University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Department of Spanish, Italian, and Portuguese

Requirements for PhD in Spanish with specialization in Spanish Literature and Culture

Entrance Requirements

Students pursuing the PhD in Spanish with specialization in Spanish Literature and Culture are expected to have the equivalent of a Master’s degree in related studies with appropriate Master’s level coursework in the following groups:

1. Pre-18th Century Peninsular
2. Colonial Spanish American (Pre-Columbian to 1810)
3. Modern and Contemporary Spanish American
4. Modern and Contemporary Peninsular
5. Luso-Brazilian Studies

The Department recognizes that not all institutions offer courses in these areas at the Master’s level. Therefore, students may be admitted to the program with deficiencies and may have to complete coursework in the areas listed above during their tenure as a PhD student. The hours of coursework accrued to make up these deficiencies will not apply to the PhD as described below.

Ph.D. Coursework Requirements

If a student has met the entrance requirements, the Ph.D. program in Spanish Literature and Culture consists of a minimum of 32 hours of coursework in any of the areas normally offered by departmental faculty. In some cases, students may wish to take courses "outside" of their specialization, (e.g., students of Spanish American Literature may opt to take some coursework in Brazilian Literature). However, all coursework should be chosen wisely in careful consultation with a major advisor (usually the faculty member under whom the student will eventually write the doctoral thesis). Before students register each semester, they must secure their advisors' written approval of the projected program of study for that semester. Students who register without the written consent of their advisor will be reviewed by the Graduate Studies Committee for continuation of financial aid and/or continuation in the program.

Language Requirement

In addition to coursework in literary studies, students of Hispanic Literatures at the doctoral level are required to demonstrate reading competence in at least two languages other than English and Spanish. Competence may be demonstrated in a variety of ways (e.g., by examination, approved
coursework, or other options - see Section 5.3 of Guidelines) and each student should consult with the Director of Graduate Studies concerning this requirement.

Students may opt to substitute one of the two languages with concentrated work in an additional area of study (e.g. cinema studies, Women's and Gender Studies, etc.). Areas of study that would appropriately fulfill this requirement are those that are not normally represented in regular departmental course offerings.