

Transfer Guide Leading to a Bachelor's Degree in Spanish

All degree requirements are subject to the provisions and notices in the [NIU Undergraduate Catalog](#). Information is valid through **November 2016**.

Courses Highly Recommended Prior to Transfer (if student is transferring to NIU with general education requirements complete):

Generally, it is recommended that students complete all lower-level Spanish courses before transferring to NIU (100-200 levels). This way, students can start coursework at the 300-level during their first semester here. Some students can take a placement exam at their community college to place out of the lower levels. If you are a heritage speaker of Spanish, then you will need to see an advisor in the department for appropriate course placement.

Courses to Be Completed at NIU:

All majors and minors are required to complete three core courses:

- FLSP 211 Intermediate Spanish Conversation
or FLSP 215 Spanish Grammar for Spanish Speakers
- FLSP 301 Advanced Spanish Grammar
- FLSP 320 Intensive Reading & Introduction to Literary Analysis

After completing the core courses, students are required to take a certain number of 300 and 400 level courses, depending on the chosen track. In addition to Spanish courses, students specializing in translation and business complete 9 credits of coursework in Marketing, Management, Community Leadership & Civic Engagement, or Communications. Some examples of upper-level course offerings are:

Translation and Business track:

FLSP 414 Spanish Business Communications
FLSP 483 Techniques of Translation
FLSP 484 Advanced Translation
FLSP 412 Applied Spanish Conversation
FLSP 487 Hispanic Dialectology
FLSP 489 Consec Interpretation: Theory & Prac
FLSP 481 Spanish Phonology

Language and Literature track:

FLSP 461 or 462 Spanish or Span Am Civilization
FLSP 438 Contemporary Spanish Literature
FLSP 440 Span Am Poetry and Theater
FLSP 463 Hispanic Culture through Film
FLSP 445 Latin American Women Writers
FLSP 454 Mexican Literature
FLSP 452 Literature of the Caribbean

About the Department:

The Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures at NIU offers a major program leading to the B.A. degree in Spanish with two tracks available: one in language and literature and one in translation and business. Foreign language majors may gain certification to teach at the secondary level in Spanish. The department also offers a minor in Spanish.

- The Spanish program offers small classes and individualized attention.
- Students majoring in one foreign language may complete a second major in another language.

- Foreign language majors may complete minors in languages other than that of their major.
- The department also participates in interdisciplinary minors in classical studies, comparative literature, Latino and Latin American studies, linguistics, Southeast Asian studies, women's studies, and Chinese/Japanese studies.
- Spanish majors interested in our teacher licensure program should set up an appointment with the Director of Teacher Licensure as soon as possible (even before transferring here).

Faculty:

The Spanish program has eight professors who specialize in Peninsular and Latin American literature, culture and film, translation, and Spanish linguistics. Our faculty are highly committed to student success and actively participate in the Spanish Club, regularly offer honor's course offerings, and continuously develop and lead faculty-sponsored study abroad programs.

Engaged Learning Opportunities:

Study Abroad

Majors in Spanish are urged to spend a minimum of one semester in study abroad. NIU currently maintains appropriate faculty-led programs in Mendoza, Argentina and Toledo, Spain. Students seeking teacher licensure are especially encouraged to participate in a study abroad program as part of their undergraduate studies.

Language Learning Center

The Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures' Language Learning Center is a fully integrated multimedia facility, with multi-standard capability. The system integrates all media sources. Audio, video, and data signals are linked together in a multifunctional learning environment. The media center is a means of enhancing classroom instruction and assists in creating a motivating atmosphere where students are stimulated to take an active part in learning the four language skills of understanding, speaking, reading, and writing. Students are exposed to a variety of native speakers and are able to work as a class with the instructor, in small groups, or individually. The Language Learning Center is state-of-the-art, equipped with an array of the latest and most up-to-date software and hardware, including software for virtual tape recorders and specialized translation programs.

Foreign Language Residence Program

The Foreign Language Residence Program (FLRP) is a residential language program in New Hall West for students interested in maintaining and/or improving their foreign language proficiency and cultural awareness. Native speakers of Chinese, French, German, Japanese, and Spanish are in residence to serve as cultural resources and to provide tutoring.

Roommates and other participants communicate in the foreign languages once they enter the realm of the Foreign Language Residence Program. At dinner, from Monday to Thursday, participants gather at individual language tables to socialize in the foreign language with fellow participants as well as foreign languages department faculty and other international guests.

Participants come together the weekend before the fall semester opens to make acquaintances and to orient themselves to the special atmosphere of this unique program. Two additional weekends, one each semester of intense interaction among participants, are held at a nominal cost to the student at

NIU's Lorado Taft Field Campus. One evening meeting per week, per language group, is held to learn more about the culture and customs of the foreign land. Each semester participants invite parents and other guests to share an ethnic meal and to be entertained at a program highlighting their language skills and their understanding of the foreign customs.

Professional Internships

Internship opportunities are available for students seeking to earn university credit toward their major degree requirements in Spanish. Students in the translation and business track are strongly encouraged to complete a professional internship in the area of translation or business. Some examples of past internships are: Jewel Osco (marketing to Latino community), Conexión Comunidad (local non-profit organization), and Doctors Without Borders (international organization).

Student Organization:

The Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures has a very active Spanish Club that meets once a week throughout the semester. This student-centered organization plans special activities where students are engaged with the Spanish language and culture. The Spanish Club on average has over 25 members, and this number continues to grow each year.

Career Information:

The major in Spanish language and literature can lead to graduate school, teaching, social work, government work (Drug Enforcement Agency, Immigration and Naturalization Service, Central Intelligence Agency, Department of State, Foreign Service, United States Information Agency, National Parks), health services, journalism, publishing, airlines, secretarial work, and international relations. Students who are planning to complete the emphasis in translation and business can anticipate the following career possibilities: import/export, translation/interpreting, travel and tourism, airlines, advertising, banking, sales and marketing, and health services. For a list of additional career opportunities in Spanish, visit the NIU Career Service's webpage:

http://www.niu.edu/careerservices/weblinks/majors/foreign_language.shtml

For More Information:

For more information about the Spanish program at NIU contact:

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www.niu.edu/forlangs