

# Spanish

## MAJOR @ VITERBO UNIVERSITY



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### Overview

The United States has become a country with the fourth-most Spanish speaking people in the world. For this reason, Spanish is no longer considered a foreign language in America and many service providers, corporations, and government institutions require or prefer professionals that are culturally competent and have practical knowledge of the language.

### Why Viterbo?

The Viterbo University Spanish program:

- features faculty that are native speakers representing Spain, Cuba, Puerto Rico, and Mexico.
- offers different cultural perspectives to invite reflective responses.
- strives to help students become global citizens.
- offers practical Spanish knowledge for professionals.
- offers a certificate in community interpreting and connects students with potential jobs.
- advises students through their journey at Viterbo, putting them in contact with different organizations working locally with the Hispanic community or community members interested in Spanish.

### Career Options

Graduates of Viterbo are currently working in diverse fields. All graduates are either employed or attending graduate school. Currently, three students are pursuing doctoral degrees. Some of the many employment possibilities include:

- business
- education
- government
- international travel
- interpreting
- nursing
- private sector organizations
- social work

### Programs of Study

The Department of World Languages at Viterbo University offers a major in Spanish, a major and a minor in teaching Spanish, and a minor in Spanish for students who major in a variety of fields of study such as social work, criminal justice, education, nursing, business, or theatre. We also offer a minor in interpreting studies, one in Latin American Studies, and a Certificate in Community Interpreting for bilingual students.

**For More Information** [www.viterbo.edu/spanish](http://www.viterbo.edu/spanish)

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## Features of the Curriculum

- cultural studies abroad
- Hispanic films and literature
- introduction to translation and interpreting
- Hispanic films and literature
- Latin American civilizations
- Spanish for business
- Spanish for health professionals
- Spanish for social work
- social movements in Latin America

## Retroactive Credit

Students who enter Viterbo University with advanced preparation in Spanish may receive from four–14 retroactive credits provided:

- the student takes a placement exam to determine appropriate class level;
- a grade of C or better is earned in the student's first university course above the 101 level;
- students who withdraw from the university during the semester do not receive retroactive credit.

Retroactive credits granted count toward the B.A. degree as well as toward a Spanish major or minor. These credits will appear on the student's transcript after successful completion of the higher-level course.

## Study Abroad

A period of residency of at least one month in a country where the target language is spoken is required for Spanish majors and for teaching certification in the major and the minor.

Up to 32 credits from an approved study abroad program may be transferred in to meet degree requirements for both the teaching and non-teaching majors; and up to six credits for the teaching and non-teaching minor.

Students who study abroad consistently cite the experience as one of the highlights of their university career. Not only does it bring about a greater sense of self-confidence, it also engenders an awareness of cultural difference, and builds skills for functioning effectively in our multicultural world.

Programs vary in length from a semester to two weeks. Students use the experience to meet general education requirements or towards major or minor programs. Financial aid can be applied to the cost of a program.

## Spanish Program Mission Statement

The Spanish program strives to guide the students in reaching an advanced level of proficiency in all aspects of the Spanish language and in developing an understanding and appreciation for Spanish and Spanish-American cultures. Join us on a journey to become a global citizen; meet people from other countries, experience different cultures and accents, learn the history that shaped today's realities in Latin America and Spain, analyze and reflect on the issues that connect and affect us all.