

SUMMER 2026 *COURSE DESCRIPTIONS*

DEPARTMENT OF SPANISH AND PORTUGUESE
University of New Mexico

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Get Started: Enroll in the Right Course

Whether you're starting from scratch or continuing your language journey, this guide will help you choose the right Spanish or Portuguese course.

SPANISH PLACEMENT EXAM

All UNM students who choose Spanish to fulfill their language requirement(s) must take a **Spanish Placement** "diagnosis" test for placement at the appropriate level. Note: This is not a Proficiency Test, nor it is a test that is used for grades. The results of this test inform students, instructors and advisors the Spanish UNM course to take that is most appropriate.

You will receive via email your test results with UNM course recommendation to register. Please share this email with your advisor and instructor when registering for classes. Your UNM instructor will also ask to share this info during the first two weeks of a Fall/Spring semester.

Continuing students who are following the sequence of Spanish language courses:

- Your UNM instructor may ask you to share your unofficial UNM transcript during the first two weeks of a Fall/Spring semester to verify enrollment in the appropriate course.
- Keep in mind, if a period of one year or more has passed between Spanish courses, you will be required to take the placement evaluation again.

Any student enrolling in a Spanish language course (1000, 2000, & 300 level) should know:

1. A placement test should be taken BEFORE enrolling in a Spanish class – especially if taking a Spanish course for the first time – or – enrolling in a Beginning Spanish course (1110 or 1210).
2. Placement evaluation scores are valid for one year only. If a student has not taken the course they placed into within a year's time, the student will have to retake the placement test.

If you have **AP/CLEP/IB** credit from high school, make sure you check this website to identify the Spanish courses at UNM you are ready to take!

Why are students required to take the placement test?

The evaluation places students at the appropriate course level and helps determine the proper language program. The Department of Spanish and Portuguese has two Spanish language programs:

Spanish as a Second Language (SSL) – or – Spanish as a Heritage Language (SHL)

SSL - SPANISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE PROGRAM: This program is designed for students of Spanish whose native home language is not Spanish. Spanish classes 1110, 1120, 2110, and 2120/2420

SHL - SPANISH AS A HERITAGE LANGUAGE PROGRAM: Spanish classes 1210, 1220, 2210, and 2220 are designated for students who have a cultural connection to the Spanish language. This is a comprehensive program that is designed to accommodate students at all phases of learning: from true beginners to those who are more fluent and are polishing their skills. By drawing upon our connection to the language, we make the study of Spanish more relevant to SHL learners; this serves as a significant motivating factor in language learning.

The Spanish as a Heritage Language program is for students who are heritage learners or native speakers of Spanish.

A Heritage Learner is: someone who has lived in the U.S. all or most of their life; is English dominant; may be two, three or more generations removed from daily use of the Spanish language; may have comprehension but may or may not have oral proficiency; and identifies Spanish as a part of their heritage and/or culture.

A Native Speaker is: someone who learned Spanish from birth in the U.S. or a country other than the U.S.; may have received some education in Spanish in a country other than the U.S.; may be Spanish dominant; has oral proficiency skills; may lack literacy skills.

IMPORTANT: Students may not receive credit for both:

SPAN 1110 and 1210

SPAN 1120 and 1220

SPAN 2110 and 2210

SPAN 2120/2420 and 2220

Placement at SPAN 300 level:

If you take the Placement exam and it places you in “Span 300 or Above”:

1. Register in Span 301/Span 305 (Topic courses) - **OR-**
2. Contact Undergraduate Advisor, Dr. Carmen Julia Holguín-Chaparro (cjhch@unm.edu) to explore together other options for courses in 300 level.

IMPORTANT:

1. You can earn credit for lower-level courses by taking the Spanish language CLEP test or by completing a Course Challenge form for the lower-level Spanish course(s) for credit.
2. Only Span 300 level courses fulfill your language requirement(s) at UNM (not 400 level courses).

If interested in a Spanish Major or Minor, you will need SPAN 300 level (and above) courses.

PORTUGUESE PLACEMENT EXAM

Beginning and Intermediate Portuguese Classes at UNM: **No placement evaluation is required.**

The Portuguese program has the right language courses for students at UNM with diverse language backgrounds. Our adviser and our instructors will help students select the best course for their needs.

SPANISH COURSES

Lower-Level Division Courses

SPAN 1110.040, 1110.042, 1110.043, 1110.044, 1110.045, 1110.046, 1110.047: Spanish I **3 cr. hrs. each**
**** 1ST Half Course - June ****

Instructor: TBA

Spanish 1110 is the first of a four-semester series for students of Spanish whose home native language is other than Spanish. This course is taught with a communicative-based methodology (task-based oriented). The course introduces basic grammatical or vocabulary knowledge and engages students in the practice of the four language skills (listening, reading, writing, speaking) and provides the student with exposure to the target language and culture in different Spanish-speaking countries and/or situations.

Mandatory Prerequisite: Spanish Placement Exam. See page 2 for more information.

Students will only receive credit for SPAN 1110 OR SPAN 1210. Credit will not be awarded to both courses.

SPAN 101.041: Spanish I **3 cr. hrs.**
****2ND Half Courses - July****

Instructor: TBA

Spanish 1110 is the first of a four-semester series for students of Spanish whose home native language is other than Spanish. This course is taught with a communicative-based methodology (task-based oriented). The course introduces basic grammatical or vocabulary knowledge and engages students in the practice of the four language skills (listening, reading, writing, speaking) and provides the student with exposure to the target language and culture in different Spanish-speaking countries and/or situations.

Mandatory Prerequisite: Spanish Placement Exam. See page 2 for more information.

Students will only receive credit for SPAN 1110 OR SPAN 1210. Credit will not be awarded to both courses.

SPAN 1210.041: Spanish Heritage Learners I **3 cr. hrs.**
****1ST Half Course - June ****

Instructor: TBA

This is a beginning course for students who have a cultural connection to the Spanish language. Some students can understand a basic Spanish conversation and can produce isolated words and some full sentences. Students are required to take a placement evaluation before signing up for this course. Emphasis is placed on listening, speaking, reading and writing. In addition to acquisition of basic vocabulary and development of reading and writing, students will learn conversational skills that will allow them to fulfill basic social needs in Spanish.

Prerequisite: Spanish Placement Exam.

Students will only receive credit for SPAN 1210 OR SPAN 1110. Credit will not be awarded to both courses

Undergraduate Spanish Courses

SPAN 301.001: Hablantes Conectados **3cr. hrs.**
**** Conexiones – study abroad - Ecuador ****
Professor: Damián Wilson

SPAN 301.040: Curanderismo: A Workshop **3cr. hrs.**
**** 1ST Half Course - June ****
Instructor: TBA

Este curso se enfoca en explorar los métodos tradicionales de curación. En él se analiza cómo la diversidad cultural actual fue moldeada por los antepasados y cómo continúa en el presente. El curso presenta enseñanzas en una variedad de rituales, como masajes tradicionales para el bloqueo intestinal (empacho), limpiezas espirituales / energéticas (limpias), risoterapia, alineaciones del cuerpo con mantas (manteadas), ventosas, y la preparación de tés medicinales, tinturas y micro dosis. Al final del curso, los alumnos tendrán una comprensión general de la medicina tradicional, es decir, el curanderismo, y sus usos históricos para tratar diferentes dolencias cuando la atención médica es un recurso escaso para muchas personas.

Students should have SPAN 2120 or 2420 or 2220 skill level or course placement to pass this class

SPAN 301.041/481.001: Latin American Lit & Film **** 2ND Half Course-July **** **3cr. hrs.**

Professor: Kimberle López

In this course, we will explore the connection between Latin American Literary and Cinematic Production. We will read canonical and non-canonical narratives and examine their cinematic adaptations with attention to the cultural and sociohistorical contexts they represent. As we read the narratives and view the films, we will analyze the representation of race, class, gender and sexuality. Students will refine their Spanish reading, listening, and writing skills as they organize their analyses in discussion posts and short essays.

Students should have SPAN 2120 or 2420 or 2220 skill level or course placement to pass this class

SPAN 302.040/429.001: Dev Spanish Writing Skills ****1st Half Course - June **** **3 cr. hrs.**

Professor: Carmen Julia Holguin Chaparro

The main goal of this course is to help the student improve writing skills in the Spanish language. Students will accomplish this by writing a series of exercises and essays throughout the semester with a focus on composition and organization as well as grammar and vocabulary. Reading selections from various texts in Spanish will provide models for expressive language, themes, organization and critical thinking. This approach will include exposure to Spanish and Spanish American cultures and practice of communication within a cultural context. Grade will be based on class attendance and active participation along with essays, written exercises, quizzes, exams, homework, and other varied activities. The textbook for this class is *Taller de escritores: Grammar and Composition for Advanced Spanish* by Guillermo Bleichmar and Paula Cañón (Boston: Vista, 2012.) The course will be conducted in Spanish. **Students should have SPAN 301 skill level or course placement to pass this class.**

SPAN 302.041: Dev Spanish Writing Skills ****2nd Half Course - July **** **3 cr. hrs.**

Professor: Paulo Dutra

The main goal of this course is to help the student improve writing skills in the Spanish language. Students will accomplish this by writing a series of exercises and essays throughout the semester with a focus on composition and organization as well as grammar and vocabulary. Reading selections from various texts in Spanish will provide models for expressive language, themes, organization and critical thinking. This approach will include exposure to Spanish and Spanish American cultures and practice of communication within a cultural context. Grade will be based on class attendance and active participation along with essays, written exercises, quizzes, exams, homework, and other varied activities. The textbook for this class is *Taller de escritores: Grammar and Composition for Advanced Spanish* by Guillermo Bleichmar and Paula Cañón (Boston: Vista, 2012.) The course will be conducted in Spanish. **Students should have SPAN 301 skill level or course placement to pass this class.**

SPAN 352.040: Spanish Grammar in Society ****2ND Half Course - July **** **3 cr. hrs.**

Instructor: TBA

In this course we study how Spanish grammar can vary depending on place, social group, and social situation, thus moving beyond so-called 'correct' or textbook grammar. Through the investigations of variability of grammar, students will learn grammatical terminology and how to identify categories and constructions in Spanish (e.g. subject versus object pronoun). We will also examine why some varieties of both Spanish and English are considered prestigious while others are not, drawing on current and historical sociopolitical contexts. Finally, we will discuss and question our own language attitudes throughout the course.

Pre/co-requisite: SPAN 302

SPAN 481.001/301.041: Latin American Lit & Film **** 2ND Half Course - July **** **3cr. hrs.**

Professor: Kimberle López

In this course, we will explore the connection between Latin American Literary and Cinematic Production. We will read canonical and non-canonical narratives and examine their cinematic adaptations with attention to the cultural and sociohistorical contexts they represent. As we read the narratives and view the films, we will analyze the representation of race, class, gender and sexuality. Students will refine their Spanish reading, listening, and writing skills as they organize their analyses in discussion posts and short essays. **Prerequisite: SPAN 306 or 307**

SPAN 429.001/301.040: Granada: Escritura-Historia ****1st Half Course – June study abroad - Spain **** **3 cr. hrs.**

Professor: Carmen Julia Holguin Chaparro

PORTUGUESE COURSES

Lower-Level Division Courses

PORT 1110.040: Portuguese I

****1st Half Course - June**

3 cr. hrs.

Instructor: TBA

The first in a two-semester sequence for students who have little previous experience with Portuguese, Spanish, or any other Romance language. This course introduces Portuguese as a world language within a communicative approach that focuses on developing listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Grades are based on exams, homework, and class participation. The class meets 3 days a week. **Students may only receive credit for PORT 1110 and 1120 or PORT 2110. Credit will not be counted for all three courses.**
