Western Michigan University's Spanish (M.A., Ph.D) programs enable students to deepen and extend their knowledge of literary, cultural, and linguistic expression in the Hispanic world. The course work is designed to enhance the student's knowledge of Hispanic studies, while at the same time enabling them to plan an individualized course of learning centered on their areas of special interest.

Six areas of specialization are offered:

- I Literatura y cultura españolas: edad media y siglos de oro
- II Literatura y cultura españolas: del siglo XVIII al presente
- III Literatura y cultura hispanoamericanas: de la colonia al modernismo
- IV Literatura y cultura hispanoamericanas: del modernismo al presente. Incluye la literatura y cultura hispana en EE.UU. (U.S. Latino)
- V Los sistemas lingüísticos del español y su adquisición
- VI Variación en los sistemas lingüísticos del español

Our programs have successfully attracted participants from the Caribbean, Central and South America, Mexico, and Spain, as well as from the United States.

The Department of Spanish encourages all graduate students to study in Spanish-speaking countries for at least one semester in order to achieve mastery of the Spanish language and the acquisition of cultural insights. M.A. and Ph.D. students can participate in a graduate study abroad program in the summer that alternates between Santander, Spain and Quito Ecuador, and receive up to six credit hours toward their degrees.

M.A. and Ph.D. students may also spend a semester teaching English in Mexico at the Universidad Autónoma de Querétaro (UAQ), an institution with which WMU has an exchange agreement. In addition to teaching one English course, students enroll in two graduate courses at the UAQ in order to earn six credits toward their degree and receive free tuition and housing.
Spanish (M.A., Ph.D)

Teaching, Research, and Program Focus Areas
The M.A. program in Spanish prepares students to pursue a Ph.D. degree in Spanish or to do further graduate study in other fields, such as European Studies, Latin American Studies, comparative literature, law, or translation and interpretation. It also offers high school teachers an excellent opportunity for career advancement. This M.A. consists of 30 hours of course work on Spanish and Spanish American literatures and cultures, Hispanic linguistics and second-language acquisition, and it is normally completed by full-time students in two years.

The goal of the Ph.D. program is twofold: to lead students to comprehend and appreciate the breadth and uniqueness of Hispanic culture as it has evolved through time and across geography, and to enable students to formulate and express their own discoveries and conclusions regarding the enduring values and manifestations of that culture. This Ph.D. consists of 36 hours of course work at the 6000 level, beyond the M.A. Ph.D. candidates must also demonstrate reading knowledge of at least one language in addition to Spanish and English, successfully pass comprehensive written and oral examinations in Spanish, complete a minimum of 15 hours of dissertation credits, and successfully complete their dissertation.

Admissions
Applicants must submit the following: a brief statement of career objectives and academic and professional interests; two letters of recommendation (three letters for Ph.D. applicants); official transcripts of all undergraduate and graduate coursework; GRE results (Ph.D. applicants only); and a sample of written work (Ph.D. applicants only). Applicants must also complete WMU’s online application, and participate in an oral interview in Spanish (in person or by telephone). Application Deadlines (for both M.A. and Ph.D programs):
- Fall semester: U.S. students, Feb. 15; international students, Jan. 1
- Spring semester: U.S. students, Oct. 15; international students, Aug. 1

Teaching assistantship applications are accepted only once a year, and are due Feb. 15. For additional information visit: www.wmich.edu/spanish/graduate

Graduate Assistantships/Associateships
Graduate students may take advantage of one of the two types of TA positions: (1) Teach undergraduate Spanish and (2) Work in a university office to gain real-life experience using your Spanish skills (available in the Office of Financial Aid, Admissions, or Study Abroad)

Contacts
Dr. Patricia Montilla, Associate Professor, Director of Graduate Studies and Graduate Advisor
patricia.montilla@wmich.edu

Department of Spanish:
(269) 387-3023

Western Michigan University
One of the top-100 public universities in the United States, Western Michigan University offers many nationally known graduate programs, including 29 doctoral and 64 master’s degrees. More than 20 percent of its 25,000 students are enrolled in graduate course work.

Kalamazoo
With a population of more than 325,000, Kalamazoo is the sixth largest metropolitan area in Michigan and among the 150 largest in the country. Kalamazoo is rated one of the 25 best cities in the country for young college graduates, and is located midway between Chicago and Detroit.