Introduction to the Major

Challenge convention: Speak Spanish! As a global language, Spanish is essential for business, health, politics, culture, and education.

Why study Spanish at Clark? Build linguistic and cultural competencies that will enable you to work with Spanish speakers in the U.S. or live in a different country after graduation. Learn from faculty members who research diverse aspects of Hispanic culture including cinema, literature, politics, race, and sexuality and gender studies. Participate in courses that connect with local organizations. Interact with political activists and artists.

CORE COURSES

Nine courses are required to complete the Spanish major including The National Imagination, which explores how languages have been used to build cultural identity. A study abroad experience is strongly encouraged, and a maximum of four associated literature or culture courses may count toward the major requirements. Courses in the major include:

- Cultural and literary analysis
- Translation and media
- Hispanic culture and arts
- Community engagement and social change
- Language and literature
- Theater, drama, and film

“Challenge convention: speak Spanish!”

— SPANISH PROGRAM AT THE LL&C DEPARTMENT

90% of Clark Spanish students double major
Curious about the major?
Stop by Estabrook Hall to tour the department and introduce yourself to faculty and staff. Explore the Spanish curriculum.

Identify potential Program of Liberal Studies (PLS) courses
How can these courses support your general interests and your educational goals?

Learn about campus resources
Make ClarkYou your default homepage and explore student resources related to academics, campus life, and health and wellness. Go to the Writing Center, visit the Career Lab in ASEc, and log in to Handshake to find career exploration events.

Explore campus and the wider community
Find new cultural interests on and off campus. Connect and engage with opportunities in the community that require Spanish skills.

Pursue your interests
Research internship, summer job, or research possibilities. Opportunity funding is available through the Career Connections Center (CCC).

Try out new interests and gain new experiences
Join a student club. Get involved in the community through the Office of Community Engagement and Volunteering. Explore Clark student employment.

Reflect on what sparks your interest
What new interests have you discovered? What do you want to try? How would you like to apply and develop your skills?

Dig into the major and define your interests
Gain a deeper understanding of Spanish cultural identities by analyzing various forms of Spanish literature and cultural expression.

Join the Spanish community
Ready to declare your major? The department coordinator will help you identify a faculty adviser.

Develop a professional resume
Use the Career Connections Center (CCC) template. Upload to Handshake for review and feedback. This will help you prepare for any opportunities you want to pursue.

Start networking
Start making connections with faculty and peers to see if there are opportunities you would like to be part of. Check out the Alumni Job Shadow Program to connect with alumni and learn about what they do.

Keep connecting
How can you connect Spanish with your other major, minors, concentrations, or academic interests?

Look ahead
Study abroad is required for Spanish majors. Where do you want to go? What do you want to learn and experience? Visit the Study Abroad Office to explore the possibilities.

Reflect on your experiences
What career options are you now considering that you want to test out? What questions do you still need to answer to determine your professional path?
WHY CAN I DO WITH MY MAJOR?

JOBS & EMPLOYERS
Spanish graduates work in education, business, law, diplomacy, international development, translation, the arts, marketing, journalism, medicine, and other fields.

GRADUATE PROGRAMS
Alumni pursue advanced degrees in Hispanic literature, environmental studies, teaching, and more at institutions across the country and around the world.

YEAR 3

☐ Go beyond the classroom
Work as a Peer Learning Assistant (PLA) for one of our language classes. Mentor first- and second-year students. Work with the community through Spanish courses.

☐ Pursue your interests
Refine your academic and research interests. Learn the language by engaging with the world around you.

☐ Prepare for research
Collaborate with program faculty and join projects such as the International Conference of Hispanic Women Filmmakers, poetry with our award-winning faculty, activism within the Worcester community and beyond.

☐ Get out of here
Study abroad or away to broaden your perspective and experience.

☐ Keep networking
Join the Alumni Job Shadow Program to test-drive careers related to Spanish. Use ClarkCONNECT to connect with alumni, learn about their career paths, and make professional contacts.

☐ Consider graduate school
Explore if graduate school is right for you with these resources through the Career Connections Center. Talk over options with faculty members and your adviser.

☐ Plan for senior year and beyond
What are your goals after graduation? Connect with your career adviser to strategize and plan.

YEAR 4

☐ Pull it together with your capstone
Your capstone could be “la guinda del pastel” and the door to exciting opportunities of research and discovery.

☐ No regrets!
What’s on your Clark undergraduate bucket list? Take an elective or two. Where do you need to build confidence or clarity?

☐ Apply what you’ve learned
Learn about and pursue community engagement opportunities with the Spanish-speaking community in Worcester such as Herencia y Cultura Hispanicas, Cafecito con…, or a community translation course.

☐ Use your resources
Attend career-related events through the Career Connections Center to meet recruiters and learn about opportunities. Apply for prestigious scholarships.

☐ Engage your networks
Seek out mentors in your field and keep connecting with alumni on ClarkCONNECT. Be an active part of the Spanish-speaking community around the world.

☐ Get ready to launch
Update your professional profiles including LinkedIn. Find ways to demonstrate qualities such as leadership, teamwork, problem-solving, and initiative.

☐ Celebrate your accomplishments
A bright future awaits! Be open-minded and think outside the box.
At Clark, your Spanish major extends beyond the classroom.

Learn Spanish and be a global citizen! You can participate in community-based learning by volunteering or working at organizations such Centro Las Américas and Pernet Family Health Services. You might study Latin films at Worcester’s annual Latino Film Festival or conduct research abroad. Many students take advantage of internship opportunities during the academic year or over the summer to connect what they are learning with their professional development. With your Spanish Skills, you could be the perfect candidate for your dream job!

Advising

Spanish faculty and staff are here to assist you.

In the Spanish major and the Department of Language, Literature, and Culture, advising is about growth, dialogue, and discovery as you navigate your journey at Clark and beyond.

CONNECT WITH US!

Estabrook Hall, 3rd Floor
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Worcester, MA 01610

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