proposal, although preliminary in nature, will outline the overall scope of the dissertation, will specify the theoretical approach, and will include an appropriate critical bibliography. The prospectus should be roughly 20-30 pages.

### **b) Written Qualifying Exam for Students in the Literature Specialization**

The written examination in literature will be based upon three individualized reading lists as described below.

**Reading Lists:** Students of literary and cultural studies are required to construct individualized reading lists that incorporate the following three fields:

#### **1) Depth Field (specialization)**

This field may be defined in terms of region/nation, period, or genre (see below for definitions of these terms). This section of the reading list will often reflect a student's area of research without being merely a basic bibliography of the dissertation, but instead defining an entire field of study. No more than half of the works on this list may be taken directly from the student's dissertation prospectus.

Region/nation may include any – or any combination – of the following: Spain, Portugal, Iberian Peninsula, Latin America, Mexico, Brazil, Central America, the Caribbean, the Latino US, the Andes, Southern Cone, Transatlantic Hispanic, Lusophone world; any variations subject to the approval of dissertation director.

Periods will normally consist of any – or any combination – of the following: Medieval Iberia, Golden Age Spain, 18<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup> century Iberia, 20<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup> century Iberia, Colonial Latin America, 19<sup>th</sup> Century Latin America, 20<sup>th</sup> century Latin America, contemporary Latin America; any divergences from these periodic divisions are subject to the approval of dissertation director.

Genres may include: poetry, prose fiction, essay, *crónica*, *testimonio*, cinema or other forms of visual culture, autobiography/memoir or any other genres relevant to the student's research, in any combination, subject to the approval of dissertation director. This list should consist of a minimum of 30-40 works of literature (or of nonliterary cultural production, such as film, where appropriate). In addition to these works, appropriate theory, criticism and/or literary/cultural history may be included in this field.

## **2) Breadth Field**

This much more general field should cover Spain/Iberia or Latin America (in its entirety) and encompass at least three periods and/or at least three genres. A transatlantic approach to this field is also possible. This list should be based upon sample lists filed in the Spanish department in the office of the Graduate Program Coordinator. Substitutions may be made to model lists with permission of student's Major Professor.

This list should consist of a minimum of 30-40 works of literature (or of nonliterary cultural production, such as film, where appropriate). In addition to these works, appropriate theory, criticism and/or literary/cultural history may be included in this field.

## **3) Third Field options:**

a. Theory (postcolonial theory, semiotics, poetics, cultural studies theory, etc.). Such a list would consist of a minimum of 20-25 theoretical works.

b. A second "Depth Field" (see #1 above), which would include a minimum of 20-25 works of literature (or of nonliterary cultural production, such as film, where appropriate). In addition to these works, appropriate theory, criticism and/or literary/cultural history may be included in this field.

c. Designated emphasis (DE): Incorporation of appropriate DE readings into qualifying exams may be a requirement for the fulfillment of DE. Note that any student who wishes to obtain two DEs will need to include the second DE field as a fourth reading list field. DE reading lists should be constructed according to DE program requirements.

All lists are subject to the approval of the student's Major Professor. Students should construct their lists using as a basis the lists available from the graduate program staff.

The written examination will consist of five questions – two based on each of the first two lists described above (total of four questions), and one based on the third list. The written examination will normally be administered in Spanish, although some parts of the exam (e.g. questions related to DEs) may be administered in English. Any question posed in Spanish should be answered in Spanish. The exam will be given over the course of two eight hour days (with time allotted for a lunch break), and will consist of three questions the first day, and two the second day. While there is no prescribed length, answers will normally range from 12 to 20 typed pages per day (24 to 40 pages total). The student may not consult any notes or reference materials during the exam.

### **c) Written Qualifying Exam for Students in the Linguistics Specialization**

The written examination in linguistics will be based upon *four* fields: *two* from Group I, *one* from Group II and *one* from Group III. The exam will consist of two questions in each field (8 questions total). The written examination will normally be administered in Spanish, although some parts of the exam (e.g. questions related to DEs) may be administered in English. Any question posed in Spanish should be answered in Spanish. The exam will be given over the course of two eight hour days (with time allotted for a lunch break), and will consist of three questions the first day, and two the second day. While there is no prescribed length, answers will normally range from 12 to 20 typed pages per day (24 to 40 pages total). The student may not consult any notes or reference materials during the exam.

Group I (two fields):

- Phonology/Dialectology
- History of Spanish
- Syntax/Grammar

Group II (one field):

- Pragmatics
- Semantics
- Sociolinguistics
- or any other field in linguistics (e.g. psycholinguistics, discourse analysis, etc.)

Group III (one field):

- Applied Linguistics

### **Fourth Field Option**

Students may opt for doing three areas of the written examination (one each from the groups above) and fulfill the fourth area by presenting an original publishable quality paper in the field of their choice. This Qualifying Paper (QP) needs to conceptualize a research problem, situate the problem in an ongoing discussion in the field, and show awareness of different methodological avenues for addressing the problem. The paper should sustain an original and clear argument while integrating the knowledge of the topic in the field. The QP will be read by the examining committee and has to be presented in advance together with the dissertation prospectus.

### **d) Oral Examination for Students in Both the Literature and Linguistics Specializations**

The oral portion of the qualifying exam will normally be administered no more than two weeks after the written exam has concluded (logistics permitting). The exam, which will be conducted primarily

in Spanish and will last a minimum of two hours, will cover all materials included in the three Reading Lists and Dissertation Prospectus described above.

At the conclusion of the oral exam, the committee will inform the student of the decision of the committee and submit the results of the exam to Graduate Studies. The members will endeavor to reach a unanimous decision as to the qualifications of the student for successful completion of a doctoral program. They should include in their evaluations of the student such factors as relevant portions of the previous academic record, performance on specific parts of the examination, and an overall evaluation of the student's performance and potential for scholarly research as indicated during the examination.

#### **e) Qualifying Exam Outcomes**

There are four results the committee can make:

1. Pass (Note: Conditions may not be appended to a pass decision)
2. Not Pass; with the option to retake all or part of the examination within a specified time period, or to satisfy specific requirements.
3. Fail; with no option to retake
4. No exam; if at any time during the examination the committee determines that the student is unable to continue the exam, whether due to illness or other extreme circumstances, the committee may judge the examination as "No Exam" and must notify Graduate Studies of their decision and the circumstances.

In all cases, the chairperson of the exam committee is responsible for reporting the votes and supplying other information as required to Graduate Studies and the Graduate Council. In cases where the committee reports a "Not Pass" or "Fail", the Associate Dean of Students in Graduate Studies will inform the student of the right to appeal the committee's decision for cause.

Upon recommendation of the qualifying exam committee and with the approval of the Graduate Advisor, a student who has received a Not Pass on the exam may repeat the qualifying exam once. The exam must be held by the same committee; members may only be replaced with the approval of the Graduate Advisor and the Associate Dean in Graduate Studies, and only for cause (such as extended absence from campus). After a second exam, a vote of Not Pass is unacceptable; only Pass or Fail is recognized by the Dean of Graduate Studies. Failure to pass the exam on the second attempt will result in a recommendation to the Dean of Graduate Studies to disqualify the student from further study for the doctoral degree in that program.

#### **f) The Dissertation**

The dissertation is offered under Plan B which specifies a three member (minimum) dissertation committee, an optional final oral examination (made on an individual basis by the dissertation committee), and no exit seminar.

The dissertation consists of an original investigation, normally consisting of three or more chapters, with an introduction that presents the study's main arguments, its theoretical framework, and its methodology(/ies), while locating its original intervention in the context of (inter)disciplinary dialogues through a literature review. The student will work closely with his/her Major Professor (dissertation director) and other members of the Dissertation Committee in planning his/her research, and will seek feedback from them during the process of writing the dissertation. The final document must be approved by all members of the Dissertation Committee.



**9) Normative Time to Degree**

The minimum residence requirement for a Doctorate degree is six regular quarters of full-time enrollment (12 units per quarter). Two six-week summer sessions may be counted as the equivalent of one regular quarter for purposes of satisfying this requirement; a minimum of two units must be taken in each summer session. Doctoral students are expected to advance to candidacy by the end of the third year (9th quarter). Those who entered UC Davis as M.A. students and are later admitted to the Ph.D. program are expected to advance to candidacy by the end of the fourth year at UC Davis (12th quarter). Typically, students complete the program in five to six years. Students must petition the department for an exception to be considered for funding during their sixth year.

<b>NORMAL PROGRESS SCHEDULE QUARTER</b>	<b>REQUIREMENT</b>
<b>1</b>	Meet with a faculty member in your field (potential Major Professor) to plan course of study. TAs teaching Spanish for the first time at UC Davis take SPA 390. Choose specialization and begin taking required courses.
<b>2</b>	
<b>3</b>	
<b>4</b>	Submit application for the DE if applicable.
<b>5</b>	Identify Major Professor (dissertation director).
<b>6</b>	
<b>7</b>	Complete foreign language requirement.
<b>8</b>	Prepare reading list and submit to exam committee.
<b>9</b>	Prepare proposal and submit to exam committee. Complete Qualifying Exam application (including any DE requirements). Take qualifying exam*. After passing QE, complete the Candidacy Form and begin writing dissertation.

\*Students continuing from the M.A. have until the twelfth quarter to take their qualifying exam.

**10) Typical Time Line and Sequence of Events**

**Specialization in Literature**

**Year 1:**

<b>Fall</b>	<b>Winter</b>	<b>Spring</b>
SPA 390	SPA 396	SPA 396
SPA 396	SPA grad seminar	SPA 201
SPA grad seminar	SPA lit seminar	SPA grad seminar
	SPA 203	

**Year 2:**

<b>Fall</b>	<b>Winter</b>	<b>Spring</b>
SPA 396	SPA 396	SPA 396
SPA grad seminar	SPA linguistics seminar	SPA 202
Elective or language	SPA grad seminar	SPA grad seminar

**Year 3:**

SPA 396	SPA 396	SPA 396
SPA linguistics seminar	Elective	elective or 299
Elective or language	Elective	elective or 299
		Qualifying Exam

**Years 4-5: elaboration and completion of dissertation**

**Specialization in Linguistics**

<b>Fall</b>	<b>Winter</b>	<b>Spring</b>
SPA 390	SPA 396	SPA 396
SPA 396	SPA 206	SPA 212
SPA 205	Elective	Elective
	SPA 203	

**Year 2:**

<b>Fall</b>	<b>Winter</b>	<b>Spring</b>
SPA 396	SPA 396	SPA 396
SPA literature seminar	SPA elective	SPA elective
SPA 207	Elective	Elective or language

**Year 3:**

<b>Fall</b>	<b>Winter</b>	<b>Spring</b>
SPA 396	SPA 396	SPA 396
Elective	Elective	Elective or 299
Elective or language	Elective	Elective or 299
		Qualifying Exam

## **Years 4-5: elaboration and completion of dissertation**

### **11) Sources of funding**

The Graduate Program Committee would like to ensure that all graduate students know how much financial aid they can expect to receive during their graduate studies in the Spanish Graduate Program. This financial aid policy is determined by university and departmental regulations (based on the department's fellowship allocation).

All graduate students making satisfactory progress towards the degree can expect to receive financial support as follows:

2 years to complete M.A. only  
5 years to complete Ph.D. only  
or 6 years total to complete both the M.A. and Ph.D.

Ph.D.-only students must petition the department for an exception to be considered for funding during their sixth year.

Financial aid can include student employment, Non-Resident Supplemental Tuition Fellowships, and any other grants and/or fellowships received from the university (for example, dissertation-year fellowships).

All students should remember that Teaching Assistantships are normally granted for 15 quarters of teaching and under no circumstances more than 18 quarters..

Given these limitations, we encourage all graduate students to plan accordingly and obtain appropriate on-going advice from their Major Professor in order to complete their degree in a timely fashion. Please keep in mind that given our limited fellowship allocation, the department cannot provide financial support beyond the limits stated above.

### **12) PELP, In Absentia and Filing Fee status.**

Information about PELP (Planned Educational Leave), In Absentia (reduced fees when researching out of state), and Filing Fee status can be found in the Graduate Student Guide:  
<http://www.gradstudies.ucdavis.edu/publications/>

### **13) Leaving the Program Prior to Completion of the PhD Requirements.**

Should a student leave the program prior to completing the requirements for the PhD, they may still be eligible to receive the Masters if they have fulfilled all the requirements (see Masters section). Students can use the Change of Degree Objective form available from the Registrar's Office:  
<http://registrar.ucdavis.edu/PDFFiles/D065PetitionForChangeOfGraduateMajor.pdf>