Información General

“¡Aquí se habla español!” “Spanish is spoken here!” Además de ser uno de los cinco idiomas más hablados del mundo, el español es el segundo idioma de los Estados Unidos debido a la creciente población de habla hispana en Norteamérica. La especialización en español prepara al estudiante para funcionar en un mundo cada vez más interdependiente. Además de cursos introductórios que se enfocan en los asuntos pragmáticos de la lengua, el programa de español de Messiah le ofrece una gran variedad de asignaturas que tratan la historia, la literatura, y la civilización de las culturas hispánicas.

Curriculum

Credit hours shown in parentheses

Spanish Major (34 credits)
Fundamentals of Spanish I (3)
Fundamentals of Spanish II (3)
Intermediate Spanish (3)
Spanish Conversation and Composition (3)
Free of the following (including at least two 300-level courses):
- Latin American Plays of Protest (3)
- Spanish Theatre Production (3)
- Post-Franco Spain (3)
- The Struggle for Spanish Identity (3)
- Business Spanish (3)
- Topics in Latin American Literature (3)
- Culture and Identity in Latin America (3)
- Applied Phonetics (3)
- Topics in Spanish Peninsular Literature (3)
- The Counter Reformation and the Spanish Baroque (3)
- Spanish Linguistics (3)
- Contemporary Mexico (3)
- Modern Languages Seminar (3)
Fifteen credits of the following:
- Approved Spanish courses through the Brethren Colleges Abroad (BCA).
- El estudiante que elija el idioma español como su especialidad académica realizará por lo menos un semestre de estudios con el programa de Brethren Colleges Abroad (BCA).
- Tendrá la opción de estudiar en la Universidad de San Francisco de Quito, en Ecuador. Los estudios en el extranjero son una parte indispensable de nuestro programa por su comprobada eficacia en fomentar un mayor entendimiento de las gentes radicadas en las regiones hispánicas del mundo. La inmersión en las vivencias cotidianas de estas gentes les confiere a nuestros estudiantes muchas oportunidades para seguir cultivando el idioma español. Nuestros alumnos seleccionan cursos entre las disciplinas enseñadas en las Facultades de Humanidades de las universidades mencionadas arriba.

Certificación

Los estudiantes interesados en capacitarse para ser maestros de la lengua española pueden obtener la certificación para los niveles K-12. Este programa de estudios incluye, además de los cursos de español, una variedad de cursos de educación, observaciones en las escuelas públicas y un semestre de práctica escolar.

Profesiones y la Especialización en el Español

Un título en español le prepara al estudiante para seguir una variedad de profesiones en el sector de la educación, el gobierno, la banca, el comercio doméstico e internacional, en misiones humanitarias y cristianas, e incluso, desempeñarse como traductor o intérprete. Los estudios en español también pueden ser útiles para entrar en otros campos tales como las profesiones médicas, los servicios sociales o el periodismo. En adición, nuestro programa permite al estudiante prepararse para continuar con los estudios graduados.

Although majors and course requirements may change from time to time, as stated in the College Catalog, the preceding information is correct according to the 2006–2007 catalog.
Our Programs

The Department of Modern Languages at Messiah College offers programs of study in French, German, and Spanish languages, literatures, and cultures. The programs are designed to develop linguistic competence and critical skills as well as a profound appreciation of the culture and civilization of the French-, German-, or Spanish-speaking peoples.

The language courses provide solid preparation and practice in spoken and written areas including a thorough review of grammar and vocabulary supplemented with cultural readings and activities. The beginning courses prepare students for advanced work in literature and cultural studies while improving competence in the language. The 200-level courses cover a selection of outstanding works in various periods and genres. Some of the 200-level classes are devoted to advanced language training and afford practice in spoken and written work. Others consider the political, social, and cultural histories of the French-, German-, or Spanish-speaking people. Advanced courses deal intensively with individual authors or periods of special significance.

Students in all of the languages are encouraged to speak the language at all times. All of the classes are taught in French, German or Spanish.

Study Abroad

To ensure linguistic and cultural proficiency, each language major spends at least one semester abroad with the Brethren Colleges Abroad Program in Ecuador, France, Germany, or Spain. Study at Messiah is supplemented with an intensive semester with the Brethren College Abroad program. Modern language students experience the richness of foreign cultures while studying in Strasbourg, France, at Philipps Universität in Marburg, Germany; in Barcelona, Spain, or in Quito, Ecuador. At all of the study abroad sites our students choose from a wide selection of courses in literature, linguistics, history, political science, and art. Residence in this program is required for one semester, and many students spend the full junior year abroad.

Careers and Vocation

Students with advanced training in modern languages and cultures have an important edge in today’s increasingly international job market. They often go on to successful careers in banking and business, government and diplomacy, education, travel, the Peace Corps, mission work, telecommunications, and human services among other fields. K–12 teaching certification is also available.

Message From The Faculty

At Messiah College, the modern language faculty work hard to help students discover the world in all its complexity. Many students agree that to master a second language and to understand and have insight into the artistic and cultural heritage of other peoples of the world is integral to a liberal arts education. Yet sometimes students question, “Are these activities worthwhile and marketable?”

The source of this question rests on the assumption that success in life depends on learning how to do a specific job and then spending one’s life doing it well. We would argue, on the contrary, that Christian thinkers who can adapt to new situations are in high demand. The disciplines in this department teach students how to learn in myriad ways, think creatively, speak clearly, read critically, and interact with others from around the world. Graduates who possess these skills are prepared to adapt to change. Employers repeatedly tell us, “If you teach students to think well, write persuasively, read knowledgeably, and learn a second language, we will train them for this particular job.”

Times change, but to think cogently and to express oneself well in another language are abilities that not only enrich the soul but are essential qualities in the competitive work place. We welcome you to consider spending these crucial years with us. The faculty members in this department make every effort to create a learning environment that challenges students to learn, from Messiah College professors, and from scholars around the world as well. In the study abroad experience your classes will be taught by native language faculty.

We wish you God’s best as choose a college, and we hope that you join us at Messiah College.