

Spanish



The Spanish language and Spanish-speaking peoples are a vital part of our local and global communities. As a Mason Spanish major, you will study the Spanish language in the context of these communities. You will become proficient in speaking, reading, and writing Spanish. You will also learn about Latin American, Latino and Spanish language practices, literatures, histories, and cultures.

You participate in a large local community of Spanish speakers – both at the university and in Northern Virginia – with many opportunities to get to know speakers of Spanish through classes, student organizations, and community activism. You will have access to a wide number of Spanish language arts programs in the area, including Teatro de la Luna in Arlington County and Teatro Gala in Washington, D.C.

CONTACT US

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WHY MASON?

Our students have access to programs at the Smithsonian Latino Center, the National Gallery of Art, the Organization of American States, and the Mexican Cultural Institute in D.C. Because of these and the many embassies, nonprofit organizations, and cultural institutions of our area, Mason Spanish majors have a unique window on the economic, political, and cultural affairs of Spanish speakers from around the world. Located minutes from Washington, D.C., we offer you more affordable access to learning and career opportunities in Spanish than any other university in the region.





UNLIMITED OPPORTUNITIES

As a Spanish major, you can take advantage of terrific internships, study abroad programs, and student clubs such as the Hispanic Students' Association, the Immigration Advocacy Group, and Amnesty International. You can participate in a service learning experience drawing on your knowledge of the Spanish-speaking world and work for social change in your community.

- **Gabriela Guillén, '08**, interned with the Spanish for Young Heritage Learners' Program at Arlington Traditional School.
- **Catherine Berrouet, '10**, a double major in French and Spanish, is teaching bilingual ESL to adults in Mason's Culmore Literacy and Popular Education Project in Falls Church, Virginia. She says, "not only do I gain teaching experience, but I also get the satisfaction of helping the community."
- **William A. Garrett, '10**, is battalion chief of the Fairfax County Rescue Department. What he is learning as a Spanish major helps him deliver emergency and community services.

ENHANCE YOUR MAJOR

Put your electives to good use by choosing a minor that extends your areas of expertise and increases your marketability. Most minors require only three or four courses beyond the major. Spanish majors often minor in:

- Anthropology
- English
- International/Comparative Studies
- Latin American Studies
- Sociology

Some students combine Spanish with a second major in one of the disciplines above or with a major in Government and International Politics.



EXCITING CAREERS

Graduates of our Spanish program are well prepared for work in a wide range of careers, including business, education, law and law enforcement, social services, the health professions, and international organizations.

- **Pilar Hook, '07**, teaches Spanish for heritage and non-native learners at J.L. Simpson Middle School in Leesburg, Virginia.
- **Geneva Ardan, '06**, is a social worker at an advocacy group for women in Alexandria, Virginia.
- **Daniela Cornejo, '06**, is a paralegal at the Deutsch, Killea, Eapan Immigration Law Firm in Washington, D.C., and a first-year law student at the Washington College of Law at American University.