

# 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, nursing, science or the arts.

## Why Hispanic Studies at Illinois Wesleyan?

- Curriculum 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.
- Offers specialized minors for students majoring in either Nursing or Business Administration.
- Offers a Spanish Teacher Licensure.

## Learning from a Quality Faculty

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

- **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.
- **Daynalí Flores-Rodríguez**, *Assistant Professor of Hispanic Studies*  
*Ph.D. — University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign*  
Specializes in Caribbean and U.S. Latino/a Studies.



### ***A Sampling of Courses Offered by Hispanic Studies:***

Readings in Literature and Culture  
Medical Spanish and Cultural Competency of Health Care  
Spanish for Social Justice  
Intensive Language Studies (Study Abroad)  
Iberian Culture and Civilization  
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  
Studies in Cultural History  
Translation: Principles and Practices  
Business Spanish (*study abroad*)  
Internship

### ***Recent May Term Courses Related to Hispanic Studies:***

Latin American Short Story  
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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“By completing a major in Hispanic Studies you will be working with professors who are genuinely interested in your advancement as a

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

### The Luis Leal Scholarship Fund

- Competitive scholarships for qualified students who carry out Hispanic Studies research off-campus in the U.S. or abroad while enrolled in an IWU-affiliated program.
- Scholarships recipients document and share their research during and/or after the off-campus experience.

### Putting Your Learning into Practice

- The Illinois Wesleyan Language Resource Center (LRC) is a tutoring center that provides students with facilities for foreign language computer-based activities as well as 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.

critical thinker, communicator and as a student that is knowledgeable of Latin American and Spanish language, literature, and the history and politics of cultural production. The courses in our program offer opportunities to interact with the Hispanic community, collaborate with faculty and present your own research. The study abroad requirement to a Spanish-speaking country is usually a highlight for many students. We look forward to chatting with you about your interests!”

#### Dr. Christina Isabelli

Professor of Hispanic Studies and  
Department Chair



**ILLINOIS WESLEYAN**  
UNIVERSITY

### For Further Information, Write or Call:

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