

CURRICULUM PROPOSAL

APPROVAL PAGE

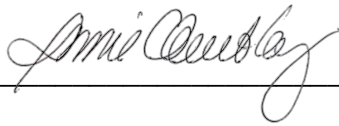
Proposal Title: Spanish in the Community Internship

College: Liberal Arts

Department: Chicano Studies, Languages, and Linguistics

DEPARTMENT CHAIR- Annie Tremblay

I have read the enclosed proposal and approve this proposal on behalf of the department.



8/20/2026

Signature

Date

COLLEGE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE CHAIR - Selfa Chew-Melendez

I have read the enclosed documents and approve the proposal on behalf of the college curriculum committee.

Signature

Date

COLLEGE DEAN – Anadeli Bencomo

I have read the enclosed documents and approve the proposal on behalf of the college. I certify that the necessary funds will be allocated by the college in support of this proposal.

Signature

Date

CURRICULUM CHANGE MEMO

Date: August 20, 2026

From: Elena Foulis, Chicano Studies, Languages, and Linguistics *Elena Foulis*

Through: Annie Tremblay, Chicano Studies, Languages, and Linguistics *Annie Tremblay*

Through: Anadeli Bencomo, College of Liberal Arts

To: Chair, Undergraduate Curriculum Committee or Graduate Council

Proposal Title: Spanish in the Community Internship

Select the proposal content (select as many as apply) and provide the rationale.

Content

☐ New program or ☐ Program Change

☐ Bachelor's

☐ Master's

☐ Doctoral/Professional

☐ Certificate

☐ Fast Track

☐ Minor

☐ Concentration/Track

☒ New Course

☐ Closure (program, certificate, minor, concentration)

☐ Change

☐ CIP Code

☐ Program/certificate SCH

☐ Course Title

☐ Course Description

☐ Graduate Program Admission Requirements

Rationale

This experiential learning course provides students with the opportunity to apply Spanish language, literacy, and communication skills in professional and community-based settings through a pre-approved semester-long internship or service-learning placement. Students complete a minimum of **100 hours of supervised engagement** with a community organization, nonprofit agency, educational institution, government office, or other approved partner serving the El Paso region.

Through meaningful participation in workplace and community projects, students connect academic knowledge gained in Spanish coursework to real-world challenges and opportunities. Emphasizing literacy, communication, civic engagement, and professional development, the course encourages students to contribute to community needs while strengthening career readiness skills. Guided reflection, professional networking, and career planning activities help students critically examine the relationship between language, culture, social responsibility, and professional practice. By the end of the course, students will have developed valuable experience working with diverse populations and organizations while building the competencies necessary for success in multilingual and culturally responsive professional environments.

COURSE ADD

All fields below are required

Add additional Course Add forms as needed

College : Liberal Arts

Department : Chicano Studies, Languages, and Linguistics

Effective Term : Fall 2027

Rationale for adding the course: The proposed **Spanish in the Community Internship** course fills a critical gap in the Spanish curriculum by providing students with a structured opportunity to apply advanced language, literacy, and intercultural communication skills in authentic professional and community-based contexts. While traditional coursework develops linguistic proficiency and cultural knowledge, students increasingly require experiential learning opportunities that allow them to transfer those competencies to real-world settings. This course creates a direct bridge between academic study and professional practice, enabling students to demonstrate the practical value of their Spanish-language abilities while developing career readiness skills sought by employers across multiple sectors.

The course is particularly relevant in the El Paso region, where bilingualism, bicultural competence, and effective communication across linguistic and cultural communities are essential professional assets. Educational institutions, nonprofit organizations, healthcare providers, government agencies, and community service organizations consistently rely on individuals who can communicate effectively with Spanish-speaking populations. By engaging students in supervised internships and service-learning placements, the course strengthens community partnerships while allowing students to contribute meaningfully to organizations serving diverse populations.

The course also advances institutional goals related to experiential learning, civic engagement, workforce development, and student success. Research consistently demonstrates that high-impact educational practices, including internships and service-learning experiences, improve student engagement, professional confidence, persistence, and post-graduation employment outcomes. Through structured reflection and guided professional development activities, students will connect disciplinary knowledge acquired in Spanish coursework with broader questions of social responsibility, cultural competence, and community impact. These experiences encourage students to become informed, engaged, and socially responsible professionals who understand the importance of language access and culturally responsive communication.

In addition, the course provides students with opportunities to strengthen transferable skills that are highly valued across professions, including professional writing, oral communication, teamwork, problem solving, leadership, project management, and ethical decision making. As students complete a minimum of 100 hours of supervised engagement, they will build professional networks, gain practical experience, and develop evidence of their competencies through reflective assignments and workplace-based projects. These experiences enhance students' competitiveness for employment and graduate study while helping them articulate the value of their linguistic and cultural expertise in professional settings.

Finally, the proposed course aligns with contemporary trends in language education that emphasize applied learning, community engagement, and career preparation. It recognizes that advanced proficiency in Spanish is not only an academic achievement but also a valuable professional and civic resource. By integrating experiential learning into the Spanish curriculum, the course strengthens the department's commitment to preparing graduates who are linguistically proficient, culturally responsive, professionally prepared, and actively engaged in meeting the needs of the communities they serve.

All fields below are required

Subject Prefix and # SPAN 43XX

Title (29 characters or fewer): Span. in the Community Internship

Dept. Administrative Code : 0616

CIP Code 16.0905.00

Departmental Approval Required ☐ Yes ☒ No

Course Level ☒ UG ☐ GR ☐ DR ☐ SP

Course will be taught: ☒ Face-to-Face ☐ Online ☒ Hybrid

Course minimum grade: if N leave blank, if Y provide grade Y D

- How many times may course be repeated to satisfy minimum grade requirement? 3

How many times may the course be taken for credit? (Please indicate 1-9 times): 1

Should the course be exempt from the "Three Repeat Rule?" ☐ Yes ☒ No

Grading Mode: ☒ Standard ☐ Pass/Fail ☐ Audit

Description and 2-3 keywords (600 characters maximum):

Description: This course provides students with a structured opportunity to apply advanced language, literacy, and intercultural communication skills in authentic professional and community-based contexts.

Keywords: Spanish in the community, Spanish internship

Contact Hours (per week): 3 **Lecture Hours** **Lab Hours** **Other**

Types of Instruction (Schedule Type): Select all that apply

- | | |
|---|--|
| ☒ A Lecture | ☐ H Thesis |
| ☐ B Laboratory | ☐ I Dissertation |
| ☐ C Practicum | ☐ K Lecture/Lab Combined |
| ☐ D Seminar | ☐ O Discussion or Review (Study Skills) |
| ☐ E Independent Study | ☐ P Specialized Instruction |
| ☐ F Private Lesson | ☐ Q Student Teaching |

Fields below if applicable

If course is taught during a part of term in addition to a full 16-week term please indicate the length of the course (ex., 8 weeks):

TCCN (Use for lower division courses) :

Prerequisite(s):		
Course Number/ Placement Test	Minimum Grade Required/ Test Scores	Concurrent Enrollment Permitted? (Y/N)
SPAN 2302 or department placement exam	D	N

Corequisite Course(s):

Equivalent Course(s):

Restrictions:	
Classification	
Major	

The curriculum office recommends consulting with other programs to determine whether there is significant overlap between the proposed course and any existing courses, especially when the course is part of an interdisciplinary program. Evidence of this consultation will facilitate the work of the curriculum committees.

Course Syllabus

SPAN 43XX: Spanish in the Community Internship

Course Description

This experiential learning course provides students with the opportunity to apply Spanish language, literacy, and communication skills in professional and community-based settings through a pre-approved semester-long internship or service-learning placement. Students complete a minimum of **100 hours of supervised engagement** with a community organization, nonprofit agency, educational institution, government office, or other approved partner serving the El Paso region.

Through meaningful participation in workplace and community projects, students connect academic knowledge gained in Spanish coursework to real-world challenges and opportunities. Emphasizing literacy, communication, civic engagement, and professional development, the course encourages students to contribute to community needs while strengthening career readiness skills. Guided reflection, professional networking, and career planning activities help students critically examine the relationship between language, culture, social responsibility, and professional practice. By the end of the course, students will have developed valuable experience working with diverse populations and organizations while building the competencies necessary for success in multilingual and culturally responsive professional environments.

Internship Requirement: Students must complete a minimum of **100 hours** at their approved internship or service-learning site during the semester, averaging approximately **6–8 hours per week**.

Student Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, students will:

1. **Apply** advanced Spanish language, writing, and communication skills in professional, organizational, or community-based contexts.
2. **Analyze** how literacy, language, and communication practices function within diverse workplace, educational, nonprofit, governmental, and community environments.
3. **Demonstrate** ethical, professional, and culturally responsive engagement when collaborating with community partners, clients, and stakeholders.
4. **Evaluate** the role of Spanish Studies in addressing social, cultural, and civic issues, particularly those related to literacy, access, communication, and community development.
5. **Create** professional-quality materials, such as reports, presentations, translations, educational resources, digital content, or outreach materials, that meet the needs of a specific audience or organization.
6. **Develop** professional competencies, including networking, workplace communication, career planning, and reflective practice, that support long-term career readiness.
7. **Critically reflect** on internship or service-learning experiences through written and oral communication, connecting disciplinary knowledge, professional practice, and community engagement.

Reflection Activities for the Syllabus

1. Weekly Reflective Journal

Frequency: Weekly (6-7 entries)

Students submit brief reflections (250-500 words) connecting their experiences at the internship site with course concepts and professional development.

Example Reflection Component in the Grading Breakdown

Assignment	Percentage
Internship Hours Verification	30%
Bi-weekly Reflection Journals (6-7)	40%
Professional Portfolio	15%
Final Integrative Reflection/Presentation	15%

Reflection Framework

1. **Describe** what happened.
2. **Analyze** why it happened.
3. **Connect** the experience to course concepts and Spanish Studies.
4. **Apply** lessons learned to future professional and civic contexts.

Week 1: Introduction to Experiential Learning and Community Engagement

Topics

- Course overview
- UTEP Engage
- Internship expectations

Readings

- Eyler, J. & Giles, D. *Where's the Learning in Service-Learning?* (Introduction)
- Kolb, D. *Experiential Learning* (Chapter 1: Learning Through Experience)
- Community partner handbook

Reflection

- Professional goals and learning contract

Week 2: Spanish Studies Beyond the Classroom

Topics

- Public-facing applications of Spanish Studies
- Career pathways

Readings

- Leeman, J. "Critical Approaches to Language Service Learning"
- Foulis, Elena, et al. *Working En Comunidad (selections)*
- MLA Report: *The Humanities in the Workforce*

Reflection

- How does Spanish Studies contribute to community and professional life?

Week 3: Professional Communication in Multilingual Environments

Topics

- Workplace writing
- Audience awareness
- Professional rhetoric

Readings

- Foulis, Elena, et al. *Working En Comunidad (selections)*
- Sample bilingual workplace documents

Reflection

- Analyze a communication task from your internship.

Week 4: Literacy, Language Access, and Community Needs

Topics

- Literacy initiatives
- Language access

Readings

- Vollmer Rivera, Alexis A. *Identity and Communicative Competence in Spanish (Selections)*
- Foulis, Elena, et al. *Working En Comunidad (selections)*

Assignment

- Community Partner Analysis

Reflection

- What literacy or communication needs does your organization address?

Week 5: Ethics and Community-Based Work

Topics

- Ethical engagement
- Community partnerships

Readings

- Campus Compact: Principles of Ethical Community Engagement

Reflection

- What responsibilities do interns have to community partners?

Week 6: Language, Identity, and the U.S.-Mexico Border

Topics

- Spanish in border communities
- Language and identity

Readings

- Anzaldúa, G. *Borderlands/La Frontera* (selected chapters)
- Adam Schwartz, et al. *Aquí Se Habla* (selected chapters)

Reflection

- How do language practices reflect identity in your workplace?

Week 7: Collaboration and Community Partnerships

Topics

- Teamwork
- Organizational culture

Readings

- Articles on nonprofit collaboration

Reflection

- What have you learned about collaboration through your placement?

Week 8: Midterm Reflection and Professional Growth

Topics

- Reflective practice
- Career readiness

Readings

- NACE Career Readiness Competencies

Assignments

- Midterm Reflection Essay
- Professional Skills Self-Assessment

Week 9: Public Humanities and Community Outreach

Topics

- Community-facing scholarship
- Public communication

Readings

- Articles on community outreach and advocacy

Reflection

- Evaluate your organization's outreach efforts.

Week 10: Leadership and Professional Development

Topics

- Leadership
- Project management

Readings

- Vollmer Rivera, Alexis A. *Identity and Communicative Competence in Spanish* (Selections)
- Articles on leadership in nonprofit settings

Reflection

- Describe a moment when you exercised leadership.

Week 11: Social Justice, Advocacy, and Civic Engagement

Topics

- Social responsibility
- Community change

Reflection

- How does your organization address social or civic challenges?

Week 12: Critical Incident Analysis

Topics

- Problem-solving
- Conflict and adaptation

Readings

- Case studies of community-based challenges

Assignment

- Critical Incident Reflection

Week 13: Careers for Spanish Studies Majors

Topics

- Professional pathways

- Networking

Readings

- MLA Career Resources for Language Majors
- Informational interview guide

Assignment

- Informational Interview Reflection

Reflection

- How has this internship shaped your professional goals?

Week 14: Assessing Community Impact

Topics

- Evaluation
- Measuring outcomes

Readings

- Organization-specific assessment documents (if available)

Reflection

- What impact have you had on your organization?

Week 15: Integration, Portfolio Development, and Future Directions

Topics

- Synthesis of learning
- Professional identity

Readings

- NACE Career Competencies (revisit)

Assignments

- Final Portfolio
- Final Presentation
- Final Integrative Reflection

Reflection

- How has this experience transformed your understanding of Spanish Studies, community engagement, and your future career?

Degree Plan: BA in Spanish, Concentration in Applied Linguistics

Required Credits: 120

Code	Title	Hours
Minor Required		
This program requires selection of a minor		
University Core Curriculum		
Complete the University Core Curriculum requirements.		42
Required Courses:		
CHIC 2311	Intro to Chicano Studies	3
LING 2320	Introduction to Human Language	3
SPAN 3300	Crt Analysis of Hisp Lit & Cul	3
SPAN 3357	Advanced Spanish Composition	3
Select one from the following:		3
SPAN 3304	Span Amer Lit Since Modernism	
SPAN 3309	Structure of Spanish	
SPAN 3311	Spanish Phonetics & Phonology	
SPAN 3312	Pedagogical Issues in Spanish	
SPAN 3316	Spanish in the U.S.	
SPAN 3325	Confluence Mex & Chicano Lit	
SPAN 3330	Latin American Civilization	
SPAN 3345	Spanish/Latin American Film	
Select two SPAN courses at or above the 2000 level: ¹		6
Concentration in Applied Linguistics		
Select two from the following:		6
SPAN 3309	Structure of Spanish	
SPAN 3311	Spanish Phonetics & Phonology	
SPAN 3312	Pedagogical Issues in Spanish	
SPAN 3316	Spanish in the U.S.	
Select three from the following:		9
LING 3308	Second Language Teaching	
LING 3357	Sociolinguistics & Bilingualism	
LING 4306	Child Language Acquisition	
LING 4348	Second Language Acquisition	
SPAN 3309	Structure of Spanish	
SPAN 3311	Spanish Phonetics & Phonology	
SPAN 3312	Pedagogical Issues in Spanish	
SPAN 3316	Spanish in the U.S.	
SPAN 43XX	Spanish in the Community Internship	
Optional Minor - All-Levels Education Minor ²		
Required Courses:		
BED 4317	Tch & Empwr ELLs in Sec Schls	3
EDPC 3300	Intro to Youth Dev & Spec Ed	3
LING 3308	Second Language Teaching	3

Code	Title	Hours
RED 3342	Content Area Literacy	3
SCED 3311	Curriculum Plan-Secondary Schl	3
SCED 4691	Student Teaching in Sec School	6
Open Electives		
Select additional hours to complete a total of one hundred twenty hours		
Foreign Language		
Select six credits of Foreign Language. All six credits must be in the same language sequence.		6
Block Electives		
Complete twelve upper-division hours from the blocks below, with three to six hours in each		
Total Hours		120
Course List		

Degree Plan: **BA in Spanish, Concentration in Literature and Culture**

Required Credits: 120

Code	Title	Hours
Minor Required		
This program requires selection of a minor		
University Core Curriculum		
Complete the University Core Curriculum requirements.		42
Required Courses:		
CHIC 2311	Intro to Chicano Studies	3
LING 2320	Introduction to Human Language	3
SPAN 3300	Crt Analysis of Hisp Lit & Cul	3
SPAN 3357	Advanced Spanish Composition	3
Select one from the following:		3
SPAN 3304	Span Amer Lit Since Modernism	
SPAN 3309	Structure of Spanish	
SPAN 3311	Spanish Phonetics & Phonology	
SPAN 3312	Pedagogical Issues in Spanish	
SPAN 3316	Spanish in the U.S.	
SPAN 3325	Confluence Mex & Chicano Lit	
SPAN 3330	Latin American Civilization	
SPAN 3345	Spanish/Latin American Film	
Select two SPAN courses at or above the 2000 level: ¹		6
Concentration in Literature and Culture		
Select two from the following:		6
SPAN 3320	Culture & Civilization-Spain	
SPAN 3330	Latin American Civilization	
SPAN 3345	Spanish/Latin American Film	
SPAN 3347	Politics Gender & Sexualities	
SPAN 3348	Travel in SPAN-Spkng Contexts	
Select three from the following:		9
SPAN 3301	Spanish Literature Before 1700	
SPAN 3302	Latin Amer Lit to Modernism	
SPAN 3303	Spanish Lit Since 1700	
SPAN 3304	Span Amer Lit Since Modernism	
SPAN 3320	Culture & Civilization-Spain	
SPAN 3325	Confluence Mex & Chicano Lit	
SPAN 3326	Hispanic Graphic Novel	
SPAN 3330	Latin American Civilization	
SPAN 3345	Spanish/Latin American Film	
SPAN 3347	Politics Gender & Sexualities	
SPAN 3348	Travel in SPAN-Spkng Contexts	
SPAN 3360	Al-Andalus:Cult. Muslim Spain	
SPAN 4320	Popular Cult in Latin Am/Spain	

Code	Title	Hours
SPAN 4324	Literature of Mexico	
SPAN 4328	Golden Age Drama	
SPAN 4335	19th Century Spanish Literatur	
SPAN 4339	The Short Story	
SPAN 4341	Modern Drama	
SPAN 43XX	Spanish in the Community Internship	
SPAN 4358	20th Century Spanish Literat	
SPAN 4360	20th 21st Cen Latin Amer Novel	
SPAN 4361	Cervantes	
SPAN 4363	Latin American Poetry	
SPAN 4390	Topics in Spanish	
Optional Minor - All-Levels Education Minor ²		
Required Courses:		
BED 4317	Tch & Empwr ELLs in Sec Schls	3
EDPC 3300	Intro to Youth Dev & Spec Ed	3
LING 3308	Second Language Teaching	3
RED 3342	Content Area Literacy	3
SCED 3311	Curriculum Plan-Secondary Schl	3
SCED 4691	Student Teaching in Sec School	6
Open Electives		
Select additional hours to complete a total of one hundred twenty hours		
Foreign Language		
Select six credits of Foreign Language. All six credits must be in the same language sequence.		6
Block Electives		
Complete twelve upper-division hours from the blocks below, with three to six hours in each		12
Total Hours		120
Course List		

Degree Plan: Minor in Spanish

Code	Title	Hours
Required Courses:		
SPAN 3357	Advanced Spanish Composition	3
SPAN Electives:		
Select six hours of upper-division SPAN		6
Minor Electives:		
Select nine additional hours of SPAN at any level ¹		9
Total Hours		18
Course List		

Upper-Division SPAN

Code	Title	Hours
SPAN 3300	Crt Analysis of Hisp Lit & Cul	3
SPAN 3301	Spanish Literature Before 1700	3
SPAN 3302	Latin Amer Lit to Modernism	3
SPAN 3303	Spanish Lit Since 1700	3
SPAN 3304	Span Amer Lit Since Modernism	3
SPAN 3309	Structure of Spanish	3
SPAN 3311	Spanish Phonetics & Phonology	3
SPAN 3312	Pedagogical Issues in Spanish	3
SPAN 3315	History of Spanish Language	3
SPAN 3320	Culture & Civilization-Spain	3
SPAN 3325	Confluence Mex & Chicano Lit	3
SPAN 3326	Hispanic Graphic Novel	3
SPAN 3330	Latin American Civilization	3
SPAN 3345	Spanish/Latin American Film	3
SPAN 3347	Politics Gender & Sexualities	3
SPAN 3348	Travel in SPAN-Spkng Contexts	3
SPAN 3360	Al-Andalus:Cult. Muslim Spain	3
SPAN 3390	Special Topics in Spanish	3
SPAN 4301	Methods Foreign Lang Instruc	3
SPAN 4320	Popular Cult in Latin Am/Spain	3
SPAN 4324	Literature of Mexico	3
SPAN 4328	Golden Age Drama	3
SPAN 4335	19th Century Spanish Literatur	3
SPAN 4339	The Short Story	3
SPAN 4341	Modern Drama	3
SPAN 43XX	Spanish in the Community Internship	3
SPAN 4358	20th Century Spanish Literat	3
SPAN 4360	20th 21st Cen Latin Amer Novel	3
SPAN 4361	Cervantes	3
SPAN 4363	Latin American Poetry	3
SPAN 4390	Topics in Spanish	3

Course List

Minor Electives

Code	Title	Hours
SPAN 1301	Spanish One	3
SPAN 1302	Spanish Two	3
SPAN 1601	Intensive Elementary Spanish	6
SPAN 2301	Interm Spanish One Non-Nat Spk	3
SPAN 2302	Interm Spanish Two Non-Nat Spk	3
SPAN 2303	Spanish For Spanish Spkrs One	3
SPAN 2304	Spanish for Spanish Spkrs Two	3
SPAN 2340	Seeing & Naming: Conversations	3
SPAN 2602	Intensive Intermediate Spanish	6
SPAN 2603	Intensive Span for Span Speak	6
SPAN 3300	Crt Analysis of Hisp Lit & Cul	3
SPAN 3301	Spanish Literature Before 1700	3
SPAN 3302	Latin Amer Lit to Modernism	3
SPAN 3303	Spanish Lit Since 1700	3
SPAN 3304	Span Amer Lit Since Modernism	3
SPAN 3309	Structure of Spanish	3
SPAN 3311	Spanish Phonetics & Phonology	3
SPAN 3312	Pedagogical Issues in Spanish	3
SPAN 3315	History of Spanish Language	3
SPAN 3320	Culture & Civilization-Spain	3
SPAN 3325	Confluence Mex & Chicano Lit	3
SPAN 3326	Hispanic Graphic Novel	3
SPAN 3330	Latin American Civilization	3
SPAN 3345	Spanish/Latin American Film	3
SPAN 3347	Politics Gender & Sexualities	3
SPAN 3348	Travel in SPAN-Spkng Contxts	3
SPAN 3360	Al-Andalus:Cult. Muslim Spain	3
SPAN 3390	Special Topics in Spanish	3
SPAN 4301	Methods Foreign Lang Instruc	3
SPAN 4320	Popular Cult in Latin Am/Spain	3
SPAN 4324	Literature of Mexico	3
SPAN 4328	Golden Age Drama	3
SPAN 4335	19th Century Spanish Literatur	3
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SPAN 4363	Latin American Poetry	3
SPAN 4390	Topics in Spanish	3

Course List