

*Different perspectives.
Stronger communities.
A more just world.*

SPANISH FOR A BRIGHTER CRIMINOLOGY CAREER

LANGUAGE SKILLS. STRONGER COMMUNITIES.
REAL-WORLD IMPACT.

COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT

*Safer communities
have no borders.*

WHY SPANISH MATTERS FOR CRIMINOLOGY MAJORS



MORE EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION

Spanish helps you communicate with diverse individuals and communities—including victims, witnesses, and community members—leading to more accurate information, stronger trust, and fairer outcomes.



A DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF JUSTICE AND SOCIETY

Language and culture give you insight into the experiences, challenges, and perspectives of Spanish-speaking communities, helping you analyze crime and justice issues in a broader, more informed way.



EXPANDED RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

Spanish opens doors to research on immigration, border communities, gang prevention, community-based programs, and comparative criminal justice systems in Latin America and the U.S.



STAND OUT IN GRAD SCHOOL AND THE JOB MARKET

Bilingual skills make you a stronger candidate for graduate programs and careers in law enforcement, legal fields, policy, social services, nonprofits, and government agencies that serve diverse populations.

NEW MEXICO NEEDS BILINGUAL CRIMINAL JUSTICE PROFESSIONALS



Nearly **50%** of New Mexicans speak a language other than English at home, and the majority of these residents are Spanish speakers.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates (2022).

A STRONGER,
SAFER, MORE
INCLUSIVE
NEW MEXICO.

CAREERS & OPPORTUNITIES

Spanish can open doors to meaningful work in:

- Legal and court systems (e.g., courts, prosecution, public defense)
- Victim advocacy and support services
- Juvenile justice and youth programs
- Policy and research on crime, immigration, and community safety
- Community-based organizations and nonprofits
- And many other careers focused on justice and safer, stronger communities



*Language changes how we listen.
Culture changes how we understand.*

Spanish can help you connect more deeply
with the people you serve.



DEPARTMENT OF
SPANISH &
PORTUGUESE

Contact us to
learn more!



A SECOND MAJOR OR MINOR

ROADMAP: Start Sophomore Year. Finish By Senior Year

SECOND MAJOR IN SPANISH

- TAKE TWO OF THESE COURSES, OUR ONLY PRE-REQUISITES, IN ANY SEMESTER AND IN ANY ORDER:
 - ☐ CHOOSE ONE: SPAN 301 OR SPAN 305
TOPICS IN HISPANIC CULTURE • MEDICAL SPANISH AND PUBLIC HEALTH
 - ☐ SPAN 302: ADVANCED WRITING IN SPANISH
- THEN TAKE TWO COURSES FROM THESE CLUSTERS IN ANY ORDER
 - ☐ CHOOSE ONE: SPAN 350, 351, 352, OR 371
SOUND PATTERNS • LINGUISTICS • GRAMMAR IN SOCIETY • SPANISH OF THE SOUTHWEST
 - ☐ CHOOSE ONE: SPAN 306, 307, 370, OR 303
HEALTH & HEALING • HISPANIC LITERATURE • CHICANO LITERATURE • BRAZILIAN LITERATURE & CULTURE
- THEN TAKE FOUR ADVANCED COURSES IN ANY SEMESTER AND IN ANY ORDER:
 - ☐ ANY COURSE ABOVE SPAN 328
 - ☐ ANY COURSE ABOVE SPAN 400
 - ☐ ANY COURSE ABOVE SPAN 400
 - ☐ ANY COURSE ABOVE SPAN 400

DID YOU KNOW?



- A second major appears on your diploma & transcript! (A minor appears on your transcript only.)
- You can take advanced courses during the intercession and summer terms!
- Study abroad can count toward your degree—up to 15 credits for a second major and 12 credits for a minor!

MINOR IN SPANISH

- TAKE TWO OF THESE COURSES, OUR ONLY PRE-REQUISITES, IN ANY SEMESTER AND IN ANY ORDER:
 - ☐ CHOOSE ONE: SPAN 301 OR SPAN 305
TOPICS IN HISPANIC CULTURE • MEDICAL SPANISH AND PUBLIC HEALTH
 - ☐ SPAN 302: ADVANCED WRITING IN SPANISH
- THEN TAKE TWO COURSES FROM THESE CLUSTERS IN ANY ORDER
 - ☐ CHOOSE ONE: SPAN 350, 351, 352, OR 371
SOUND PATTERNS • LINGUISTICS • GRAMMAR IN SOCIETY • SPANISH OF THE SOUTHWEST
 - ☐ CHOOSE ONE: SPAN 306, 307, 370, OR 303
HEALTH & HEALING • HISPANIC LITERATURE • CHICANO LITERATURE • BRAZILIAN LITERATURE & CULTURE
- THEN TAKE TWO ADVANCED COURSES IN ANY SEMESTER AND IN ANY ORDER:
 - ☐ ANY COURSE ABOVE SPAN 349
 - ☐ ANY COURSE ABOVE SPAN 400



ADVANCED PLACEMENT CREDITS (AP)



- A 4 OR 5 ON AP SPANISH LANGUAGE ALLOWS ENROLLMENT IN SPAN 307
- A 4 ON AP SPANISH LITERATURE ALLOWS ENROLLMENT IN SPAN 307
- A 5 ON AP SPANISH LITERATURE ALLOWS ENROLLMENT IN SPAN 328 AND ABOVE