Spanish studies also fosters critical and creative thinking skills through the study of literature, linguistics, translation, creative writing, and cultural studies. A Spanish BA with Teaching Certification helps you prepare as a teacher, a mentor, and a champion of language diversity in our classrooms.

Globalization and online communication have intensified contact among cultures and languages and hence an education in multiple languages and technology is an absolute imperative in the new millennium. Pursuing a B.A. in Spanish with Teacher Certification not only insure bilingual and bicultural competencies, but also fosters critical and creative thinking skills through the study of literature, linguistics, curriculum, pedagogy, cognition, Culture, and cultures. Our program promotes these skills by introducing students to philosophical issues examined in literature and art; to writing and analytical skills; to professional teaching skills; and to the rich cultural complexities of languages, peoples, and nations across the globe.
### FIRST YEAR

- **UTRGV has a Writing Center and a Learning Center.** Make it a point to visit them, especially for the practice necessary in your freshman and sophomore Spanish acquisition classes.
- Complete your core English classes (section 010) during your first year.
- Complete 30 credit hours every year in order to graduate in 4 years.
- Shoot for a GPA of 3.0-4.0.
- Complete major foundation classes, such as SPAN 2313 & SPAN 2315.
- Meet with your academic advisor and bring your orientation folder with you to every session!
- Choose a major with confidence- Visit myUTRGV.edu and check out MyMajors.
- Visit a faculty member during their office hours and ask a question about class.
- Classes fill up fast. When registration opens, be sure to register on the first day for your group.
- Cold or flu getting you down? We have Student Health Services on campus with free office visits.
- Look for a service-learning course! For guidance, visit Engaged Scholarship & Learning Office.
- Participate in a campus-sponsored community service project.
- Ask a student in class to study with you.
- Set up your profile on the Engagement Zone through MyUTRGV.edu.
- Attend a diversity based campus or community event (e.g. MLK Day of Service).
- Attend a WLS/LCS program highlighting Heritage Languages & Literatures like Multilingual Fest or a Film Festival featuring international works.
- Join a student organization! Consider looking into Sigma Delta Pi, the National Collegiate Hispanic Honor Society or visit VLink (utrgv.edu/vlink) for options.
- Create a resume and set up your profile on the Handshake icon. (myUTRGV.edu)
- Got summer plans? Visit Career Center and ask about places to do some job shadowing.
- Research shows that students who work on campus perform better than those who work off campus. Look for a job on Handshake!
- Check your UTRGV email for the daily Messenger for a reminder to attend class.
- **MILESTONES**
  - Complete at least 30 credit hours to graduate.
  - Complete SPAN 3300 and SPAN 3301 in preparation for your other remaining upper level SPAN classes.
  - Map out your upper level SPAN courses for this year and next year so that you can begin your Teacher Certification courses year four.
  - Complete 30 credit hours.

### SECOND YEAR

- Want to explore different careers? Check out MyMajors!
- Come ready with course suggestions and questions when you visit your academic advisor.
- Visit the Communication Hausser Lab for help with your speeches.
- Trouble making your tuition payment? The Financial Aid Office can help. Payment plans and emergency loans are also available.
- To find undergraduate research opportunities, visit the Engaged Scholarship & Learning Office.
- Consider attending the LeaderShape Institute or attend the Engaged Scholar Symposium.
- **MILESTONES**
  - Complete 30 credit hours.
  - Have you landed an internship or acquired research experience? This is the year to make it happen. You must apply for admission and be accepted to the College of Education and P-16 Integration prior to enrolling in teacher certification courses, except for EDPR 2303 which is open to all students.
  - You will need to pass the Oral Proficiency Interview (ACTFL), the TExES LOTE Spanish Exam (TEA), and the TExES Prax exam (TEA).
  - Complete at least 30 credit hours to graduate.

### THIRD YEAR

- Seek out research opportunities within Spanish and talk to your Spanish teachers about joining a professional organization or doing an undergraduate research project.
- Check DegreeWorks to make sure you are on track for graduation next year.
- For internship and/or job shadowing opportunities. Discuss this with your advisor, faculty mentor, or Career Center.
- **MILESTONES**
  - Complete 30 credit hours.
  - “I have a plan for after graduation.” If this describes you, great! If not, visit your Faculty Advisor or Career Center!
  - Check your UTRGV email for the daily Messenger! Make sure to attend classes and set up your profile on the Handshake icon.
  - Complete at least 30 credit hours to graduate.
  - Complete for a GPA of 3.0-4.0.

### FOURTH YEAR

- Consider serving on a campus life/community committee or become a student leader and make a difference. Visit VLink or speak with your Student Government Association for more information!
- Travel the world! Look into study abroad opportunities at Office for International Programs & Partnerships.
- **MILESTONES**
  - Submit your application(s) for teaching jobs.
  - “I have a plan for after graduation.” If this describes you, great! If not, visit your Faculty Advisor or Career Center!
  - Complete for a GPA of 3.0-4.0.
  - Complete at least 30 credit hours to graduate.
  - Complete for a GPA of 3.0-4.0. Submit your application(s) for teaching jobs.

### ADVISE & SUPPORT

- **GLOBAL, CAMPUS & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**
  - Attend the LeaderShape Institute or attend the Engaged Scholar Symposium.
  - Consider serving on a campus life/community committee or become a student leader and make a difference. Visit VLink or speak with your Student Government Association for more information!
  - Travel the world! Look into study abroad opportunities at Office for International Programs & Partnerships.
  - **APPLICATIONS &azz; TOGRAPHTIC**
    - Shoot for a GPA of 3.0-4.0.
    - Complete for a GPA of 3.0-4.0. Submit your application(s) for teaching jobs.

### LIFE AFTER GRADUATION

- **MILESTONES**
  - Complete 30 credit hours.
  - Complete SPAN 3300 and SPAN 3301 in preparation for your other remaining upper level SPAN classes.
  - Consider enrolling in a graduate program at UTRGV.
  - Check out the LSC and VLS department websites for postings on career/graduate school.
  - Think about three people you can ask for letters of recommendation (professors, mentors, advisors, supervisors, etc.). Give them at least two weeks’ advance notice!
  - When is the deadline for your graduate school application? Visit the program admissions webpage. Most do not accept late applicants!
  - Have you received your acceptance for graduate school or an employment offer? If not, network: talk to faculty, the Career Center, and get on LinkedIn.
  - Formulate and implement a strategy for life after graduation: attend career fairs, graduate fairs, apply to fellowships, etc.
  - Update your information with Alumni Relations. Enjoy alumni mixers, events and continued access to Career Center services!
  - Remember to do your exit loan counseling on studentloans.gov.

### CAREERS

- **TEACHING**
  - Teaching
  - Research
  - Applied linguistics
  - Teacher training
  - Curriculum development
  - Test/Assessment development
  - Foreign language instruction
  - English as a Second Language (ESL) instruction
  - English to Speakers of Other Language (TESOL)
  - Instruction
  - Literacy development
  - Information/Library science

For additional info, visit the Career Center website and check out “What Can I Do With This Major?” at www.utrgv.edu/careercenter