



Spanish Courses

Fall 2023

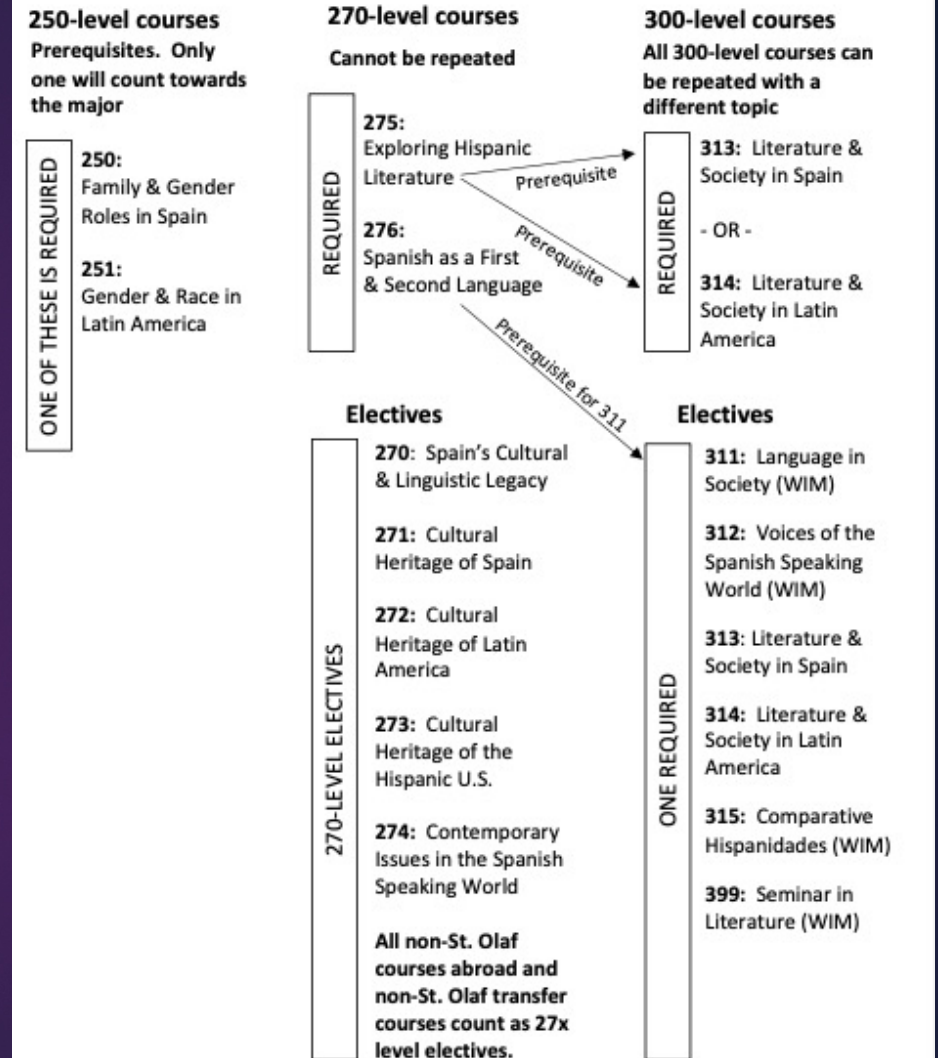
SPANISH

The Spanish program at St. Olaf goes beyond grammar to include cultural content from the beginning to the end. As the courses advance, students develop academic language skills as they focus on the rich and diverse cultures, histories, and societies of the Spanish-speaking world through texts, films, music, and literature.

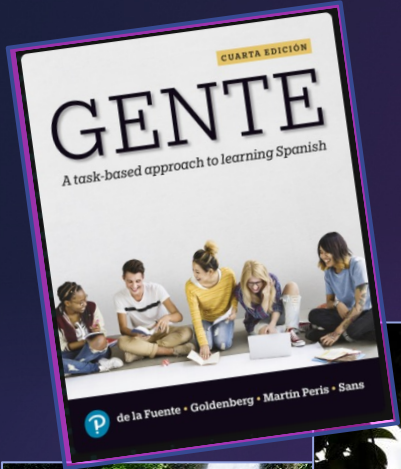
The initial sequence of courses focus more heavily on developing skills by using language in context. These courses build on each other and are taken in a specific order: Spanish 111, 112, 231, and 232. Your placement score will determine which of these courses you should start with.

After Spanish 232, you can start the Spanish major by choosing either Spanish 250 (focused on Spain) or 251 (focused on Latin America). You only take one of these before moving on to the 270-level courses, which do not have to be taken in a particular order. The 300-level courses can be taken once any prerequisites have been met.

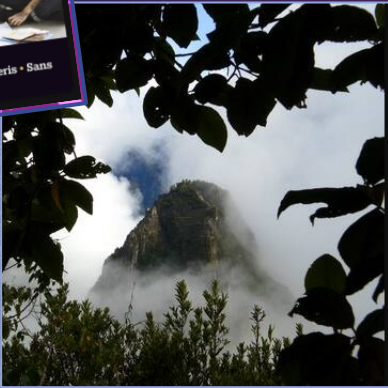
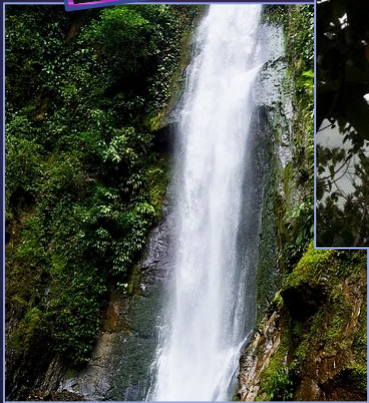
The major-level courses are included in the diagram to the right. If you find it difficult to navigate, your advisor or a Spanish faculty member will be happy to help!



Spanish 111: Introduction to Spanish Language and the Spanish Speaking World I



This course builds Spanish language skills through the project-based exploration of topics such as: Spanish-speaking countries and populations around the world, diversity in Mexico, ecotourism in Venezuela and travel in the Dominican Republic. Themes such as identity, space and place, responsible and sustainable tourism will be explored using the textbook *Gente*, as well as a variety of supplemental and open-access materials in Spanish. You will engage in a variety of activities and projects designed to examine the cultural reality and diversity of the Spanish speaking world, while simultaneously improving your Spanish language proficiency.



- *Taught in Spanish*
- *Open only to students who place into Spanish 111.*
- *Offered fall semester and interim term.*
- *Does not count toward the Spanish major.*

Spanish 112: Introduction to Spanish Language and the Spanish Speaking World II



This course builds Spanish language skills through the project-based exploration of topics such as: cities and urban life; housing; and the historical roots of culinary traditions and food production. Themes such as identity, crossing borders and building bridges, urban and rural spaces, history and personal histories will be explored using the textbook *Gente*, as well as a variety of supplemental and open-access materials in Spanish. You will engage in a variety of activities and projects designed to examine the cultural reality and diversity of the Spanish speaking world, while simultaneously improving your Spanish language proficiency. Taught in Spanish.



- *Offered each semester and Interim.*
- *Does not count toward Spanish major.*
- *Prerequisite: SPAN 111 or placement into SPAN 112.*



Spanish 231: The Spanish-Speaking World and the U.S.:

Culture, Community, and Sustainability



Spanish 231 has four major units that help develop a new perspective on the Spanish-speaking world and its relationship to the U.S.: Land and Space; Sustainability; Water Is Life; and Sumak Kawsay: A Good Life. As we study these themes, we will review selected Spanish grammar concepts and use them actively to process and express cultural information. In contrast to beginning Spanish courses in which students learn the basic vocabulary and grammar to talk about themselves and their lives, in Spanish 231 you will use your speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills to learn content through Spanish. Required attendance at three conversation tables. This intermediate level one Spanish course is offered each semester and during Interim.

- *Prerequisite: SPAN 112 or placement into SPAN 231.*
- *Does not count toward Spanish major.*
- *Counts Toward Performance major and Race and Ethnic Studies major and concentration.*



Spanish 232: Latinx Experiences in the United States

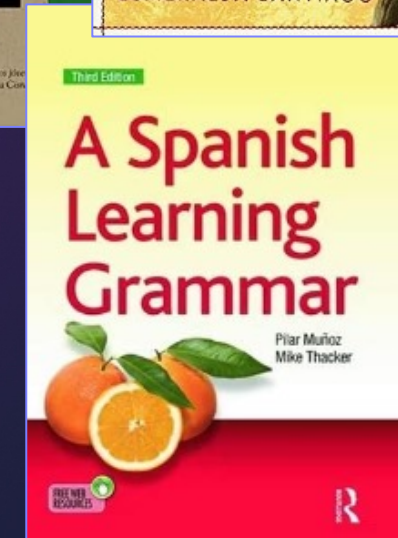
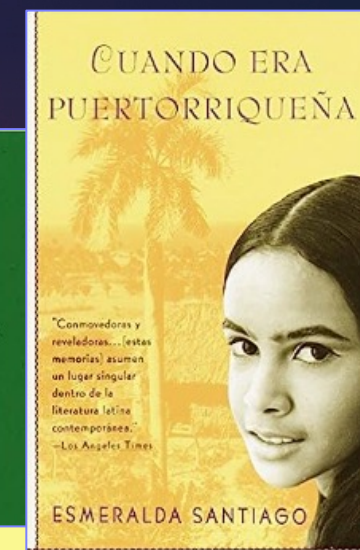
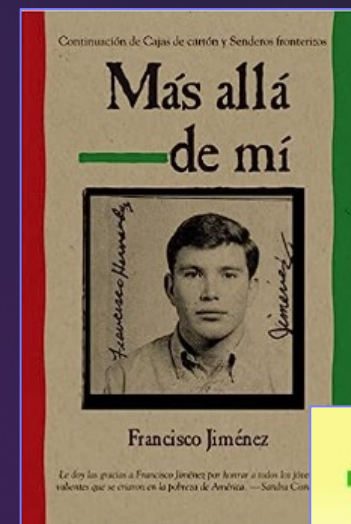


Students explore the diverse cultural histories and identities of Mexican-Americans, Cuban-Americans, and Puerto Ricans (among other Latinx groups) by considering how ethnicity, race, language, gender, and social class manifest themselves in U.S. histories of citizenry, immigration, economy, and education through generations of Latinxs. Class activities foster analysis of historical and autobiographical texts to reflect on how power and privilege intersect and shape students' own experiences.

Attendance at cultural events required.

This intermediate II-level Spanish course is offered every semester and during Interim.

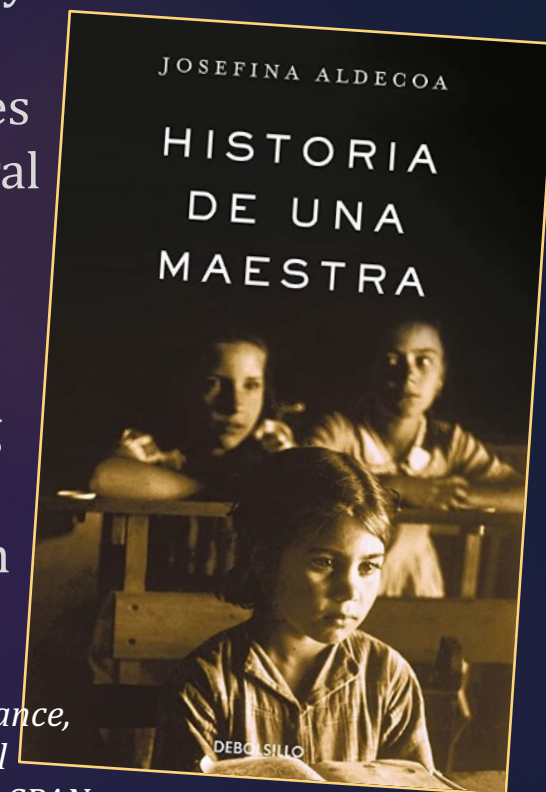
- *Prerequisite: SPAN 231 or placement into SPAN 232.*
- *Does not count toward Spanish major.*



Spanish 250: Spanish and Gender Roles in Spain 1900 to Present

In this course, you'll explore Spain's "revolución familiar" – dramatic changes in family structures and gender roles, the rights of women and members of the LGBTQ+ community, and relationships between generations. While some of these changes may seem to parallel those that have occurred in other countries (including the U.S.), the way they came about in Spain is unique. Together we'll examine the history of families and gender roles from the early 1900s to the present day through a variety of "cultural texts" – informational texts about trends in society at large (from videos to official documents) as well as narratives that capture the human experiences of individuals and families: both stories of the lives of real people and a historical novel that creatively portrays a society in transition. In the process, we will work on developing our academic language skills in Spanish, especially through writing with the use of textual evidence. The course includes participation in three out-of-class conversation groups.

Taught in Spanish. Offered Fall and Spring. Counts toward Gender & Sexuality Studies, Latin American Studies, Performance, Political Science, and Women's and Gender Studies majors and Family Studies, Gender & Sexuality Studies, International Relations, Management Studies, Women's and Gender Studies concentrations. Prerequisite: SPAN 232 or placement into SPAN 250/251. Note: Spanish 250 (equivalent to Spanish 251) is the first course in the Spanish major but is open to any student who has completed Spanish 232 or placed into the 250-level. 250-level courses cannot be repeated, and students cannot count both 250 and 251 for the Spanish major. Either Spanish 250 or 251 counts as the prerequisite for 270-level courses and above.



Spanish 251: Gender & Race in Latin America

This course focuses on gender and race in Latin America and explores gender roles, femicide, intersectionality, activism, and Latin America's deep-rooted history of activism and resistance to oppression. To capture a wide range of experiences and voices, we work with short stories, articles, podcasts, films, songs, and poems from across Latin America. We include objective sources that focus on providing information, as well as subjective sources that narrate human experiences—people's stories. In the process, we also work on developing our academic language skills in Spanish, especially through writing with the use of textual evidence. Includes participation in 3 out-of-class conversation groups.

Taught in Spanish. Offered Fall and Spring. Counts towards Gender & Sexuality Studies, RACE, and Latin American Studies majors and Concentrations. Prerequisite: SPAN 232 or placement into SPAN 250. Note: Spanish 251 (equivalent to Spanish 250) is the first course in the Spanish major but is open to any student who has completed Spanish 232 or placed into the 250 level. 250-level courses cannot be repeated. Either Spanish 250 or 251 counts as the prerequisite for 270-level courses and above.



Book Club Feminista
Soñarán en el jardín
Gabriela Damián Miravete

Spanish 272: Overcoming (More) Borders: Care/Healthcare & Undocumented Latinx Migrants

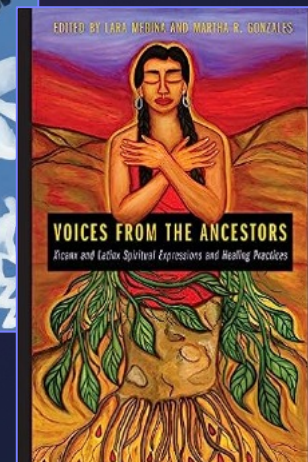
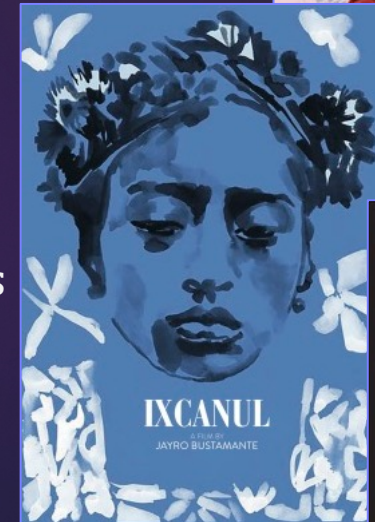
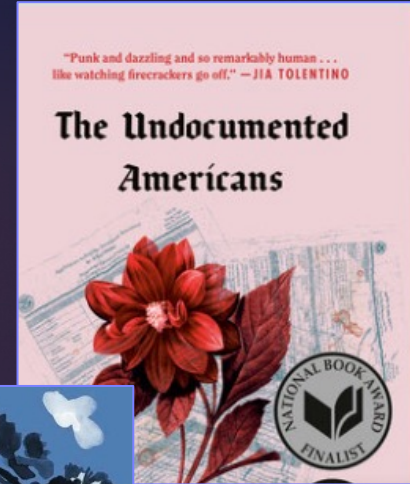


The World Health Organization considers “the highest attainable standard of health as a fundamental right of every human being.” But in times like these, where violence, political uncertainty, and natural and economic disasters around the world continue to escalate, access to healthcare has proven to be unequal. Undocumented Latina/o/x populations are particularly affected because of language, cultural, and bureaucratic barriers to accessing the healthcare system, among others.

In this course, we will examine the challenges undocumented migrants from Mexico & Central American countries face to take care of themselves and others. By analyzing memoirs, documentaries, movies, and other cultural materials, we will explore the way in which various diseases, disabilities, and access to medical care shape the undocumented experience both in the migrant trail & in the U.S. We will focus on issues such as the fight for women’s reproductive justice, mental and physical health, as well as alternative and spiritual care.

Counts Toward Majors: Latin American Studies, Performance, Political Science, Spanish

Counts Toward Concentrations: International Relations, Latin American Studies



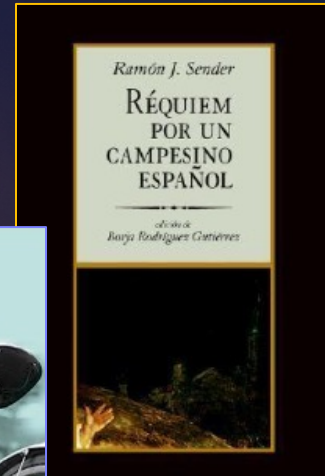
Spanish 275: Exploring Spanish Literature



In this course, we'll explore the creative process that underlies selected literary works in Spanish from four genres (poetry, short stories, a novel, and a play) by analyzing the how different authors make use of a variety of elements to produce works of imagination to share with their readers/audiences. Our specific point of departure in this edition of the course will be a historical event - the Spanish Civil (1936-39). An internal conflict that took on international importance in the 1930s and is now considered to be the prelude to WWII, the Spanish Civil War quickly sparked artistic responses by Spaniards (Picasso's 1937 painting *Guernica*) and foreigners alike (Ernest Hemingway's 1940 novel *For Whom the Bell Tolls*, made in to an Academy Award-winning film in 1943). The war continues to be the seminal event in 20th-century Spanish history and even today inspires novelists, playwrights, movie directors, and graphic novelists as the country wrestles to process its painful history.

The course also requires viewing films outside of class and two approved "comunidad de práctica" activities (for example, la Mesa avanzada, or Casa Hispánica/Presente/Somos events).

Taught in Spanish. Offered Fall and Spring. Required for the Spanish major. Counts toward Latin American Studies, Performance, and Political Science majors and International Relations and Latin American Studies concentrations. Prerequisite: SPAN 250 or 251. Note: Spanish 275 cannot be repeated.



Spanish 276: Spanish as a First and Second Language



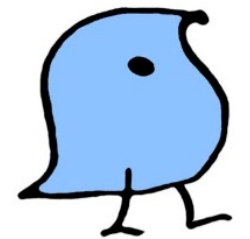
This course will critically explore questions related to the acquisition and use of Spanish as first, Heritage, and second language in a social context. The course introduces the cognitive and social processes involved in learning, acquiring, and using Spanish as a second language. In addition, Span 276 explores Spanish as a first and Heritage language through the study of the different varieties of Spanish spoken in the Spanish-speaking world, with particular emphasis on Spanish and English bilingualism in the U.S. The questions also invite us to look at the intersections between language, power, and identity. In order to do all this, this course will introduce some foundational notions from the fields of Second Language Acquisition, Hispanic Linguistics, and sociolinguistics.



- *Prerequisite: Either SPAN 250 or SPAN 251*
- *This course is required for the Spanish major*
- *Counts for Linguistic Studies concentration*
- *Counts for RACE*



The WUG Test



by Jean Berko Gleason

Spanish 313: Topic – What is a Meaningful Life?

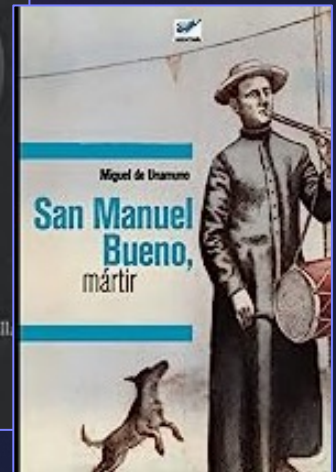
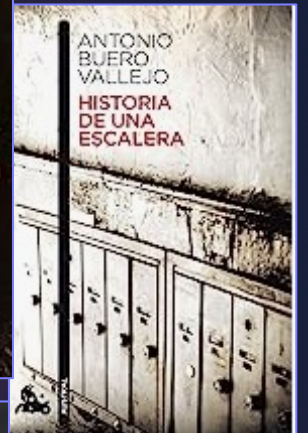
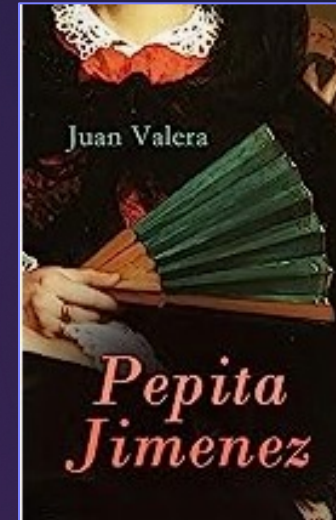


What is a meaningful life? How do human beings vary in their understanding of that life? What do they seem to communicate as to the nature of a meaningful life? What do Spanish writers of the past convey about the possibility of leading a life that has meaning? There is a general focus in our society on happiness and 'the pursuit of happiness'. How does happiness relate to having a life of meaning?

As we consider these questions and others, we will read some of the works that mattered to me when I was a teenager and in my twenties. We will explore together how they had an impact on my life, how they influenced my view of the meaningful life, as well as your understanding of these works. I will have the opportunity to consider again the importance of literature in my life and for you to consider its importance, if any, in yours.

What we will read may include:

- Lazarillo de Tormes, a novel by an unknown author
 - selections from El ingenioso hidalgo don Quijote de la Mancha, a novel by Miguel de Cervantes
 - Don Juan Tenorio, a play by José Zorrilla
 - Pepita Jiménez, a novel by Juan Valera
 - essays written by José Mariano de Larra and Azorín
 - San Manuel Bueno, Mártir, a novel written by Miguel de Unamuno
 - poetry written by Gustavo Adolfo Bécquer, Federico García Lorca, and others
 - Historia de una escalera, a play by Antonio Buero Vallejo
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- *Prerequisites: SPAN 250 or SPAN 251, and 275*
 - *Either 313 or 314 is required for the Spanish major.*
 - *Can count as a 300-level elective if you've already taken 313 or 314 (with a different topic.)*
 - *Counts as a "focus on Spain" course.*



Spanish 399: Seminar - Literature and Dictatorship in the Southern Cone (Argentina, Chile & Uruguay)



This seminar focuses on the dynamic and creative responses of literary works to the violent repression that characterized the military dictatorships of Latin America's Southern Cone in the 1970s and 1980s. We study novels, plays, and essays as we examine topics such as the strategies that writers developed to elude censorship as they challenged the official version of events put forth by the military regimes; the role of spectators and readers under dictatorship and what they needed to infer in order to make sense of what they saw in theatres and read; and the possibilities and limitations that literature has for "inhabiting" the past in the wake of authoritarianism, rather than avoiding that past, among others.

Taught in Spanish.

Prerequisites: Spanish 250 or 251 and at least one Spanish 270-level course.

GE Curriculum: WRI. OLE Core: WIM.

