Skills and Competencies

A language degree emphasizes communication, critical thinking, reading, and writing. It therefore gives you the opportunity to master many skills and competencies. Writing skills—necessary in any career field today—are developed and fine-tuned, as are your critical thinking and research skills. Reading skills are developed to help you not only analyze texts and interpret material, but also to identify various word patterns and structures. And unlike most other degrees, a language degree gives you the opportunity to learn about international culture—customs, gestures, attitudes, politics, history, world views, and artistic contributions of people from around the world.

Course Work

This degree includes the following courses as part of the program requirements, and specific major requirements along with general education and graduation requirements.

Core

SN301  Advanced Spanish I (4 cr.)
SN302  Advanced Spanish II (4 cr.)
SN315  Intro to Literacy Study in Spanish (4 cr.)
Spanish Electives 300 or 400 level (20 cr.)
LG499  Grad Assessment for Language Majors

Minor (20 cr.)

Career Development

You should begin the resume-building process as soon as you can. The Academic and Career Advisement Center can assist you with career planning, while Career Services will help you fine tune your resume and look for jobs related to your field. In the meantime, the more hands-on experience you have, the better for future employment. Becoming involved in a professional related internship is a way to develop your professional skills and gain experience. Your academic course work is important as well, so be sure to maintain a high grade point average.

Additional Considerations

Many other majors and minors work well with Spanish to open doors for graduates. More and more opportunities for international internships are becoming available, and they are very desirable for future careers.

We encourage our students to study abroad, to develop strong writing and thinking skills, and to become versed in computer skills as well.

Many graduate programs require language competency beyond English, and Spanish is a good major from which to pursue graduate studies.

Job Outlook

Jobs in need of skills and competencies that are acquired while studying Spanish are varied both in terms of specialty and salary. Examples of potential careers are listed on this brochure.
Potential Careers

NMU’s Spanish Program prepares students for employment in the following careers:

- Education
- International Business
- International Education
- Interpretation
- Government (State Department, etc.)
- Military (Linguistics, etc.)
- Non-Government Organizations (NGOs)
- Teaching of English as a Second Language
- Translation
- Travel

Additional Resources and Information

For Career Planning and Opportunities:
Academic & Career Advisement Center
3302.1 C.B. Hedgcock
906-227-2971
www.nmu.edu/acac

Language, Literature & International Studies
145 Whitman
906-227-2940
www.nmu.edu/languages

For Job Search, Resume and Career Information:
Career Services
3302.3 C.B. Hedgcock
906-227-2800
www.nmu.edu/careers

For Information about NMU Student Organizations Associated with this Major Contact:
Center for Student Enrichment
1206 University Center
906-227-2439
www.nmu.edu/cse

Spanish Club
nmuspanishclub@gmail.com

Internet Resource Links:
www.careers.org
www.bls.gov

For Career Information with National Organizations:
www.mla.org - Modern Language Association
www.aifs.org - American Institute for Foreign Study

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The Academic & Career Advisement Center
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