

M. A. in Spanish



M.A. in Spanish at UCA



Designed for students with an undergraduate degree in Spanish, this program will broaden your expertise in Spanish language, culture, and literature while also bringing you up to date with current issues in Hispanic studies.

Whether you plan to use Spanish in the workplace or the classroom, your work in the M.A. program will challenge you to achieve greater cultural and linguistic fluency.

Program Objectives

The Master of Arts degree in Spanish is designed to provide professionals with the opportunity to study Spanish language and Hispanic cultures and literatures at an advanced level.



Program Objectives

Graduates will acquire cross-cultural competencies that will serve them in a variety of career options, including education, business, and public service.

All graduates will attain at least an advanced-high level proficiency in the four skills (speaking, listening, reading, and writing) according to the standards set by the American Council of Teachers of Foreign Languages (ACTFL).

Program Objectives

Graduate students who have earned teacher certification may take advantage of their graduate study to add an ESL and/or P-8 endorsement to their certificate.

One of the classes for these endorsements may be counted towards completion of the M.A. in Spanish.

Program Requirements: Entrance

To enter the program, applicants must

- 1) have earned a minimum 3.00 GPA in an undergraduate major in Spanish.
- 2) submit satisfactory scores on the General Test of the GRE.
- 3) submit a satisfactory writing sample.

Program Requirements: Entrance

The writing sample must demonstrate advanced proficiency in writing and appropriate critical thinking and analytical skills: it is an essay written specifically for this purpose, according to a prompt provided by the graduate faculty of the department. Please contact the graduate coordinator for information and directions.

Program Requirements: Entrance

Conditional admission may be granted in the case of equivalent prior experience and advanced proficiency, which may be achieved by completing additional undergraduate coursework in Spanish at UCA: please consult the graduate advisor.

Students who are granted condition admission are eligible to take a limited course load of 3 or 6 hours, determined by the graduate coordinator and faculty upon admission.

Program Requirements: Entrance

Upon admission to graduate study, the student will be evaluated for proficiency (if previous scores have not been submitted) and consult with the graduate coordinator regarding a plan for study abroad if necessary.

Program Requirements: Entrance

- Students may apply for admission to the Graduate School at any time before the start of classes, although it is best to apply before June 1 for study in the fall.
- The deadline for application for Graduate Assistantships is **May 1**.

General Information

- Part-time and full-time students are welcome. Classes are offered in the late afternoons and evenings, as well as in summer. Study abroad opportunities in Costa Rica and Spain are also available in the summer months.
- In-service teachers may use graduate coursework towards their Professional Development requirement (1 graduate course = 15 PD hours)

Requirements for the Degree

The M. A. in Spanish program requires 30 hours, divided as follows:

- **9 hours of “Core” Courses (one is offered every semester, in rotation)**
 - **SPAN 5315** (Spanish Literature and Culture)
 - **SPAN 5345** (Spanish American Literature and Culture)
 - **SPAN 5340** (History of the Spanish Language)

These three courses form the basis for the study of contemporary issues in Hispanic Studies and for the Comprehensive Exams.

Requirements for the Degree

- **21 hours of electives, with least 15 hours at the 6000-level.** These may include study abroad (up to 6 hours), independent studies, or a master's thesis, as well as elective courses.
- To earn the M.A., degree candidates must also pass a **comprehensive examination (with oral and written components)**, and meet the language proficiency objectives of the program.

Course offerings

Proposed titles of recent and future elective courses

- Spanish-American Short Story
- The Outlaw in Latin America
- Women's Literature of Spain
- Chicano Studies
- Dialectology
- The Imagined Moor in Medieval and Early Modern Spain
- Afro-Caribbean Cultural Studies
- Spanish Civil War in Art, Film, and Literature
- Violence in the Spanish-American Novel
- Introduction to Spanish Linguistics
- Gabriel García Márquez
- Latin American Film; Spanish Film
- Knights and Rogues in Early Modern Spain
- Cuban Anti-Slavery Narratives

Graduate Faculty



Dr. Dustin Knepp
Ph.D., SUNY-Albany

Latino Cultural Studies
Mexican and Mexican American
Cultural Production
Latino and Latin American
Foodways



Dr. Jennifer Parrack
Ph.D., University of Pennsylvania

Contemporary Spanish Film and
Culture
Spanish Literature, 1800-present
Spanish Civil War

Graduate Faculty



Dr. John Parrack

Ph.D., University of Pennsylvania

Early Modern Spanish literature

Cervantes

Picaresque novel

History of the Spanish Language



Dr. Alana Reid

Ph.D., University of Michigan

Caribbean literatures and cultures

Twentieth and twenty-first century

Latin American narrative

Gender studies

Graduate Faculty



Dr. Travis Sorenson

Ph.D., Texas A&M University

Sociolinguistics
Dialectology
Translation



Dr. Jaime Zambrano

Ph.D., University of Missouri

Contemporary Spanish-American
narrative
Colombian Literature
Violence in Spanish American
Literature

Course of study

Typically, full-time graduate students can expect to complete the degree in four semesters, sooner if work is done abroad or at UCA during the summer sessions.

The first three semesters would include three courses each semester (27 hours). During the final semester, usually with only one course, students prepare for the comprehensive exams, which are administered during that semester.

Other course possibilities

3 hours of other graduate courses (in English) may apply towards the degree.

Depending on the student's interests, these may include courses for ESL endorsement, such as WLAN 5330, WLAN 5315, and WLAN 5325, as well as graduate courses in English and History.

Study Abroad and Summer Classes

At least one graduate course will be offered on campus each summer.

Summer II 2013 (July-August)

SPAN 6395: The Imagined Moor in Medieval and Early Modern Spain (John Parrack)

Summer study abroad is available every summer in Madrid, Spain or in San José, Costa Rica through the MLSA program.

Study Abroad and Summer Classes

In Spain, students select 4 electives (2 hours each) from two categories (Literature and Culture or Language and Linguistics), each with more than 8 different options. In Costa Rica, students select two 3-hour courses from a variety of language, literature, and culture offerings.

Depending on the courses selected and work completed, students can earn 6 hours of elective credit at the 6000-level.

Future faculty-led trips may offer graduate credit opportunities: these would count as regular on-campus courses.

Graduate Courses, 2013-2015

	Summer II 2013: SPAN 4395/6395: The Imagined Moor in Medieval and Early Modern Spain (John Parrack)			
	M. A. Class schedule: Fall 2013			
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
9:25-10:40		SPAN 4396/6396: The Outlaw in Latin America (Reid)		SPAN 4396/6396: The Outlaw in Latin America (Reid)
4:05-5:20		WLAN 4325/5325: SL Acquisition (Zhu)	SPAN 4395/6395: Literatura femenina (Jennifer Parrack) 5:00-7:30	WLAN 4325/5325: SL Acquisition (Zhu)
5:30-6:45	Teaching Second Languages (Ray-Treviño) 5:00-8:00	SPAN 5315: Peninsular Masterpieces (John Parrack)		SPAN 5315: Peninsular Masterpieces (John Parrack)
7:00-8:15				

Graduate Courses, 2013-2015

	M. A. Class schedule: Spring 2014				
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	
2:40-3:55		SPAN 4350/5350: Intro to Spanish Linguistics (John Parrack)		SPAN 4350/5350: Intro to Spanish Linguistics (John Parrack)	
4:05-5:20	SPAN 6330: Gabriel García Márquez (Zambrano)	WLAN 4330/5330: SL Assessment (Ray-Treviño)	SPAN 6330: Gabriel García Márquez (Zambrano)	WLAN 4330/5330: SL Assessment (Ray-Treviño)	
5:30-6:45		SPAN 5340: History of Span Language—Core (Sorenson)	SPAN 4396/ 6396: US Latino Cultural Studies (Knepp)	SPAN 5340: History of Span Language—Core (Sorenson)	
7:00-8:15			5:30-8:00		
	Summer 2014: SPAN 4397/6397: Topics in Advanced Spanish Linguistics: Dialectology (Sorenson)				

Graduate Courses, 2013-2015

	M. A. Class schedule: Fall 2014				
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	
2:40-3:55		SPAN 4395/6395: El cuento hispanoamericano (Zambrano)		SPAN 4395/6395: El cuento hispanoamericano (Zambrano)	
4:05-5:20	WLAN 4315/ 5315: Methods of	WLAN 4325/5325: SL Acquisition (Zhu)	SPAN 4395/6395 comedia La	WLAN 4325/5325: SL Acquisition (Zhu)	
5:30-6:45	Teaching Second Languages	SPAN 5345: Span.-Am. Masterpieces--Core (Reid)	(John Parrack) 5:00-7:30	SPAN 5345: Span.-Am. Masterpieces--Core (Reid)	
7:00-8:15	(Ray-Treviño) 5:00-8:00				

Graduate Courses, 2013-2015

	M. A. Class schedule: Spring 2015				
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	
2:40-3:55		SPAN 4350/5350: Intro to Spanish Linguistics (Sorenson)	SPAN 4396/ 6396: Chicano Studies	SPAN 4350/5350: Intro to Spanish Linguistics (Sorenson)	
4:05-5:20		WLAN 4330/5330: SL Assessment (Ray-Treviño)	(Knepp) 3:00-5:30	WLAN 4330/5330: SL Assessment (Ray-Treviño)	
5:30-6:45	SPAN 4395/6395: Narrativa femenina hispanoamericana (Zambrano)	SPAN 5315: Peninsular Masterpieces (Jen Parrack)	SPAN 4395/6395: Narrativa femenina hispanoamericana (Zambrano)	SPAN 5315: Peninsular Masterpieces (Jen Parrack)	
7:00-8:15					
	Summer 2015: SPAN 4396/6396: Cultural Studies (Knepp)				

Graduate Assistantships

There are generally two Graduate Assistantships available for each academic year. Every two years there may be an assistantship available to help with the Community Language School. The deadline for application is May 1.

The graduate faculty will meet to select the recipients of the assistantships based on the following criteria:
undergraduate G.P.A. in Spanish, proficiency level in Spanish, and teaching experience. Any materials that document these skills should be submitted to the graduate coordinator along with the G.A. application.

Graduate Assistantships

The GA position provides a generous stipend for full-time students in their first year of graduate work (about \$10,000 for the 9-month academic year) while they study and gain valuable work experience. There is also a tuition stipend from the Graduate School for the first year.

Graduate Assistantships

Graduate Assistantships provide a stipend in exchange for 20 hours per week of work related to the degree program.

Graduate Assistants in Spanish have a special opportunity to work with students and faculty our dynamic language program to gain valuable experience.

Graduate Assistant Activities

Fall semester

- Shadow an instructor in one section of SPAN 1310, learning techniques and helping with activities.
- Teach one section of SPAN 1111 (a supplemental 1-credit class of extra practice activities for SPAN 1310 students).
- Participate periodically in pedagogical discussions with the graduate coordinator.
- Tutor students by appointment
- Help with UCA's Community Language School

Spring semester

- Teach a one-credit conversation practice course for beginning and intermediate students.
- Teach one section of SPAN 1310, with support from the Graduate Coordinator as well as a faculty mentor
- Continue to tutor individual students by appointment.
- Help with UCA's Community Language School.

Funding for the Second Year

- Qualified students may continue teaching in the second year, both within the department as well as in the Community Language School at UCA.
- In both cases, students will be paid for the classes they teach. With two 3-credit classes, this salary would be slightly more than the first-year assistantship.

M. A. in Spanish at UCA

For more information and application materials, see our program website, linked through the department site, <http://uca.edu/wlan/maspanish/>

Or contact one of us:

- * Dr. Jennifer Parrack, Graduate Coordinator
450-5697 jparrack@uca.edu
- * Dr. Phillip Bailey, Chair of World Langs.
450-5645 phillipb@uca.edu

What can you do with an M.A. in Spanish?

Some of our recent graduates...

are teaching as Lecturers of Spanish at Hendrix College and other post-secondary institutions

have taken secondary school teaching positions with higher salaries

have started a translation consulting business

“I feel very blessed to have had that opportunity to teach, grow, learn, from such great instructors. I know it has changed my life and will continue to shape it for my career advancement.”

---J.L. Peterson, M.A. in Spanish 2009, teacher at El Dorado Public Schools