

CURRICULUM PROPOSAL

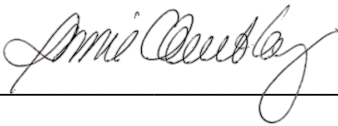
APPROVAL PAGE

Proposal Title: Addition of Undergraduate Programs Eligible for Spanish Fast-Track

College: Liberal Arts Department: Chicano Studies, Languages, and Linguistics

DEPARTMENT CHAIR- Dr. Annie Tremblay

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



9/18/2026

Signature

Date

COLLEGE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE CHAIR – Dr. Selfa Chew-Melendez

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

Signature

Date

COLLEGE DEAN – Dr. 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: September 17, 2026

From: Dr. Elena Foulis, Chicano Studies, Languages, and Linguistics *ELENA FOULIS*

Through: Dr. Annie Tremblay, Chair, Chicano Studies, Languages, and Linguistics *Annie Tremblay*

Through: Dr. Anadeli Bencomo, Dean, College of Liberal Arts

To: Dr. Selfa Chew-Melendez, Undergraduate Curriculum Committee
Dr. Christina Convertino, Chair, Graduate Education Committee

Proposal Title: Addition of Undergraduate Programs Eligible for Spanish Fast-Track

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

We propose expanding eligibility for the Spanish fast-track program leading to the MA in Spanish to also include students pursuing a Chicano Studies major and students pursuing minors in Chicano Studies, Spanish, or Translation and Interpreting. We also propose lowering the minimum GPA requirement to 3.0. These changes will create additional pathways to graduate education for students whose undergraduate

studies provide relevant preparation and whose academic and professional interests align with advanced study in Spanish.

The proposed expansion recognizes that preparation for the MA in Spanish can develop through several complementary fields of study. Students in Chicano Studies engage with the histories, cultural production, and experiences of Mexican-origin communities, providing a foundation for further inquiry into literature, culture, identity, and language. Students completing a Spanish minor develop language proficiency and familiarity with Spanish-speaking cultures, while those completing a Translation and Interpreting minor cultivate bilingual communication, textual analysis, and sensitivity to linguistic and cultural context. Making these students eligible for the fast-track program will strengthen connections among related undergraduate programs and provide a more direct route for qualified students to pursue graduate study in Spanish.

Lowering the minimum GPA requirement to 3.0 will make the program accessible to a broader range of students while maintaining a clear academic standard for eligibility. Overall GPA is one indicator of preparation, but it may not fully reflect a student's strengths in Spanish, performance in relevant coursework, or academic growth. The revised threshold will allow more students to be considered under the program's other admission requirements, including the linguistic and academic preparation necessary for graduate coursework. Eligibility will provide an opportunity for consideration rather than guarantee admission.

Together, these changes are intended to broaden the prospective graduate student pool, support recruitment into the MA in Spanish, and improve continuity between undergraduate and graduate education. They also complement the Spanish program's developing emphasis on Applied Spanish, Spanish for Professional Purposes, and Digital Humanities by welcoming students with related disciplinary backgrounds and varied professional interests. The expanded pathways will help students connect their undergraduate preparation with advanced study while supporting a more sustainable graduate program.

Changes to an Existing Fast-Track Program

College: Liberal Arts

Graduate Degree: Spanish M.A.

Undergraduate Degrees: Spanish Major, **ADDED: Spanish Minor, Chicano Studies Major, Chicano Studies Minor, Translation and Interpreting Minor, CHANGED: minimum GPA of 3.0**

Graduate Course Inventory Changes

Additions

Course Prefix & No.
Title:

Course Prefix & No.
Title:

Course Prefix & No.
Title:

Course Prefix & No.
Title:

Course Prefix & No.
Title:

Course Prefix & No.
Title:

Course Prefix & No.
Title:

Course Prefix & No.
Title:

Course Prefix & No.
Title:

Course Prefix & No.
Title:

Course Prefix & No.
Title:

Course Prefix & No.

Title:

Deletions

Course Prefix & No.

Title:

Course Prefix & No.

Title:

Course Prefix & No.

Title:

Course Prefix & No.

Title:

Course Prefix & No.

Title:

Course Prefix & No.

Title:

Course Prefix & No.

Title:

Course Prefix & No.

Title:

Course Prefix & No.

Title:

Course Prefix & No.

Title:

Fast Track Hours Allowed (max allowed = 15 hours)

Increase to

Decrease to