



# BLUEPRINT EXPERIENCES

## FIRST YEAR

## SECOND YEAR

## THIRD YEAR

## FOURTH YEAR AND BEYOND

## CAREERS

### MILESTONES

- 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.

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- 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.

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- 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 EDFR 2301 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 PPR exam (TEA). Begin learning about and preparing for these with faculty mentors.

- Shoot for a GPA of 3.0-4.0.
- "I have a plan for after graduation." If this describes you, great! If not, visit your Faculty Advisor or Career Center!
- Register for your Capstone/senior/portfolio project: SPAN 4349.
- Complete at least 30 credit hours to graduate.
- Arrange for Oral Proficiency Interview (ACTFL), the TExES LOTE Spanish Exam (TEA), and the TExES PPR exam (TEA).
- Submit your application(s) for teaching jobs.

### ADVICE & SUPPORT

- Meet with your academic advisor and bring your orientation folder with you to every session!
- Choose a major with confidence- Visit my.UTRGV.edu and check out the Kuder Journey.
- 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.

- Want to explore different careers? Check out Kuder Journey!
- Come ready with course suggestions and questions when you visit your academic advisor.
- Visit the Communication Hauser 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

- 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.
- Apply for internship and/or job shadowing opportunities. Discuss this with your advisor, faculty mentor, or Career Center.

- Engage in an independent study project or an academic internship to complement your major, such as working with a local school on a literacy project or contributing to FESTIBA as a student presenter.
- Discuss future plans with your faculty mentor or advisor that includes employment, finances, and other life goals.
- Apply for graduation one semester prior to your anticipated date. Visit the Academic Advising Center to ensure you are on track.

### APPLY WHAT YOU LEARN

- 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.

- To find undergraduate research opportunities, visit the Engaged Scholarship & Learning Office.
- Consider attending the LeaderShape Institute or attend the Engaged Scholar Symposium.

- Go show off your research, service-learning or creative works at the Engaged Scholar Symposium!
- Sharpen your writing and teaching skills by doing projects in your classes about teaching Spanish.

- Continue to present research or creative works at the Engaged Scholar Symposium or at Multilingual Fest!.
- Set up an informational interview with an individual (especially an alumnus) currently in the field you aspire to work in.

### GLOBAL, CAMPUS & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Set up your profile on the Engagement Zone through My.UTRGV.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.

- Look at study abroad opportunities! Consider going to Mexico or Spain.
- Check out a cultural campus or community event such as HESTEC or FESTIBA.
- Join another student organization that challenges you to practice your Spanish and even a third language.
- Check out a campus event that offers free lunch- bring a friend!

- 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.

- Identify employers of interest and seek them out at job fairs, online, at on-campus information sessions, staffing agencies, etc. The Career Center can help.
- Before a job interview, schedule a mock interview with the Career Center or speech coaching with the Communication Hauser Lab.

### LIFE AFTER GRADUATION

- Create a résumé and set up your profile on the Career Connection icon: (My.UTRGV.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 the Career Center portal!
- Check your UTRGV email for the daily Messenger- locate and attend one student workshop.

- Update your resume in Career Connection and have it reviewed.
- Visit the Career Center site to find a job fair to attend. At the event, approach a recruiter and discuss internships.
- Will a minor expand your career options? We recommend English for a bilingual background in literatures and languages, but a minor in any area is complemented with a Spanish Major.
- Explain to someone how your academic program aligns with your strengths and interests.

- Check out the LCS and WLS 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? Visiting 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.

- 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?" [www.utrgv.edu/careercenter](http://www.utrgv.edu/careercenter)