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Modern Languages

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Click the appropriate link for [Arabic courses](#), [Chinese courses](#), [French courses](#), [German courses](#), [Italian courses](#), [Japanese courses](#), [Modern Languages & Linguistics courses](#), [Persian courses](#), [Russian courses](#), and [Spanish courses](#).

The modern languages curriculum is designed to increase a student's proficiency in another language by developing four skill areas: aural comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. The knowledge of another language and culture is a cornerstone of a liberal education and is a key to interacting in a complex and multicultural world. The department offers beginning, intermediate, and advanced language instruction in Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Russian, and Spanish. Classes are conducted in the target languages. There is a language laboratory and a Conversation Hour to supplement classroom instruction. Advanced courses in linguistics, literature, history, and culture are offered in French, German, Italian, and Spanish. The department offers a major in Spanish as well as self designed majors in the other languages and minors in French, German, Italian, Japanese, Spanish, and linguistics.

New Intensive Courses in Arabic, Chinese, Japanese, Persian and Russian are now offered. ARA, CHI, JPN, PER, and RUS 151 are offered in the fall and cover the material/skills from the old 101-102 courses. ARA, CHI, JPN, PER, and RUS152 are offered in the spring and cover the material/skills from the old 103-201 courses. Each of these courses meets four days a week for 80 minutes each class day plus a conversation hour (50 minutes) which typically meets on Wednesday. Each of these courses carries two (2) course units of academic credit.

Students who have a TCNJ GPA of 3.3 or above are automatically approved to take 5 units if two of the five units are from a 151 or 152 intensive language course. This overload does not count against their college-career limit of one overload in the four years. (Students whose GPA is below 3.3 do not qualify for the automatic overload permission.) Incoming freshmen and transfer students will not have a TCNJ GPA and are therefore not allowed to take five units until they can establish their TCNJ GPA at the required 3.3 level or higher. Please see each language for more information. The Spanish major provides intensive study of the literature, language, and cultures of the Spanish-speaking world. The Spanish major can be very successfully combined with a major or minor in another discipline such as business, English, history, international studies, political science, or psychology in preparation for graduate and professional studies. A minor in another foreign language is recommended.

The department offers major tracks in Spanish: Liberal Arts and Spanish: Secondary Education. It also offers a double major with elementary education and with early childhood education.

Foreign Language Requirement

The Requirement—As part of The College of New Jersey's liberal learning program all degree candidates in the School of Humanities and Social Sciences are required to show proficiency in a foreign language unless exempted. Students in the Schools of the Arts and Communication, Science, and Business should consult with their advisor or assistant dean about language requirements for individual programs of study. Satisfactory evidence of proficiency is completion of the 103 or 152 level of language study (equivalent to three semesters). While most students opt to continue in the foreign language previously studied, they may begin study of a new foreign language.

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Placement—Students who choose to begin the study of a new foreign language should enroll at the 101 level or 151 for languages offering the intensive courses. All students who wish to continue studying a language taken previously must take the TCNJ Language Placement Test for placement at the appropriate level. The TCNJ Language Placement Test is offered online throughout the academic year on Wednesday mornings from 9:00 to 11:00 only in computer labs on campus (no laptops, no dorm rooms). Native speakers of Spanish may not take Spanish classes at the 100 level. Please see Modern Languages webpage for additional details.

Transfer Credit—Students will not be able to take any 100-level courses in a foreign language outside of the Modern Languages Department of The College of New Jersey. Special consideration will be given to transfer students who have fulfilled part of their languages requirements at another institution

Exemption—Students may be exempted from the foreign language requirement if they show sufficient proficiency in a foreign language as certified by one of the following means:

- a score of 4 on the ETS Advanced Placement Language or Literature Examination
- a score of 650 or above on the SAT II Language Examination
- exemption through the TCNJ Language Placement Test
- an Intermediate Mid rating on the ACTFL OPI

If a student wishes to gain exemption in a language not taught at The College of New Jersey, the Department of Modern Languages will arrange an approved test. However, the cost of that test must be paid by the student. Bilingual students are eligible for exemption in all of the ways described above.

The Best Time to Begin Language Study—Students are urged to enroll in a foreign language during their first year and to continue their study in consecutive semesters.

Credit for 101 Language Courses—Students who have taken four or more years of one language in high school will **not** receive credit for 101 in that language. Typically, these students are more appropriately placed at the 102 or 103 level, and can fulfill the Foreign Language Requirement with successful completion of 103.

Transfer Students

Transfer students who have successfully completed three semesters of a language or the equivalent in any accredited college or university will receive exemption from the foreign language requirement. Students who have taken fewer than three semesters of language in college and who must meet a language requirement or wish to continue their language studies are required to take the TCNJ Language Placement Test to determine the appropriate level for the next language course.

Requirements for the Spanish Major: Liberal Arts

A total of 12 course units is the minimum requirement for the Spanish major: Liberal Arts.

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The Spanish Major curriculum is as follows:

Required 200-level courses

4 course units

- SPA203 Intermediate Oral Proficiency *OR* SPA 210 Spanish for Heritage Speakers
- SPA 211 Composition and Grammar Review
- SPA 215 Spanish Phonetics
- SPA 241 Introduction to Literature in Spanish

Elective 200-level course

1 course unit

Choose from:

- SPA 216 Current Events
- SPA 217 Intro to Hispanic Culture
- SPA 218 Business Spanish
- SPA 219 Spanish for Medical Purposes

300-level courses:

6 course units

Choose at least ONE course from each of the following categories: Linguistics, Culture, Literature:

LINGUISTICS:

- SPA 301 Advanced Spanish Grammar
- SPA 350 Intro Spanish Linguistics
- SPA 351 Spanish/English Translation I
- SPA 370 Topics in Spanish (depending on topic)
- SPA 372 History of the Spanish Language
- SPA 373 Intro Spanish Bilingualism in US
- SPA 391 Independent Study in Spanish (depending on topic)

CULTURE/CIVILIZATION:

- SPA 303 Culture/Society of Spain
- SPA 304 Civilization of Spanish America
- SPA 370 Topics in Spanish (depending on topic)
- SPA 391 Independent Study in Spanish (depending on topic)

LITERATURE:

- SPA 311 Survey of Spanish Peninsular Literature
- SPA 312 Survey of Spanish-American Literature
- SPA 323 20th-Century Hispanic Theater
- SPA 327 Hispanic Short Story
- SPA 331 Spanish-American Novel
- SPA 348 Seminar in Hispanic Film
- SPA 353 Contemporary Literature of Spain
- SPA 370 Topics (depending on Topic)
- SPA 391 Independent Study in Spanish (depending on topic)

LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

- SPA 302 Advanced Spanish Oral Proficiency

SPA 497 Spanish Senior Seminar

1 course unit

The Spanish Secondary Education track also requires a professional education sequence of courses in preparation for certification. All Spanish: Secondary Education majors must successfully complete MDL 390 before beginning their senior student teaching.

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Students are strongly encouraged to study abroad in a Spanish speaking country for at least one semester.

Program Entrance, Retention, and Exit Standards

Every major program at the College has set standards for allowing students to remain in that program, to transfer within the College from one program to another, and to graduate from a program. The following are the standards for Spanish programs:

- Entrance into the major is based on the following performance standards in these “foundation courses (minimum grades are noted in parentheses): SPA 203/Intermediate Oral Proficiency (B–) or SPA 210/Spanish for Heritage Speakers (B–); and SPA 211/Composition and Grammar Review (B–).
- Retention in the program is based on the following performance standards in these “critical content courses” (minimum grades are noted in parentheses): SPA 211/Composition and Grammar Review (B–); SPA 241/Introduction to Literature in Spanish (B–); SPA 301/Advanced Spanish Grammar (C+).
- Transfer into the program from another program within the College is based upon the following performance standards in these “foundation courses” (minimum grades are noted in parentheses: SPA 203/Intermediate Oral Proficiency or SPA 210/Spanish for Heritage Speakers (B–); and SPA 211 Composition and Grammar Review (B–).
- These minimum grades must be achieved in order to advance to higher level courses.
- Graduation requires a GPA of 2.0 in courses for the program and earning a minimum grade of C– in all Spanish courses.

Spanish Major: Teaching

An overview of the entire secondary-level teacher preparation sequence for students can be found in the section of this bulletin for the [Department of Education Administration and Secondary Education](#).

Students planning to teach middle or high school Spanish should consult with their advisor in planning their academic program. These plans should take into account requirements for: the major, liberal learning, professional courses, and state certification. To be retained in the program, a student must earn at least a 2.5 cumulative grade point average before enrolling in the junior year education sequence. The student must establish a minimum 2.75 GPA in order to be allowed to student teach.

Candidates for a teacher-education certificate must have a 2.75 cumulative grade point average to successfully complete their teacher education program. They also must meet the state hygiene/physiology requirement, and pass the appropriate Praxis examination before the New Jersey State Department of Education will issue the appropriate certificate. State code also requires a course in Second Language Acquisition (MDL 390), and an Advanced Low rating on the ACTFL Oral Proficiency Exam. Teacher-education candidates will receive a “certificate of eligibility with advanced standing” which requires a candidate to be provisionally certified for his or her first year of teaching. After one year of successful teaching, the candidate is eligible for a permanent certificate.

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Requirements for the Minor

Minors are offered in French, German, Italian, Japanese, Arabic, Chinese and Spanish. The minor consists of five course units, of which at least three must be taken at The College of New Jersey. A minimum grade of C is required in all courses taken to fulfill the minor requirements. The following courses are required:

- **ARABIC:** Students who took ARA 103 may complete the minor as per old description (ARA 103,201, 202 , 245 or 370 and 301 or 391) Students who took ARA 152 should consult with language coordinator
- **CHINESE:** Students who took CHI 103 may complete the minor as per old description (CHI 103,201, 202 , 245 or 370 and 301 or 391) Students who took CHI 152 should consult with language coordinator
- **FRENCH:** FRE 211 and FRE 301, plus two content courses at the 200 level (FRE 240, FRE 241, FRE 255), and one content course at the 300 level (FRE 305, FRE 322, FRE 370)
- **GERMAN:** GER 103, three of the following courses (GER 201, GER 202, GER 203, GER 216,GER 255), and GER 370 (Special Topics)
- **ITALIAN:** three courses at the 200 level and two courses at the 300 level
- **JAPANESE :** Students who took JPN 103 may complete the minor as per old description (JPN 103,201, 202 , and any two courses at the 300 level except JPN 371) Students who took JPN 152 should consult with language coordinator
- **SPANISH:** SPA 211 or 216 or 217, three other courses at the 200 level, and one course at the 300 level

See also Linguistics Minor

Four-Year Suggested Course of Study

Spanish: Liberal Arts

First Year

FSP	First Seminar	1 course unit
SPA	203/Intermediate Oral Proficiency OR SPA 210/Spanish for the Heritage Student	1 course unit
SPA	211/Composition and Grammar Review	1 course unit
SPA	215/Spanish Phonetics	1 course unit
SPA	2XX 200 level elective	1 course unit
WRI	102/Academic Writing (if not exempted)	1 course unit
	Liberal Learning courses	2 course units

Sophomore Year

SPA	241/Introduction to Literature in Spanish	1 course unit
SPA	3XX	1 course unit
SPA	3XX	1 course unit
	Liberal Learning courses	3 course units
	Electives	2 course units

Junior Year*

SPA	3XX	1 course unit
SPA	3XX	1 course unit
	Liberal Learning courses	3 course units
	Electives	3 course units

Senior Year

SPA	3XX	1 course unit
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SPA 497/Spanish Senior Seminar	1 course unit
SPA 3XX	1 course unit
Liberal Learning course	1 course unit
Electives	4 course units

**Students are strongly encouraged to study abroad in a Spanish-speaking country for at least one semester. Students who wish to study in Spain or Latin America should do it during their Fall or Spring semester of year 2 or year 3, and take three 300 level Spanish courses there. .*

Students are encouraged to pursue minors in another language or in another discipline.

Four-Year Suggested Course of Study

Spanish: Secondary Education

Freshman Year

FSP First Seminar	1 course unit
SPA 203/Intermediate Oral Proficiency OR SPA 210/Spanish for the Heritage Student	1 course unit
SPA 211/Composition and Grammar Review	1 course unit
SPA 215/Spanish Phonetics	1 course unit
SPA 2XX 200 level elective	1 course unit
WRI 102/Academic Writing (if not exempted)	1 course unit
Liberal Learning courses	2 course units

Sophomore Year

SPA 241/Introduction to Literature in Spanish	1 course unit
SPA 3XX	1 course unit
SPA 3XX	1 course unit
SED 224/Adolescent Learning and Development	1 course unit
EFN 299/School and Communities	1 course unit
Liberal Learning courses	3 course units

Junior Year*

SPA 3XX	1 course unit
SPA 3XX	1 course unit
MDL 390/Second Language Acquisition and Related Methodologies	1 course unit
SPE 323/Secondary Content Literacy in Inclusive Classrooms	1 course unit
SED 399/Pedagogy in Secondary Schools	1 course unit
Liberal Learning courses	3 course units
Elective	1 course unit

Senior Year

SPA 3XX	1 course unit
SPA 497/Spanish Senior Seminar	1 course unit
EFN 398/Historical and Political Context of Schools	1 course unit
Liberal Learning course	1 course unit
** SPA 490/Student Teaching	2 course units
SED 498/Collaborative Capstone for Professional Inquiry	1 course unit

**Students are strongly encouraged to study abroad in a Spanish-speaking country for at least one semester. Students who wish to study in Spain or Latin America should do it during their Spring or Fall semester of year 2 or year 3, and take three 300 level Spanish courses.*

***Requires min 2.75 cumulative GPA.*

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Spanish/Early Childhood (first-year sequence)

FSP	First Seminar	1 course unit
SPA	203/Intermediate Oral Proficiency <i>or</i> SPA 210/Spanish for Heritage Speakers	1 course unit
SPA	211/Composition and Grammar Review	1 course unit
SPA	2XX	1 course unit
MAT	105/Mathematical Structures and Algorithms for Educators I	1 course unit
WRI	102/Academic Writing (if not exempted)* <i>or</i> MAT 106/Mathematical Structures and Algorithms for Educators II	1 course unit
ECE	102/Multicultural Children's Literature for Early Childhood	1 course unit
	Liberal Learning course	1 course unit

Spanish/Elementary Education (first year sequence)

FSP	First Seminar	1 course unit
SPA	203/Intermediate Oral Proficiency <i>or</i> SPA 210/Spanish for Heritage Speakers	1 course unit
SPA	211/Composition and Grammar Review	1 course unit
SPA	2XX	1 course unit

**It is recommended that students exempted from this course take another liberal learning course.*

MAT	105/106/Mathematical Structures and Algorithms for Educators I/II	2 course units
WRI	102/Academic Writing (if not exempted)*	1 course unit
	Natural Sciences or Quantitative Reasoning (liberal learning)	1 course unit
	Liberal Learning course	1 course unit

**It is recommended that students exempted from this course take another liberal learning course.*