The Accelerated Graduate Degree Program in Spanish allows seniors to accumulate credits towards the completion of a master’s degree while still enrolled as an undergraduate.

Students admitted to the Spanish AGDP may take up to 12 credit hours of designated 5000- and 6000-level courses for graduate credit. The designated courses may be used to complete both the bachelor’s degree and the master’s degree.

Designated AGDP eligible Spanish courses:

5000-level courses:
- SPAN 5400 Estudios en la lingüística española
- SPAN 5600 Estudios de literatura hispánica

6000-level courses:
- SPAN 6000 Don Quijote
- SPAN 6050 Los sistemas lingüísticos del español
- SPAN 6070 Variaciones y cambios en el español
- SPAN 6100 Temas de cultura hispánica
- SPAN 6200 Temas de literatura española
- SPAN 6260 Curso panorámico de literatura hispanoamericana de la época colonial al modernismo
- SPAN 6290 Curso panorámico de literatura hispanoamericana del modernismo al presente
- SPAN 6300 Temas de literatura hispanoamericana
- SPAN 6400 Temas de lingüística y metodología
- SPAN 6500 Métodos de enseñanza universitaria del español
- SPAN 6600 Historia de la lengua española
- SPAN 6700 Tendencias de crítica literaria
- SPAN 6770 Estudio en el extranjero
- SPAN 6800 Investigación y escritura
- SPAN 6900 Seminario

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An undergraduate degree in Spanish requires a total of 122 credit hours. The Master of Arts in Spanish requires a total of 30 credit hours. Students enrolling in the AGDP for the maximum of 12 graduate credits would earn 140 total undergraduate and graduate credit hours in contrast to the typical combined 152 undergraduate and graduate credit hours under the usual progression to the degree.

Eligibility for application

This program is open to undergraduate students in both Spanish majors (Non-Teaching and Education Curriculum).

A student must have:
- Senior status.
- A cumulative undergraduate GPA of at least 3.0 based on at least 45 earned hours.
- A declared Spanish major. Students who have received a B.A. degree will not be eligible to apply for this program and retroactively claim credits toward the M.A. degree.

Admission criteria:
- Undergraduate minimum GPA of 3.5 in Spanish (based on at least 20 credit hours in a declared major in Spanish)
- Three letters of recommendation from Western Michigan University’s Spanish faculty
- A brief statement (approximately 250 words in Spanish) of career objectives and academic and professional interests

Admission procedure

- Early in the student’s junior year, the potential AGDP applicant should contact the director of Spanish graduate studies to discuss this option and review the requirements, timelines and application procedures.
- Students must apply for admission to the Spanish master’s program with the Office of Admissions and must complete the necessary application materials.
- Upon acceptance into the AGDP, the student must meet with the director of graduate studies and an undergraduate academic advisor to prepare a program of study that meets the requirements for both degrees.
- An AGDP Course Approval Form listing which graduate courses will be counted in both degrees will be sent to the student and to the registrar.

Requirements for continuing eligibility and graduation:

- Students will pay undergraduate tuition for AGDP eligible 5000- and 6000-level courses; the courses will be included in the flat tuition rate. Upon completion of the undergraduate degree, the student will be reclassified as a graduate student and begin paying graduate tuition.
- It is expected that the B.A. degree will be awarded within one calendar year after initial AGDP enrollment.
- Once students have earned their bachelor’s degree and have been admitted as graduate students, they will be eligible to apply for a teaching assistantship.
- A student in the AGDP must follow the program of study developed with the graduate studies director and the undergraduate advisor.
- Students must complete the requirements for the M.A. degree within 24 months from the completion of the B.A. degree.