



University of California, Santa Barbara  
Program Learning Outcomes

**B.A. in Spanish or Portuguese**

***Students graduating with a B.A. in Spanish or Portuguese should be able to:***

*Language Proficiency:*

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- Demonstrate advanced proficiency in the four language skills (writing, reading, speaking and listening) in Spanish/Portuguese (for non-native speakers).
- Demonstrate advanced writing, oral and reading abilities at the academic level in Spanish/Portuguese (for Heritage/native speakers).

*Literary and Cultural Knowledge:*

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- Explain the diverse social and historical contexts in which Spanish and Spanish American Literature, or Portuguese and Brazilian Literature, are inscribed, as well as with their respective literary histories.

*Linguistic Knowledge:*

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- Attain competence in the history and the structure of the Portuguese and/ or Spanish languages.
- Make informed cross-linguistic comparisons with English.
- Differentiate and show an appreciation for Spanish and Portuguese dialectal variation.
- Describe and appreciate the extraordinary linguistic diversity and multi-cultural character of the Iberian Peninsula and of Latin America.

*Critical Thinking:*

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- Interpret written works within a suitable theoretical framework.
- Distinguish between literal and figurative meaning (significance) when reading or commenting a literary text.
- Analyze the meaning of a literary text within specific Hispanic or Lusophone social, historical and literary contexts.

*Research and Writing Skills:*

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- Conduct research in a variety of fields such as linguistics, literature, film, or cultural movements.
- Identify and locate reliable sources at the library or in suitable electronic databases.
- Compile and present bibliographical data of primary and secondary sources in a consistent format.
- Write expository, critical or argumentative prose in clear, idiomatic Spanish or Portuguese.