

Spanish M.A. Comprehensive Exam FAQs

How long is the written exam?

Your written exam will be from 8am to 5pm with a lunch break of 30-60 minutes.

When is lunch?

You may use the restroom and take your lunch break at times that are convenient but you may not speak to anyone regarding the exam or consult any references during your lunch or bathroom breaks.

What should I bring?

You may bring food, drinks, and lucky pencils to the exam. That's it. (Staff will bring scratch paper for you.)

Where will it be held?

When there are more than one or two MA students, it'll take place in a computer lab on campus. You will not be able to access the internet and a staff person will be there to proctor.

When will it be held?

The exam is typically in late May or very early June. The precise date will be announced in Spring quarter.

Is there an oral exam?

Literature students have a follow-up oral exam (typically a few days later) that lasts 1-hour.

Who is on my committee?

Three committee members are assigned to you by the grad committee. For Literature students, your committee will include both Peninsular & Latin American profs. You will be informed of the committee two-weeks before the oral exam.

What if I want to continue in the fall for the Ph.D.?

If you decide to apply to continue on for the PhD, your Personal Statement is due before the start of Spring quarter. However you will not find out whether you're admitted until after your MA exam. Passing the MA exam doesn't necessarily mean you're admitted, but your performance is considered, along with your academic record and Personal Statement.

For more info, see <http://spanish.ucdavis.edu/en/handbook-ma> and <http://gradstudies.ucdavis.edu/programs/degreq/2011-gspa.pdf>. If you have additional questions, please consult the staff or faculty advisers.