Spanish Secondary Education Track

- In addition to the General Education requirements and the requirements specified by the Department of Secondary Education, students must complete 30 Spanish units with a grade equivalent of 3.00 or higher before the semester of student teaching.
- Students are also required to complete the Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI) and the Writing Proficiency Test (WPT). See detailed information below.
- Students are assigned two advisors: one in the Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures and one in the Department of Secondary and Middle School Education.

Required courses: 10 courses (30credits)

SPAN 301 and 302 – Composition and Conversation I & II (6 units)
> *Native and Heritage speakers of Spanish are required to take SPAN 303 and SPAN 304 instead.*

SPAN 306 – Spanish Phonetics (3 units)

SPAN 311 – Culture and Civilization of Spain

Students are required to take three of these courses for a total of 9 units

SPAN 312 – Culture and Civilization of Latin America
SPAN 321 – Literature of Spain
SPAN 322 – Spanish American Literature

SPAN 391 – Advanced Spanish Grammar (3 units)

SPAN 4… - Any 400 level Literature or Special Topics (470) Culture course (3 units)

SPAN 407 – Advanced Spanish Composition (3 units) or…
SPAN 408 – Advanced Spanish Conversation (3 units)

SPAN Elective – Students are required to take one course from the following electives:

SPAN 305 – Readings in Spanish	SPAN 402 – Aspects of Spanish Linguistics
SPAN 311 – Culture and Civilization of Spain	SPAN 407 – Advanced Composition
SPAN 312 – Culture and Civilization of Latin A.	SPAN 408 – Advanced Conversation
SPAN 321 – Literature of Spain	SPAN 409 – Spanish Translation
SPAN 322 – Spanish American Literature	SPAN 455 – Hispanic Popular Culture
SPAN 331 – Spanish for Business	SPAN 470 – Special Topic
SPAN 370 – Special Topics (taken abroad)	

Oral Proficiency Interview and Writing Proficiency Test

As part of the requirements for graduation, teacher candidates must complete the Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI) and the Writing Proficiency Test (WPT).
- The OPI is normally administered on a rolling basis. Please, contact Prof. Martínez Ibarra (fmartinezibarra@towson.edu) to consult about application procedures and scheduling. The test is conducted by an interviewer certified by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL.) The requirement should be completed no later than the end of the semester in which the candidate is enrolled in SCED 499, "Internship in Secondary Education."
- To complete the WPT, teacher candidates have two options.
    o Take the test online by selecting "web-based proctoring."
    o Take the test on campus. The WPT is proctored once per semester by a faculty member in the Dept. of Languages, Literatures and Cultures – normally, in November and May.
    o Whether we decide to take the WPT online or on campus, we need to register at www.languagetesting.com
        ▪ Select Spanish as the language you are testing, click on "programs with ACTFL requirements," choose Towson University as your institution, select ACTFL WPT, choose your proctor.
        ▪ If you are taking the WPT on campus, make sure you contact Prof. Martínez Ibarra (fmartinezibarra@towson.edu) in advance to find out when the test will be proctored on campus that semester. You will need to enter that date and time as your first option.
- Teacher candidates from Towson University who are seeking certification in Maryland are required to achieve a level of Advanced Low on the OPI. The requirement for the WPT is Intermediate High.
- The Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures will provide numerous opportunities for candidates to meet the required proficiency standards through its study abroad programs; service-learning opportunities; tutoring; language clubs; and on-campus events such as film festivals and guest speakers. Students are also encouraged to seek out additional opportunities through volunteer work requiring their language skills; through participation in practice groups with other language students and native speakers on campus; and through viewing films and television programs in the language they will be teaching.

Credit for Prior Learning (CPL) – Challenge Exam

The Department of Languages, Literatures & Cultures offers a Challenge Exam to native and heritage speakers and writers of Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Hebrew, Italian, Japanese, Portuguese, and Spanish. Students can elect to test for a total of 6 credits.

This exam is not the same thing as the College Level Examination Program (CLEP) exam given through the College Board. The Department of Languages, Literatures & Cultures does not recognize CLEP credits.

The Challenge Exam is offered once a year, in November. The Challenge Exam for Spanish will be offered in both November 2021 and February 2022. Contact llc@towson.edu if you are interested in taking the Challenge exam for Spanish in the spring.

Scholarships
The following Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures scholarships provide financial aid to current, degree-seeking students who show academic promise:

- Don Miguel de Cervantes Latin American Scholarship Award Endowment (35953)
- Patricia Knapp McLucas Memorial Scholarship (35693)
- Dr. Joseph Vidal Llecha Memorial Scholarship (35833)

Applications and deadlines to apply can be obtained by contacting the Languages, Literatures and Cultures Department at 410-704-2883 or ssladko@towson.edu or by visiting the Department's main office in the Liberal Arts Building, Suite 4210.

In addition, the Towson UTeach Program gives students the opportunity to explore the profession of teaching in the STEM fields (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) and to complete teacher certification on a fast track. Although Spanish is not a STEM field, you can take advantage of the UTeach Program due to the high demand for certified teachers in Spanish.
You can find more information here:
http://www.towson.edu/fcsm/departments/uteach/index.html

Finally, the State of Maryland offers the Workforce Shortage Student Assistance Grant (WSSAG) program to students who plan on working in specific career/occupational programs upon graduation. Teaching is included among the eligible fields.
- Sharon Christa McAuliffe Scholarship: approved teacher education program leading to certification in a critical shortage field. Spanish is one of these fields (Major/Service Area C).
- For information and details on the application procedure go to http://mhec.maryland.gov/preparing/Pages/FinancialAid/ProgramDescriptions/prog_WSSAG.aspx

Professional Development
Belonging to a professional association offers opportunities to strengthen your own linguistic and cultural competence. Also, it provides a common ground for sharing ideas, addressing concerns, and initiating projects. Please, consider joining one of the following associations.

- Northeast Conference on the Teaching of Foreign Languages http://www.nectfl.org/home
- American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages http://www.actfl.org
  - On the main page, on the bottom right corner, you may subscribe to *ACTFL Smartbrief*.
- The American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese http://www.aatsp.org
- Maryland Foreign Language Association

http://www.mflamd.org

Professional Behavior

The Teacher Education Executive Board (TEEB) reserves the right for each department/program to refuse, deny, or revoke the application for admission to professional education programs or continuation in professional education programs of any student whose observed conduct is deemed incongruent with established guidelines of professional behavior.

As a professional discipline, education is "vested by the public with a trust and responsibility requiring the highest ideals of professional service." All teacher education students agree to accept "the responsibility to adhere to the highest ethical standards of professional behavior." Placing the importance of professional behavior and duties above one's own convenience is the cornerstone of professionalism.

All teacher education students are responsible for understanding Unit, department- and program-specific professional expectations. In addition to fulfilling all academic requirements, successful completion of all field experiences requires demonstrated professional behavior including, but not limited to, punctuality, attendance, professional attire, discretion, respect for confidentiality, effective and appropriate communication with University and school-based students and personnel, and acceptance of diversity.

The same principles and guidelines that apply to students' activities in general also apply to their activities online. This includes all forms of online publishing and discussion, including blogs, user-generated video and audio, social networks and other social media applications. The Internet is neither anonymous nor forgetful, and there is no clear line between one's professional life and personal life on a social media site. Teacher candidates need to weigh every posting for how it affects their effectiveness as teachers.

All teacher education students must exhibit behavior that is consistent with the University's Code of Conduct, the Unit's Professional Behavior Policy, and established professional practice in educational and clinical settings. Successful completion of all field experiences is a requirement for continuation in the education program.

Important dates

Planning ahead is very important for teachers. Please, take a look at the following information and make sure you keep it in mind when registering for classes.

Also, make sure you contact Prof. Martínez Ibarra (fmartinezibarra@towson.edu) at the beginning of your junior year to schedule the OPI and the WPT tests.

Fall only	SPAN306 Spanish Phonetics
Fall only	SPAN 407 and SPAN 408
Spring only	SPAN391 Advanced Grammar
Spring only	SPAN409 Spanish Translation
November	Credit for Prior Learning
July 1	WSSAG

The information on this document is only for informational purposes. Please, confirm all information with your main academic advisor.