

MA in Spanish Orientation

- Welcome to the CSU Sacramento Department of Foreign Languages! Our Webpage is at: (www.csus.edu/fl)
- To see the Current CSUS Online Catalog for the MA degree in Spanish, go to: (<http://catalog.csus.edu/current/programs/span.html#MA>)

CSUS MA in Spanish Pathways

- The CSUS Fall-Spring MA On-Campus pathway
- The CSUS Summer MA Travel/Study pathway

Saclink E-mail Accounts

- Please keep your Saclink e-mail account active.
- Check MySacState occasionally for updates on your academic record and e-mail messages.
- The Department of Foreign Languages, the Office of Grad Studies and the University Registrar make use of Saclink e-mail.

The Office of Graduate Studies

- Familiarize yourselves with the Office of Grad Studies homepage: (www.csus.edu/gradstudies):
- For important dates, deadlines, and procedures for completing and submitting all necessary forms for graduate students, such as the Graduate Writing Assessment Requirement & Waiver form: (www.csus.edu/gradstudies/gwar.html).

Advancement to Candidacy

- The Candidacy form is your final MA academic plan. It is the list of the 27 units of your MA coursework in Spanish. At least 18 of these units must be 200-numbered courses.
- The remaining 3 units of the minimum 30 units required for the MA degree are met, for example, by registration in Spanish 500, Culminating Experience, for the MA Comprehensive Exam.

Petition for Exception

- The Petition for Exception form is used for authorizing MA course substitutions or MA course plan changes that deviate from the initially submitted Candidacy form.
- For this form go to:
http://www.csus.edu/gradstudies/forms/candidacy_forms/petitions/petition_for_exception.pdf.

Conditionally Classified Status

- Students not meeting certain admission course prerequisites, such as Linguistics 130, may be admitted with **conditionally** classified graduate status.
- These students may work toward the MA degree while the admission prerequisites are being completed. Once met, students may petition a change to **Fully Classified** status.

Course Work Requirements 1

- A minimum of **two** courses or **6 units** (one of which must be 200-level) is required **in each** of four MA areas:
- Latin American Literature, Spanish Literature, Hispanic Culture, and Linguistics for a total of **24 units**.
- Of these 24 units, a minimum of 18 graduate level units (200-numbered) is required.

Course Work Requirements 2

- An additional **3-unit Elective** brings the total to **27 units**.
- This Elective may be selected from appropriate upper division and graduate courses in consultation with the Graduate Coordinator.

Course Work Requirements 3

- As a culminating requirement (SPAN 500), the candidate will select **Comprehensive Examination**, worth **3 units**, or
- Spanish 500 **Thesis** or **Project**, each worth **4 units**, thus bringing the total units to the minimum **30 units** required for the MA.

The Culminating Experience 1

- Depending on the special interest of the candidate, one of the following culminating requirements must be completed: **thesis, project, or comprehensive examination.**
- Students are strongly encouraged to choose Comprehensive Examination as their culminating requirement.

The Culminating Experience 2

- In the case of the **thesis** or **project**, the candidate must consult a faculty member whose area of expertise is in the area in which the thesis/project will be completed.
- The faculty member, after accepting the student's proposed thesis/project then serves as the student's **Advisor**.
- The culminating requirement cannot be completed in an overseas summer program and only CSUS full time faculty members may be members of the examining committee.

Time Limits 1

- All work presented for the degree must be completed within a **seven-year time span**.
- Should this 7-year time limit elapse, courses taken during the 1st semester of work or before become invalid and **additional coursework will be required**.

Time Limits 2

- In addition, students may be declassified (removed) from the MA program if they show inadequate progress towards the MA degree.
- Students may skip one semester of coursework without having to re-apply to the Office of Graduate Studies.

The Comprehensive Examination

- The **Comprehensive Examination** for the Master of Arts in Spanish shall consist of four written parts:
 - Latin American Literature
 - Spanish (Peninsular) Literature
 - Hispanic Culture
 - Linguistics

The MA Exam Reading List

- Students choosing the MA Comprehensive Exam as their culminating requirement option must contact and communicate with each professor administering their MA exam.
- The candidate shall seek specific guidelines regarding the MA Comprehensive Exam Reading List sub-area chosen for each MA exam.

Comprehensive Examination Periods

- The Comprehensive Exam for the M.A. in Spanish is scheduled only once each semester:
- in November during the fall semester and in April during the spring semester.

Comprehensive Examination Periods 2

- Contact the Graduate Coordinator at (klucasja@csus.edu) or visit his webpage (<http://www.csus.edu/faculty/k/klucasja/>) for the specific dates and times.
- Each of the four exams (parts) lasts 90 minutes, and students will take two on Friday and two on Saturday.

Examination Deficiencies

- Any one of the exams judged to be less than 80% correct shall be considered deficient.
- If any exam receives less than 80% correct, the committee will recommend additional preparation for the student so that they can retake that exam at a future date.
- In no case will a candidate be allowed to retake the exam found to be deficient until after the lapse of one semester, during which the candidate will have adequate time to prepare for the retake.

Multiple Deficiencies

- Candidates who show deficiencies in more than one graduate examination must request, in writing, to the Graduate Coordinator, to meet with the Examination Committee for special consideration to remain in the M.A. program.
- The candidate has one week from the date of the meeting with the examination committee to file a request for consideration. Failure to make such a request will result in the candidate being officially dropped from the M.A. program by the Graduate Coordinator.

Successful Completion of MA Exams

- Once all requirements for the degree have been met and the four examinations have been passed, the committee shall certify that the candidate has earned the M.A. in Spanish and all appropriate university forms will be completed for the awarding of the degree. Degrees generally take 10-12 weeks to post after the last day of the semester.
(<http://www.csus.edu/gradstudies/degreetimeline.htm>)

Important Links

- Summer Travel Study:
www.csus.edu/fl/spanish/ts.htm
- Graduate Coordinator's Webpage:
www.csus.edu/faculty/k/klucasja/