

Major in Spanish

In an increasingly global society, you're more likely than ever to hear a foreign language being spoken. Spanish is the second most spoken language in the United States. And more Spanish speakers live in the United States than in any Hispanic country except Mexico. When you major in Spanish, you develop both language proficiency and cultural perspective. You also gain communication and interpersonal skills that employers are looking for. Spanish majors at PC have gone on to careers in fields such as international banking, business, and teaching.

Don't let a lack of foreign language experience discourage you from majoring in Spanish. The modern foreign languages department at PC meets you where you are. Advisors will help customize the major to fit your interests and goals.

What You'll Study as a Spanish Major

As a Spanish major, you gain skills that apply to any career where communicating with Spanish speakers is required. Your coursework at PC provides you linguistic training as well as cultural background on all Hispanic countries. It also allows you the flexibility to choose courses that match your interests. For example, you can work with department professors who specialize in poetry and literature or political science and history.

Spanish major requirements total 28 hours of coursework. The curriculum includes Intermediate Spanish, which also satisfies a general education requirement. You'll take Culture and Communication, Spanish Composition and Conversation, two Spanish literature courses and four electives. Your coursework culminates in a semester-long project in which you'll explore a problem or issue related to the Spanish language.

Since communication is vital to all vocations, training in Spanish will complement any other major. You might consider double majoring in Spanish and another subject, as other PC graduates have done. The department even offers you the option of creating a custom minor that includes Spanish and another content area.

Experiences Outside the Classroom

At PC, you'll have opportunities to learn outside the classroom and away from campus.

- **[Studying abroad](#)**. PC offers programs through which you may study abroad for a summer, semester or an entire year. With destinations like Turkey, Nepal, China, Ireland, Egypt, Israel, and Spain, these trips provide immersive language learning opportunities.
- **[Summer Fellows Program](#)**. You can work together with your professors on a summer project and receive a stipend for participating in the program.
- **Independent research**. You can conduct independent research during the regular academic year on a topic of your choice.
- **Internships**. An internship provides you with hands-on experience and a means to explore career options. For example, through an internship a non-Hispanic Spanish major at PC recently found employment with Prisma Health.

In addition to these campuswide opportunities, other extracurricular activities are available to you as a Spanish major.

- **[Sigma Delta Pi Honor Society](#)**. Established in 1919, this American honor society promotes Spanish culture and honors Hispanic contributions in the English-speaking world.
- **[Spanish Club](#)**. This is a social and service-oriented organization that promotes Spanish culture and supports the local Hispanic community. Join faculty members and fellow students in cultural functions on campus and volunteer opportunities in the community.

Jobs for Spanish Majors

Jobs for Spanish majors are plentiful – and multiplying. One study predicts that by 2050 the US will be home to the world’s largest Spanish-speaking population. Even if that’s an overestimation, your ability to speak Spanish will become increasingly valuable in the coming decades. A bachelor’s degree in Spanish qualifies you for work in a variety of sectors including education, healthcare and law enforcement.

According to the Center on Education and the Workforce, foreign language majors with a bachelor’s degree earn a median income of \$52,000. A graduate degree in Spanish raises the median income to \$67,000.

Graduates in Spanish from PC can be found in the hospitality and travel industries. Alumni now work in healthcare, including the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). They use their knowledge and skills in missionary work throughout the Hispanic world. And they serve in government and law enforcement agencies such as the FBI.

No matter your major, PC's liberal arts education prepares you with problem-solving, communication and other soft skills employers look for.

Fast Facts

1. Although PC student Sarah Ramsbottom, a non-Hispanic student, started in Introductory Spanish at PC, her Spanish proficiency earned her an honors internship with the FBI.
2. The modern foreign languages department has offered recent study-abroad trips to Guatemala, Mexico, Chile, Paraguay, Argentina and Spain.
3. Since its inception in 2009, PC's Psi Eta chapter of Sigma Delta Pi has inducted 50 students and two faculty members.
4. More Spanish speakers live in the United States than in any Hispanic country except Mexico.

Meta Page Description

The Spanish major at Presbyterian College prepares you to enter a job market that needs more Spanish speakers and translators than ever.