

INDIANA UNIVERSITY
Request for a New Academic Program

Campus: East

Proposed Type (minor, certificate, etc.) and Title of Program: Spanish Minor

Proposed Date of Implementation: Fall 2012

I. Why is the program needed? (Rationale)

To be able to communicate in a foreign language is a fundamental asset in any profession, from careers in education, translating and interpreting, to those in international studies, health, business or law. A minor in Spanish addresses the needs of students who seek the ability to communicate in more than one language in order to be competitive in their chosen profession.

The study of Spanish language and culture is of special importance in the United States, the country with the second largest Spanish-speaking population in the world. The Spanish Minor offers students 1) the linguistic confidence needed for interacting with Spanish speakers and 2) the benefits of being exposed to other cultures.

Additionally, offering a minor in Spanish would put I.U. East in line with all the other I.U. campuses. Indeed, I.U. East is the only campus in the I.U.-system without a Spanish Minor.

II. List major topics or curriculum of the program.

Hispanic culture

- The cultural variety of the Hispanic world (including the United States)
- The legacy of the civilizations and cultures that comprise the Hispanic world
- Introduction to the study of literary works written in Spanish

Spanish language

- Development of proficiency in the four skills (speaking, listening, reading and writing)
- Development of conversational proficiency
- Spanish grammar
- Spanish composition and diction

Required courses

SPAN-S100	Elementary Spanish I (or equivalent)	4 cr.
SPAN-S150	Elementary Spanish II (or equivalent)	4 cr.
SPAN-S200	Second-Year Spanish I (or equivalent)	3 cr.
SPAN-S250	Second-Year Spanish II (or equivalent)	3 cr.
SPAN-S275	Introduction to Hispanic Culture (or equivalent)	3 cr.
HISP-S308	Spanish Conversation and Composition (or equivalent)	3 cr.
HISP-S328	Introduction to Hispanic Literature (or equivalent)	3 cr.
	Total Hours	23 cr. ¹

¹ The number of credit hours may be slightly higher than most minors on the I.U. East campus, however for HSS's BA students, this is only 9 credit hours (3 courses) beyond the foreign language requirement. Additionally, three culture/literature courses beyond SPAN-S250 is the minimum requirement for a Spanish minor among all I.U. campuses. IUPUI and IPFW require five courses beyond Second-Year Spanish II (SPAN-S250 or SPAN-S204). IU Bloomington, IU Kokomo, IU South Bend require four courses beyond Second-Year Spanish II. And IU Southeast and IU Northwest require three courses beyond Second-Year Spanish II.

HSS students working on a BA can fulfill their foreign language requirement by taking the four language courses. This leaves an additional three courses (9 cr.) to earn for the minor. Additionally, students who have had two years or more of Spanish in High School can take a placement exam to test out of some of the language courses.²

All of the above courses and must be completed with a grade of “C” or above to count as part of the minor.

Six credit hours beyond SPAN-S250 must be completed on the I.U. East campus.³

New Courses

HISP-S308 Spanish Composition and Conversation

The objective of this course is to develop students’ oral and writing abilities in Spanish. Students will develop writing skills in Spanish by learning and practicing the main components of different writing styles: description, narration, exposition, and argumentation. Students will learn compositional elements that provide cohesion and coherence in both formal and informal writing styles. Students will develop their oral skills by engaging in debates and conversations on a variety of topics related to cultural, social, and political issues. By the end of this course, students will be able to write in a variety of formal and informal writing styles and to discuss a wide range of topics. Taught in Spanish.

HISP-S328 Introduction to Hispanic Literature

This course will help students develop tools needed for more advanced study of Hispanic literatures through the reading and analysis of selected literary texts from Spain and Spanish America. One of the key aspects that the students will take away from the course is an appreciation of different genres as well as a reflection on the concept of genre itself. Taught in Spanish.

Schedule

1st Year – Fall	2nd Year – Fall	3rd Year – Fall	4th Year – Fall
• SPAN-S100	• SPAN-S200	• SPAN-S275	• HISP-S328
1st Year – Spring	2nd Year – Spring	3rd Year – Spring	
• SPAN-S150	• SPAN-S250	• HISP-S308	

III. List the major student outcomes (or set of performance-based standards) for the proposed program.

Upon finishing the Spanish Minor, we expect students to have developed supporting skills in critical thinking, written expression, reading, listening and oral proficiency in Spanish, meaning that students will:

² Typically students who have taken Spanish in High School can test out of SPAN-S100 or SPAN-S150, sometimes SPAN-S200 and very rarely SPAN-S250.

³ This is to ensure that we get sufficient enrollment in these advanced literature/culture courses since the pre-requisite (SPAN-S250) reduces the pool of students who can potentially enroll. Other I.U. campuses have a similar requirement. At IPFW and IUPUI, the number of credit hours beyond SPAN-S250 that must be taken on campus is eight and six respectively.

- Possess Spanish listening and speaking skills equivalent at least to the advanced level of the ACTFL⁴ Proficiency Guidelines: Understand the main ideas of most speech in a standard dialect and use oral Spanish to speak about a variety of everyday activities, school, and work situations, but also to support opinions, explain in detail and hypothesize.
- Possess Spanish reading skills equivalent at least to the advanced level of the ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines: Understand parts of texts that are conceptually abstract and linguistically complex; demonstrate awareness of the aesthetic properties of language and of its literary styles, which permits comprehension of a wider variety of texts, including literary texts.
- Possess Spanish writing skills equivalent at least to the advanced level of the ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines: the student will be able to write about a variety of topics with significant precision and detail, and to produce organized compositions and short research papers.
- Demonstrate in their oral presentations, compositions, research papers and other class assignments a reasonable knowledge of the ways of thinking, behavioral practices, and the cultural products of the Spanish-speaking world.

IV. Explain how student outcomes will be assessed (course-embedded assessment, graduate follow-up, employer survey, standardized tests, etc.).

Student outcomes will be assessed using course-embedded tools such as oral presentations, class participation, compositions, exams and other projects.

V. Describe the student population to be served.

This minor will be attractive to students in all I.U. East schools.

VI. How does the program complement the campus or department mission?

The minor will complement the mission of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences by offering students an opportunity to learn a language and discover a culture different from their own. It will also consolidate I.U. East's mission to become a full-fledged Bachelors and Masters degree granting institution.

This minor also meets the following I.U. East Learning Objectives:

1. Educated persons should be exposed to a broad variety of academic fields traditionally known as the liberal arts (humanities, fine arts, social sciences, natural sciences) in order to develop a critical appreciation of diversity of ideas and creative expression.

⁴ American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages.

6. Educated persons should develop the skills to understand, accept, and relate to people of different backgrounds and beliefs. In a pluralistic world one should not be provincial or ignorant of other cultures; one's life is experienced within the context of other races, religions, languages, nationalities and value systems.

VII. Describe the relationship to existing programs within Indiana University.

Besides HSS's BA degrees, the Spanish Minor will become an integral part of the curriculum of several other Indiana University East programs, such as NSM's BA degrees,⁵ Education's BS degree in Elementary Education,⁶ Social Work's BSW and MSW degrees,⁷ and Nursing's BS degree⁸ (Initial contact was made with the deans of these schools).

VIII. List and indicate the resources required to implement the proposed program.

Indicate sources, e.g. reallocation or any new resources such as personnel, library holdings, equipment, etc.

Current library holdings in the Spanish should be sufficient for the minor. The new courses would be taught by the department's full-time faculty. Our current Spanish adjunct faculty would be asked to teach an additional course per year.

IX. Describe any innovative features of the program (e.g. involvement with local or regional agencies, offices, etc., cooperative efforts with other institutions, etc.).

This program is innovative in the sense that the study of language and culture is intertwined from the start. Culture is embedded into the language classes and vice versa. For instance, the Hispanic and Francophone Film Series (weekly showing of either a Spanish or a French language film) is an integral part of all World Languages & Cultures department's courses. Finally, service-learning opportunities with organizations in the community working with the Hispanic population (e.g. AMIGOS) will be available to students.

⁵ NSM students working on a BA can fulfill their foreign language requirement by taking the SPAN-S100 and SPAN-S150 (Elementary Spanish I and II). All the other courses (15 cr.) would count as electives.

⁶ Pending approval by the School of Education, the Spanish Minor will be an option for Education's BS degree in elementary education. Students can select from three other minors.

⁷ Social Work has expressed an interest in adding the minor as one of the options for their students.

⁸ Nursing students can use any of these courses to meet the cultural diversity requirements of 6 credit hours. The **HISP-S328** could be used as the Humanistic Appreciation elective (3 credit hours) and any of the courses could be used for the open electives (6 credit hours).