



ACADEMIC ALERT #2007-09

DATE: March, 2007
DECISION: College of Arts and Sciences (CAS); College of Management and Business (CMB)

**New Spanish Language and Culture Studies Major;
Second Major for ABS, HCL, LAS, BSM, BSMIS**

Rationale

The Spanish Language and Culture Studies major is part of Proyecto Comunidad, NLU's Latino initiative, a university-wide endeavor with the purposes of attracting and serving the Latino student population and providing a platform for NLU's partnerships in the Latino community.

This major is intended for, but not limited to, heritage speakers of Spanish. Academic pursuit of literature, history, culture, and linguistics of the Spanish-speaking world, coupled with the practicality of a degree-completion program of professional studies (ABS, HCL, BSM, and BSMIS) will make graduates with this major highly attractive to potential employers. Students may take this as a second major for LAS.

All appropriate councils/committees approved Spanish Language and Culture Studies as a second major for ABS, HCL, LAS, BSM, and BSMIS.

Senate Academic Planning Committee Approval: March 15, 2007; March 26, 2007

Faculty Senate Approval: March 21, 2007

Provost Approval: March 27, 2007

Program Authorizations: The Spanish Language and Culture Studies Major is authorized to be offered in the following Illinois Regions: Chicago; North Suburban; West Suburban; and South Metropolitan. Out-of-Illinois and online students will not have this major available to them. Initially, the Spanish Language and Culture Studies major is only available face-to-face in the Chicago region, and students will need to commute to where the classes are offered.

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: First group of students Fall Quarter, September 1, 2007; marketing and recruitment are effective immediately.

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SIGNATURE

**Carol R. Melnick, Ph.D.
Vice Provost**

Admission

Applicants will apply to the ABS, HCL, LAS, BSM and BSMIS programs with Spanish Language and Culture Studies as a second major. Applicants must meet the admission requirements for the program to which they apply with the addition of a Spanish Language Assessment.

Spanish Language and Culture Studies Major

This Spanish major is a combination of a traditional Spanish major and Latino Studies. Coursework consists of 50QH and provides students a solid foundation in the literature, history, culture, and linguistics of the Spanish-speaking world. The capstone course focuses on the application of the content of all previous courses to current issues in the Chicago Latino community.

Spanish Language and Culture Studies places a strong emphasis on reading and writing skills designed to enhance Spanish heritage speakers' academic and career opportunities. The major, also open to other advanced-intermediate students of Spanish, is intended to prepare students for graduate study. Students may also apply their knowledge to business, teaching, and other careers.

All students are assessed by the Department of Applied Language for Spanish language proficiency prior to admission. Students whose Spanish language proficiency in any skill area falls below the intermediate level are required to take APL245 Reading and Writing for Heritage Speakers, which will enable them to succeed in upper-level Spanish courses.

Students may be awarded credit for upper-level Spanish courses taken previously. A minimum of 50% of Spanish courses must be taken at NLU.

Spanish Language and Culture Studies Major Required Courses	50 QH
APL 320 Spanish Grammar & Composition	5
APL 325 Introduction to Spanish Written Texts	5
APL 330 Geography & Cultures of the Spanish-speaking World	5
APL 410 Spanish for Specific Purposes	5
APL 415 Spanish Translation & Editing Skills	5
APL 425 Varieties & Dialects in Spanish Language	5
APL 435 History of Latin America	5
APL 450 20 th Century Latin American Literature	5
APL 455 Latino Literature in the U.S.	5
APL 460 Current Issues in Latino Chicago	5

Students of Spanish Language and Culture Studies may choose to combine this major with professional studies through one of NLU's undergraduate degree-completion programs. Applied Behavioral Sciences (ABS), Health Care Leadership (HCL), B.S. in Management (BSM) and B.S. in Management and Information Systems (BSMIS) have been approved by the appropriate college councils/committees to offer Spanish Language and Culture Studies as a major for their respective degree-completion (ABS, HCL, BSM, BSMIS) and degree (LAS) programs. This last offering represents an additional option for students choosing two majors or a major and two minors in this NLU degree program. It is NLU's first foreign language major offering to LAS students.

Implementation

All changes need to be entered in Banner and CAPP.

Marketing materials must be developed for all programs who offer this new major and the new information put on the NLU web.

The new catalog copy will be written and submitted to the Vice Provost and Assistant Registrar for Schedules and Catalogs to ensure that catalog copy is prepared and ready for the next catalog.