



Tel. 949 / 824-6901

WELCOME LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES



Dear new (or potential) Undergraduate Spanish Major,

I am pleased to welcome you to our Undergraduate Program in Spanish. Just in case you (still) have any doubts about the extraordinary importance of Spanish in our globalizing world: Did you know that Spanish is spoken natively by more people than English, and is second in the world only to Chinese? (SEE TABLE). Needless to say, with this in mind, it is easy to understand why **career opportunities** for proficient Spanish/English speakers abound! With proper planning and diligent study on your part, our Spanish program can help you turn these opportunities into reality. This is especially true for **double majors**. So please read on!

In our Spanish Major, you can currently choose from three different Emphases: (1) **Literature**, (2) **Teaching**, and (3) **Cinema**.

Major world languages today: Number of native speakers

1.	Mandarin Chinese	937 132 000
2.	Spanish	332 000 000
3.	English	322 000 000

Some other major languages:

8.	Russian	170 000 000
9.	Japanese	125 000 000
10.	German	98 000 000
11.	French	79 572 000

Source:
www2.ignatius.edu/faculty/turner/languages.htm

REVISED!
(Fall 07)

Literatura
Cultura

NEW!
(Fall 07)

En español
Make a difference!
Teaching

NEW!
(Fall 07)

Cine ma
en español

The Spanish Major: Choose the Emphasis that suits you best!

<http://www.humanities.uci.edu/spanishandportuguese/program/undergrad.php>

A graphic description of each Emphasis is given at this link

In 2006-2007, we carried out an extensive review of our undergraduate program. Our field of study — i.e., language, literature, culture, and cinema in the Hispanic world — is, without a doubt, a wonderful pursuit, and one that requires much personal dedication to the attainment of excellence. Our program will help you attain this excellence.

We recently modified our existing Emphases by reducing the number of required core courses. This will now allow for greater flexibility on your part, as you can now choose from a more electives (this is particularly true in the Emphasis in Literature and Culture).

We also joined efforts with the **Department of Education** to create a very attractive concentration for **Future Teachers**. This major is geared towards the Teaching Credential Program (students are strongly encouraged to take the recommended courses from Education).

We have also added an **Emphasis in Cinema**, which concentrates on Spanish, Latin American, and U.S. Latino Cinema. In doing so, it recognizes the relevance of film in today's culture.

As you know, undergraduate education requires a willingness to devote much time to your studies. As an undergraduate student in our program, you will experience pressures of all sorts — the very same pressures that you will again confront in your *graduate* career or in your future job. By completing our Major, you will achieve two essential goals: (1) obtain a rigorous academic background in the Spanish Emphasis of your choice, and (2) be given the opportunity to obtain the mental toughness that is typically required in graduate school and beyond.

Our Spanish & Portuguese faculty seek to interact with students in order to widen their intellectual horizons, and to help them “discover” and appreciate the enormous cultural and intellectual achievements of the Spanish and Spanish-American world. Having the opportunity to engage in these activities, among others, will make you a member of a privileged group.

My colleagues and I welcome you to our program, and trust that we can be a constant guide in your studies. If I can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Cordially,

Dr. Armin Schwegler

Director of Undergraduate Studies



**Departmental
Faculty**

Our new
Department Chair, Prof.
Sara Castro-Klarén