



COURSES for SPANISH MAJORS and MINORS



INVITING ALL STUDENTS TO BECOME MAJORS OR MINORS IN SPANISH DOUBLE MAJORS ARE WELCOME!

The Spanish Program at Howard University welcomes students from all disciplines to learn about the Peoples and Cultures of the Spanish speaking world with an emphasis on the contributions of African descendants. Students improve their Spanish language skills in a variety of courses to prepare them for careers and lives across the globe.

SPANISH MAJOR (*)**

(Spring 2025)

TOTAL HOURS: 36 credit hours [for students entering HU before Fall 2023]

Required: 27 credit hours (#)

30 credit hours [for students entering HU Fall 2023 or after]

Electives: 9 credit hours (#)

Required & Electives: to be decided

Required (#)

SPAN 040	Grammar Structures (3)	[Fall & Spring]
SPAN 050	Oral Communication I (3)	[Fall & Spring]
SPAN 051	Oral Communication II (3)	[Fall & Spring]
SPAN 052	Reading and Writing (3)	[Fall & Spring]
SPAN 060	*Analysis of Afro-Hispanic Literature	[Fall & Spring]
SPAN 080 or 081	[see courses below]	
SPAN 083 or 084	[see courses below]	
SPAN 085	*Afrolatinidad Experiences: Cultures, Race, Nations (3)	[Fall]
SPAN 086	*Migrations and Identities (3) (**)	[Spring]
[SPAN 192	Experiential Learning (3) To be designed]	

SPAN 080	Diversity and Unification in Spain (3)
SPAN 081	Contemporary Spain (3)
SPAN 083	Formation of Hispanic America (3)
SPAN 084	Contemporary Hispanic America (3)

Electives (#)

SPAN 064	Spanish for the Media (3)
SPAN 065	Simultaneous Interpretation I (3)
SPAN 066	Simultaneous Interpretation II (3)
SPAN 067	Introduction to Spanish-English Translation (3)
SPAN 068	Advanced Spanish-English Translation (3)
SPAN 077	Advanced Composition (3)
SPAN 078	Business Spanish (3)
SPAN 079	Spain & Latin America through Film (3)
SPAN 087	*Black Lives in Latin America through Literature and Film (3)
SPAN 089	*Dance, Music, and Art in the Afro-Hispanic World (3)

(*) These courses are the “Afro-Hispanic cluster”

(**) Continuation of SPAN 085

(***) In addition to the 30/36 required hours, Spanish majors must complete the “Capstone Experience”. There are three options to fulfill this requirement: 1. Comprehensive Examination; 2. Capstone Community Project; 3. Capstone Essay.

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SPANISH MINOR (Spring 2025)

TOTAL HOURS: 15 credit hours [Freshmen and Sophomores ***]
18 credit hours [Juniors and Seniors *]

Required [all]: 9 credit hours

Electives: [*]** 6 credit hours

[*] 9 credit hours

Required

SPAN 040 Grammar Structures (3)

SPAN 050 Oral Communication I (3)

SPAN 052 Reading and Writing (3)

Electives:

- *** 3 or * 6 credit hours from the Afro-Hispanic cluster:

SPAN 060, SPAN 085, SPAN 086, SPAN 089

- 3 credit hours from any course above 040

For more information contact the Spanish Coordinator, Dr. Mercedes Tibbits, Locke Hall 332, mtibbits@howard.edu

SPANISH MAJOR / MINOR COURSES AND PREREQUISITES

SPAN 040: **Grammar Structures.** A core course in the major-minor sequence which includes a thorough review of and practice with major elements of Spanish syntax and grammar. Credits: 3. Prerequisite: SPAN 004 or Score of 5 or 6 in the LPE.

SPAN 050: **Oral Communication I.** A course designed to develop speaking and listening skills through a variety of instructional strategies. Credits: 3. Prerequisite: SPAN 004 or Score of 5 or 6 in the LPE.

SPAN 051: **Oral Communication II.** A continuation of SPAN 050. Credits: 3. Prerequisites: SPAN 040 and SPAN 050.

SPAN 052: **Reading and Writing.** Designed to develop the specific skills of reading and writing in Spanish. Credits: 3. Prerequisites: SPAN 040 and SPAN 050.

SPAN 055: **Advanced Oral Expression.** An advanced level course to develop aural/oral fluency in Spanish. using written discourses on a variety of cultural, social, and professional themes, issues, topics. Credits: 3. Prerequisites: SPAN 040, SPAN 050 and SPAN 051.

SPAN 060: **Analysis of Afro-Hispanic Literature.** Students will engage critically with representative texts (narrative, poetry, performance, visual culture) concerning Afro-Hispanic experiences and perspectives. Credits: 3. Prerequisites: SPAN 040 and SPAN 050.

SPAN 064: **Spanish for the Media.** Intended for students interested in the news media. Includes writing news articles and preparing and interpreting broadcasting programs for radio and television. Credits: 3. Prerequisites: SPAN 040 and SPAN 050.

SPAN 065: **Simultaneous Interpretation I.** Introduces students to the basic techniques of escort, consecutive, and particularly simultaneous interpretation. Credits: 3 Prerequisites: SPAN 040 and SPAN 050.

SPAN 066: **Simultaneous Interpretation II.** Focuses on more advanced techniques of simultaneous and consecutive interpretation. Credits: 3. Prerequisites: SPAN 040, SPAN 050 and SPAN 065.

SPAN 067: **Introduction to Spanish-English Translation.** Introduces students to the profession of translation and develops their ability to translate from Spanish into English, expanding their vocabulary in Spanish. Credits: 3. Prerequisites SPAN 040, SPAN 050, and SPAN 052.

SPAN 068: **Advanced Spanish-English Translation.** Continuation of SPAN 067. Credits: 3. Prerequisites SPAN 040, SPAN 050, SPAN 052, and SPAN 067.

SPAN 075: Contemporary Afro-Cuban Cultural Expression. This course explores cinematic, artistic, and literary representations of *Afrocubanía* (defined as Afro-Cuban identity and cultural consciousness) by Afro-Cuban writers, filmmakers, and visual artists since the 1960s. Credits: 3. Prerequisites: SPAN 040, SPAN 050 and SPAN 052.

SPAN 077: Advanced Composition. Course in advanced prose writing stressing control of syntactic structures and stylistic devices. Credits: 3. Prerequisites: SPAN 040, SPAN 050 and SPAN 052.

SPAN 078: **Business Spanish**. Prepares students to engage with the business world in Spanish. Credits: 3. Prerequisites: SPAN 040 and SPAN 050.

SPAN 079: **Spain and Hispanic America Through Film**. A study of Spanish-speaking countries through film, from cultural, sociological and technical points of view. Credits: 3. Prerequisites: SPAN 040, and SPAN 050, and SPAN 052.

SPAN 080: **Diversity and Unification in Spain**. Social, political, and cultural topics in Spain from 1492 to 1700. Credits: 3. Prerequisites: SPAN 040, SPAN 050, and SPAN 052.

SPAN 081: **Contemporary Spain**. Social, political and cultural topics in Spain from 1700 to present. Credits: 3. Prerequisites: SPAN 040, SPAN 050, and SPAN 052.

SPAN 083: **Formation of Hispanic America**. Introduces students to social, political, and cultural topics in Hispanic America from 1492 to 1900 such as colonialism, Indigenous writers, mestizaje and African and Afrodescendant lived experiences. Credits: 3. Prerequisites: SPAN 040, SPAN 050, and SPAN 052.

SPAN 084: **Contemporary Hispanic America**. Independence, modernization and globalization in Hispanic America from 1900 to the present. Credits: 3. Prerequisites SPAN 040, SPAN 050, and SPAN 052.

SPAN 085: **Afrolatinidad Experiences. Cultures, Race and Nations**. Compares the Afro-Latinx and Afro-Latina/o experiences with those of African and African descents in Hispanic Africa, Europe, and U.S. Examines the politics of race in the construction of identities and nations. Shows also how the quest for social justice by Hispanic Africans and Afro-Latinx, Afro-Latina/o is sought throughout history, art, film, literature, music, religion, thoughts, etc. Credits: 3. Prerequisites: SPAN 040, SPAN 050, and SPAN 052.

SPAN 086: **Migrations and Identities**. Shows how cultural productions and films are produced in historical, social, and ideological contexts and can reproduce the discourses on politics of migrations and identities. Examines also how these politics raise the questions of human rights, citizenship and discrimination in respect to Africans and African descents in Africa, Latin America, Europe, and U. S. Credits: 3. Prerequisites SPAN 040, SPAN 050, and SPAN 052.

SPAN 087: **Black Lives in Latin America through Literature and Film**. Africans and Afrodescendants formed a part of the Latin American culture dating from before the arrival of the first slaves to North America in 1619, but the existence of Black people has not been fully recognized. Literary and historical analysis will explore the various ways Africans and their descendants have always been cultural citizens of Spain and Spanish America, and how they have resisted oppression. Texts to be studied include autobiographical writing by a formerly enslaved literary luminary, a work of historical fiction that tells the story of Haiti that traces the roots and history of the New World and films centering Black experiences in Latin America. Credits: 3. Prerequisites SPAN 040, SPAN 050, and SPAN 052.

SPAN 089: **Dance, Music, and Art in the Afro-Hispanic World**. This course is aimed at deepening student's knowledge of the cultural practices and artistic expressions of people of the Hispanophone world. Lessons will cover geography, history, politics, economy, society, music, dance, race, and art. The course will highlight the cultural memory and practices of African peoples for each country. This course will be a 3-credit course utilizing in-class discussion, lectures, student collaboration and presentations. The course will highlight various forms of culture such as music, dance, attire, language and more through the lens of history, politics, and society. Credits: 3. Prerequisites: SPAN 040, SPAN 050, and SPAN 052.

SPAN 890. [Honors course; content changes each year] **Spring 2025: Afro-Cuban Culture & Society**. Interdisciplinary course delving into the cultures and society of Cuba from an Afro-Cuban perspective. The course will explore spirituality, dance, music, land-based economies, freedoms, organizations and more. Students will be required to use Spanish in reading, writing, listening and speaking at their current level of fluency. Students will be introduced to the historic and current cultures of Cuba and conduct research within their respective majors about Afro-Cuban culture and society. The travel abroad is a mandatory component of the course.

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“Los mulatos de Esmeraldas.” Don Francisco de Arobe y sus dos hijos.
Quito, Ecuador, 1599

The Spanish Program is housed in the Department of World Languages and Cultures (DWLC). Students can take Spanish language courses as well as courses on Afro-Hispanic, Latin-American, and Spanish literature, culture, film and music that can lead to a major or a minor in Spanish.

All over the world, more than 450 million people speak Spanish, making it the second most spoken language. It is spoken in Spain, Latin-America, Equatorial Guinea, Western Sahara, Philippines, and some other areas of the world, and it is important to the African Diaspora in these and other countries, including the USA. Learning the language will allow students to experience the rich cultures and histories of these nations/groups.

In the United States, more than 43 million people speak Spanish as a first language (about 13 percent of the population) and that number continues to grow. Additionally, the United States is home to nearly 12 million bilingual Spanish speakers. This makes it the second-largest Spanish speaking country in the world (after Mexico).

Learning Spanish and studying the history and culture of Spanish-speaking countries allows students to make connections with other communities within the African Diaspora as well as to be more competitive in the global market. Students who take courses in the Spanish Program at Howard University have the opportunity to explore their personal and professional interests within the context of another language and culture.

The Spanish Program’s mission and activities are integrated with the mission of the University. Foreign language education and cultural competency provide an increased awareness of the diversity that exists in our country and in the global community and, as a result, students learn how to communicate and form connections with individuals and populations from different linguistic and cultural backgrounds. To develop cultural competency, one must first develop a nuanced understanding of how language is used in other nations and how societies are shaped by a variety of different cultural, historical, and social factors. Having acquired and developed a foreign language proficiency, students are good representatives of the University’s mission to develop compassionate graduates who can provide effective leadership to the nation and to the world. Faculty in the Spanish Program, through their teaching, research, and service demonstrate their commitment to developing distinguished, globally aware graduates.