



SUMMER MASTER OF ARTS IN SPANISH

SONOMA STATE UNIVERSITY
Rohnert Park, California



What is it?



- This is a Summer MA program that takes place over 3 consecutive summers.
- Attend summer classes on the beautiful Sonoma State University campus in the midst of California's scenic Sonoma/Napa Wine Country.
- The summer graduate classes and the comprehensive final exam take place at SSU; all other program requirements can either be fulfilled off-campus or at SSU.



When is it?



- There are two summer courses each year, repeating on a 3-year cycle. Students can begin the program any summer because there is no specific entry point.
- Each summer course is 3 weeks long, meeting M/Tu/W/Th from 9:00am to 2:30pm.
- The schedules are designed to avoid overlap with school district calendars so that full-time high school teachers can complete the program. Generally, that means that:
 - First course begins mid-June, followed by a 1-week break between the two courses, followed by the second course in July.
 - The typical dates for summer courses are around June 10 – 28 (last 3 weeks of June) and July 8 – 26 (last 3 weeks of July).



Are the courses fast-paced?



- Yes. However, the current model was created in response to surveys and recommendations from students themselves. The program completion rate is very high and there is a very high level of student satisfaction.
- Students receive course syllabi and reading lists well in advance of the course in order to start preparing before the classes begin.



Program Mission



- The Master of Arts in Spanish program at SSU is an attractive and competitive graduate program in language, literatures, and cultures. Among the program's strengths are its broad approach to curriculum, flexible electives, and a unique practicum/internship component. The program requires students to study at least three courses in literature, two in linguistics, one in pedagogy, and to complete a mentored teaching practicum or internship experience. Students pursue curricular interests in greater depth by taking 6 units of additional elective courses. Upon completion of the program, it is anticipated that all students will: *(see following slides: "program objectives")*

+ Program Objectives I

- Graduates will be prepared (both in curricular and pedagogical terms) to teach any course in Spanish language, literature, or culture in secondary schools, community colleges, or among lower-division university courses



+ Program Objectives II

- Graduates will be able to submit a competitive application to regionally or nationally recognized Ph.D. programs in either Hispanic literatures, linguistics, or pedagogy if they choose to continue their study at the doctoral level



+ Program Objectives III



- Graduates will be able to conduct original research on topics in applied or theoretical linguistics in Spanish with a solid background in linguistic principles,
- Graduates will be able to conduct original research on topics related to Hispanic literature with a solid grounding in the literary canon, and
- Graduates will have a high level of accuracy and fluency in written and spoken Spanish in a variety of professional and academic settings.

+ Fees

- The program fees are currently **\$550/unit**, all-inclusive (there are no other service fees: only parking and textbooks are not included). Students completing the program will invest about **\$18,700** in fees to complete the program.

+ Academic Overview

- Summer-term Courses (SSU only): 24 units

Electives (SSU, transfer, or online): 2 units

Practicum/Internship (SSU or off-campus): 4 units

Total: 30 units

- Unit distributions

- Literature (3): 12
- Linguistics (2): 8
- Pedagogy (1): 4
- Practicum/Internship (1): 4
- *Elective Units* 2

+ Literature Courses

- **SPAN 504 *Hispanic Literature I***

This survey course examines the literature of Spain and the Americas written before 1700 in a variety of genres and styles. Methods of literary analysis and historical contexts will be covered. This course will require the reading of *El Quijote* among other texts

- **SPAN 505 *Hispanic Literature II***

This survey course examines the literature of Spain and the Americas written in the XVIII and XIX centuries. Methods of literary analysis and historical contexts will be covered.

- **SPAN 506 *Hispanic Literature III***

This survey course examines the literature of Spain and the Americas written since 1898 in a variety of genres and styles. Methods of literary analysis and historical contexts will be covered.

+ Linguistics Courses



- **SPAN 502 *Advanced Linguistics***

A course in Spanish linguistics that will analyze the form, meaning, and function of linguistic units; including, but not limited to, phonetics, phonology, morphology, and syntax. Requires completion of a research project.

- **SPAN 503 *Practical Linguistics***

A course in the significant elements of Spanish linguistics as applied in areas such as translation and interpretation, the pragmatics of oral and written discourse, including literary texts. Requires completion of a research project.

+ Pedagogy Course



- **SPAN 500 *Spanish Second Language Pedagogy***

A course in second language acquisition theory and second language pedagogy in which participants learn to understand and apply models of proficiency-oriented and standards-based language instruction.



Which courses are taught during which years?



- 2019, 2022, 2025....: **SPAN 506 and SPAN 503**
- 2020, 2023, 2026....: **SPAN 500 and SPAN 502**
- 2021, 2024, 2027....: **SPAN 504 and SPAN 505**
- Every year....: **SPAN 501; SPAN 595 elective courses**

+ Practicum / Internship

- **SPAN 501 *Teaching Practicum / Internship***

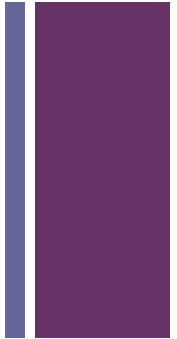
This course is a participatory experience for students in the MA program. Students observe/assist with a Spanish class at SSU or at any accredited college or university. The designated faculty mentor will collaborate with and mentor students in class activities, creating an inclusive atmosphere, and working with diverse populations of students. Alternatively, students may collaborate with program faculty to design an internship experience that provides a practical dimension to research or learning obtained through the program. Students employed as Teaching Associates at SSU may use that teaching to fulfill this requirement. 4 units.



Elective Units

- **There are several options:**

- (a) Taking upper-division university courses for credit. There are dozens of pre-approved SSU courses in many fields, including all regular SPAN courses numbered 306 and higher; registration is through Extended Education and appears as “SPAN 595”; consent of the course instructor is needed.
- (b) Students may transfer upper-division or graduate courses from accredited universities (including online courses) with the prior written approval of the Graduate Advisor.
- (c) Directed, independent, individual study on a particular topic of interest may be arranged with an SSU faculty member. Proposed topic must be approved in advance by the graduate advisor. May be repeated for credit. 1-4 units. May be completed online or in off-campus capacity.





Comprehensive Final Examination



Students must earn a passing score on the comprehensive final examination based on a reading list, which includes elements from the Literature, Linguistics, and Pedagogy courses.

The Comprehensive Final Exam is an open-note, open-book, timed exam that takes place on the second Friday after the end of the summer session courses (e.g. August 6, 2021).

Candidates are scored holistically on four answers (out of six, one from each course). The exam is rated “high pass”, “pass”, or “not pass”. The exam may be repeated, but not more than twice per year.



Program Faculty



Each summer there is generally one SSU professor and one visiting professor. Below is a list of recent faculty:

- Jeffrey Reeder, Sonoma State University (*Ph. D. Univ. of Texas, Austin*): SPAN 502. Graduate Advisor.
- Parissa Tadrissi, Sonoma State University (*Ph. D. University of California, Santa Barbara*): SPAN 505 and 506.
- Robert Train, Sonoma State University (*Ph.D. University of California, Berkeley*): SPAN 501 and Teaching Associate supervisor.
- Tania De Miguel Magro, University of West Virginia (*Ph. D. State University of New York, Stony Brook*): SPAN 504.
- Casilde Isabelli, University of Nevada, Reno (*Ph. D. University of Illinois*): SPAN 500.
- Kelly Arispe, Boise State University (*Ph. D. University of California, Davis*): SPAN 503.
- Silvia Bermúdez, UC Santa Barbara (*Ph.D. University of Southern California*): SPAN 506

+ Links



- Program webpage: <http://seie.sonoma.edu/programs/ma-spanish>
- Graduate Advisor: tadrissi@sonoma.edu
 - (academic matters, advising, course approvals, etc.)



Is there financial aid available?



- Students in the program are eligible for financial aid. For all financial aid questions, contact the university's Financial Aid Office. Please visit the link below for details.
- <http://seie.sonoma.edu/resources-students/financial-aid-information#spanish>
- Additionally, a limited number of students in the program will be selected as Teaching Associates and will be assigned to teach a lower-division Spanish course (salary is approx. \$4,000 per course per semester).

+ Teaching Associateships

- A limited number of positions are available to Spanish MA students to serve as Teaching Associates for lower-division Spanish classes at SSU.
- The Teaching Associate is responsible for teaching one beginning or intermediate course as the instructor of record. Compensation is approx. \$4,000 per course as of academic year 2020-2021.
- Preference is given to MA students who have completed at least half the program and/or who have prior teaching experience and/or teacher training.



Is there housing available?



- There are on-campus housing options; please contact the housing office for summer housing.

The cost is \$35 per night (20-21).

- <http://www.sonoma.edu/summerhousing/>



How to apply

- The application process is online through Cal State Apply; full instructions at <http://seie.sonoma.edu/programs/ma-spanish/apply>
- Submit with a \$70 application fee.
- Submit transcripts and the oral and written statements – see [website above](#) for details.
- Letter(s) of recommendation and GRE scores are optional (most successful applicants do not submit either).
- Application period begins Oct. 1 and the deadline is April 1; after that date, fully qualified applicants are admitted on a space-available, special appeals-only basis.
- Questions? Email: tadrissi@sonoma.edu



+ **Your new hat?**

