Romance Languages and Literatures

Romance Languages and Literatures offers vibrant programs in French, Italian, Portuguese, and Spanish. Our language courses have long been popular with undergraduates, including those interested in international travel and those who anticipate a global dimension to their future careers. All of our classes focus on culture writ large: we study great texts, and we do so with an eye toward gender roles, traditions, communities, individual freedom, social obligations, and many other topics of critical importance today. We offer concentrations in French, Italian, Spanish, applied linguistics, and introductory Portuguese.

Our undergraduate programs in French, Italian, and Spanish include a compelling series of language, literature, culture, and civilization courses that introduce students to the global Hispanic, Francophone, and Italoophone communities. The curriculum affords students the opportunity to become fluent in a foreign language, enrich their historical and cultural understanding, and acquaint themselves with influential intellectual, literary, and artistic traditions.

Students also benefit from linguistic and cultural immersion opportunities through our many summer, semester, and year-long study abroad programs. These programs offer unique possibilities to combine foreign language training with other interests, including participating in business internships in Paris; pursuing fieldwork in Cameroon; or studying art history in Italy, literature in Madrid, or Andean culture in Ecuador. These experiences lead to a variety of career paths, including international law, international business, medicine, journalism, and graduate studies in political science, international relations, history, anthropology, art history, comparative literature, French, and film studies. To prepare our students to take full advantage of such opportunities, our faculty provides an innovative range of courses that combine the study of literature with contemporaneous developments in philosophy, science, music, art, and theory.

For undergraduates interested in cross-language study, we offer two programs. Students may elect to major in Romance languages and literatures. This major requires advanced course work in French, Italian, and Spanish, with one of the three languages as the focus of primary emphasis. Alternatively, students may minor in applied linguistics, studying the theoretical, empirical, and practical foundations of teaching and learning languages. This minor is available to all majors on campus, but it is particularly suited to language majors.

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Faculty
Chair
J. Andrew Brown (https://rll.wustl.edu/people/j-andrew-brown/)
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PhD, University of Virginia

Endowed Professors
Mabel Moraña (https://rll.wustl.edu/people/mabel-mora%C3%B1a/)
William H. Gass Professor in Arts & Sciences; Director of Latin American Studies Program
PhD, University of Minnesota

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**Assistant Professors**

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PhD, Ohio State University

**Teaching Professors**

Elizabeth Allen (https://rll.wustl.edu/people/elizabeth-allen/)
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Lionel Cuillé
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**Senior Lecturers**

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Rebeca Cunill
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Nancy Kay Schnurr (https://rll.wustl.edu/people/nancy-schnurr/)
MA, Middlebury College

**Professors Emeriti**

Elyane Dezon-Jones
Doctorat de 3e Cycle, University of Paris

John F. Garganigo (https://rll.wustl.edu/people/john-garganigo/)
PhD, University of Illinois

Stamos Metzidakis (https://rll.wustl.edu/people/stamos-metzidakis/)
PhD, Columbia University

Michel Rybalka
PhD, University of California, Los Angeles

**Majors**

Prospective Romance languages majors should consult with the director of undergraduate studies of the chosen language as early as possible.

For the French major, please visit the French (http://bulletin.wustl.edu/undergrad/artsci/french/#majors) page.

For the Italian major, please visit the Italian (http://bulletin.wustl.edu/undergrad/artsci/italian/#majors) page.

For the Spanish major, please visit the Spanish (http://bulletin.wustl.edu/undergrad/artsci/spanish/#majors) page.

**The Major in Romance Languages and Literatures**

Like our other majors, the Romance languages major requires a writing-intensive course and a capstone experience. Further details are available on the department's website (http://rll.wustl.edu).

**Total units required:** A minimum of 42 units at the 300 and 400 level, distributed among French, Italian, and Spanish

**Required courses:**
Spanish Honors in Linguistics: To qualify for Spanish Honors in Linguistics in the major by thesis, a student must complete linguistic research and prepare and orally defend an honors thesis, which is judged by an honors faculty committee. The honors thesis in linguistics may include scientific experiments conducted in Spanish. The written thesis will include several drafts, all of which will be written in Spanish.

Study Abroad: Students are encouraged to participate in a study abroad program. Programs are available in France, Italy, Spain, Ecuador, Mexico, and Chile.

Senior Honors: Students who have maintained at least a 3.65 overall cumulative grade-point average through the end of the junior year are encouraged to work toward Latin honors (i.e., cum laude, magna cum laude, or summa cum laude). To qualify for Latin honors in the major by thesis, a student must complete special literary research and prepare and orally defend an honors thesis, which is judged by an honors faculty committee. To qualify for Latin honors by course work, the student must complete four literature courses at the 400 level (including two in literature before 1800) and present two critical essays written for those courses to be judged by an honors faculty committee. Recommendations for honors are based on performance, the quality of the thesis or critical essays, and the cumulative GPA.

Minors
For the minor in French, visit the French (http://bulletin.wustl.edu/undergrad/artsci/french/#minors) page.

For the minor in Italian, visit the Italian (http://bulletin.wustl.edu/undergrad/artsci/italian/#minors) page.

For the minor in Spanish, visit the Spanish (http://bulletin.wustl.edu/undergrad/artsci/spanish/#minors) page.

Courses
French
For French courses, visit the French (http://bulletin.wustl.edu/undergrad/artsci/french/#courses) page of this Bulletin.

Italian
For Italian courses, visit the Italian (http://bulletin.wustl.edu/undergrad/artsci/italian/#courses) page of this Bulletin.

Portuguese
For Portuguese courses, visit the Portuguese (http://bulletin.wustl.edu/undergrad/artsci/portuguese/#courses) page of this Bulletin.

Spanish
For Spanish courses, visit the Spanish (http://bulletin.wustl.edu/undergrad/artsci/spanish/#courses) page of this Bulletin.

Additional Information
Students who plan to teach or pursue graduate study should consider taking a second foreign language, as well as linguistics courses. In all departmental courses for the major, the student must receive a grade of B- or better. Each student's progress toward achieving the objectives of the major will be assessed on a regular basis and by a variety of means. More information is available in the departmental mission statement.

Spanish Honors in Linguistics: To qualify for Spanish Honors in Linguistics in the major by thesis, a student must complete linguistic research and prepare and orally defend an honors thesis, which is judged by an honors faculty committee. The honors thesis in linguistics may include scientific experiments conducted in Spanish. The written thesis will include several drafts, all of which will be written in Spanish.