

Hispanic Studies

In today's global society, knowledge of a second language is a necessary bridge to understanding human diversity. Spanish is one of the 10 most widely used languages in the world and is spoken by nearly 35 million people in the United States. The rich cultural legacy of the Spanish-speaking world makes the study of Spanish language and cultures an exciting and useful window to the many aspects of our world, whether you are motivated by an interest in literature, history, politics, social work, business, science or the arts.

Why Hispanic Studies at Illinois Wesleyan?

Introduces students to the Spanish language as it is spoken all over the world, in Spain and the Americas.

- Offers studies in literature and cultural history in addition to language and linguistics.
- Teaches cultural history courses that stress the connections between literature, the other arts, and the sociopolitical environment from which they emerge.
- Provides literature courses that sharpen analytical skills and foster greater sensitivity to language as an expression of culture.
- Works very well with other departments and interdisciplinary programs on campus to combine your interest in Spanish with other majors.
- Requires a minimum of one semester abroad in a Spanish-speaking country to complete degree requirements.

Learning from a Quality Faculty

Hispanic Studies faculty teach general courses in linguistics as well as courses within their area of specialty.

- **Dr. Carmela Ferradáns**, *Professor of Hispanic Studies, Ph.D.* — *University of California, Irvine*

Specializes in contemporary poetry of Spain, concentrating on its relationship to the plastic arts and popular culture.



A Sampling of Courses Offered by Hispanic Studies:

Conversation and Composition
Readings in Literature and Culture
Medical Spanish and Cultural Competency of Health Care
Spanish for Social Justice
Intensive Language Study
Special Topics in Literature
Iberian Culture and Civilization
Studies in Literature and Culture
Special Topics in Media and Film
Introduction to Spanish Linguistics
History of the Spanish Language
Early Spanish Literature
Modern Spanish Literature
Latin American Literature: Short Narrative and Essay
Latin American Literature: The Novel
Senior Seminar

Recent May Term Courses Related to Hispanic Studies:

Latin American Short Story
Song and Dance in Latin America
Advanced Conversation
Art and Architecture of Barcelona (*travel course*)
Latin American Economics
Cultures of the Yucatan: Mayan, Spanish, Afro-Caribbean (*travel course*)
The Spanish Revolution (*travel course*)

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“During their time at Illinois Wesleyan, Hispanic Studies majors become global citizens. They consistently take what they learn both in the

classroom and while studying abroad and share that knowledge and enthusiasm with others as they volunteer within our community, move on to graduate studies or enter the work force.”

- **Dr. Christina Isabelli-Garcia**, *Associate Professor of Hispanic Studies, Ph.D. — University of Texas, Austin*
Specializes in Second Language Acquisition and Sociolinguistics.
- **Dr. Carolyn Nadeau**, *Professor of Hispanic Studies and Department Chair, Ph.D. — Pennsylvania State University*
Specializes in sixteenth and seventeenth century Spanish literature, particularly the works of Cervantes and the picaresque novel.
- **Dr. Mauricio Parra**, *Professor of Hispanic Studies, Ph.D. — University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign*
Specializes in contemporary Latin American narrative and teaches his additional interests in film and Hispanic writers of the U.S.
- **Dr. Cesar Valverde**, *Associate Professor of Hispanic Studies, Ph.D. — University of California, Irvine*
Specializes in Latin American literature (theatre and prose) and gender studies.

Putting Your Learning into Practice

- The Illinois Wesleyan Language Resource Center (LRC) provides students with facilities for foreign language computer-based activities.
- The LRC also functions as a tutoring center that gives students one-on-one help with Spanish studies.
- Hispanic Studies majors can satisfy their required semester abroad through numerous programs in different Spanish-speaking countries around the world.
- The Department of Hispanic Studies, Spanish and Latino Student Association (SALSA), and the Spanish Club put together a dynamic calendar of co-curricular activities throughout the year highlighting both local and global Hispanic culture.
- Illinois Wesleyan University offers a wide variety of internships related to putting your Hispanic Studies education into practice.

Dr. Carolyn Nadeau
Professor of Hispanic Studies and
Department Chair



**For Further Information,
Write or Call:**

Dr. Carolyn Nadeau
Department Chair, Hispanic Studies
Illinois Wesleyan University
P.O. Box 2900
Bloomington, Illinois 61702-2900
309/556-3155
cnadeau@iwu.edu

www.iwu.edu/hispanic