The Department of Spanish and Portuguese believes all its students should complete a portion of their undergraduate study through the University’s Education Abroad Program. Spanish and Portuguese majors can deepen their understanding of Spanish and Latin American literatures and cultures, including Brazil, by study in a foreign university and at the same time add an international dimension to their undergraduate education. Because all courses taken through EAP are accepted as UC courses, with careful planning students may spend as much as a year of study in a foreign university with no loss of time in completing their degrees.

### Why study abroad?

The opportunities for enhancing one’s understanding of literature written in Spanish through foreign study are almost boundless: exploring the land of Don Quixote de la Mancha, tapping the history of Mexico and its writers, from Sor Juana to Octavio Paz, or discovering Neruda’s Chile. The vast country of Brazil, with its rich human and cultural resources, is also open to EAP students of Portuguese. EAP offers an intensive Spanish language program in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Spanish and Portuguese majors who study abroad come to understand that cultural context is crucial for interpreting literary texts, that knowledge is constructed differently in other political and social milieu. They may gain fluency in the language while at the same time studying its literature.

Spanish majors find that a term, or better, a year in a foreign university not only enhances their critical thinking and writing skills, but that the experience of adapting to another academic and cultural world expands their self-understanding and gives them a keen sense of the political and social differences in today’s world. The personal and intellectual growth of study abroad provides further advantages when it comes to the challenges of graduate and professional study.

### When should I study abroad?

Students interested in language programs or in fulfilling General Education requirements, can participate as early as their sophomore year. Students wanting to fulfill upper-division major requirements should, in most cases, go abroad in their junior or senior years.
to studying abroad and participate in the EAP Intensive Language Program (ILP), the ILP cannot be petitioned as an elective.

- Film/Cinema – Must study film/cinema of a Spanish speaking country or region, not film from a variety of countries, like European Cinema.
- Society/Culture – Must study society/culture of a Spanish speaking country or region, as reflected in its Literature. Please note that it must have a heavy emphasis in literary traditions.

Just because a course is taught in Spanish doesn’t mean it will count towards the major. For instance, political science, art history, music, economics, etc. courses taken in Spanish will not count toward major/minor requirements.

All Spanish language courses taken on EAP will be viewed as lower-division equivalents. Students who have not taken UCSB Spanish 25 may petition appropriate language courses towards that requirement.

Keep in mind that at least 20 units of upper-division major coursework (or 12 upper-division minor units) must be completed in residence at UCSB along with other residence requirements.

**What language level am I?**

If you took courses in high school, you should take the Spanish placement exam through the Spanish department.

If you took the Spanish Language or Literature AP exam, your level depends on your score:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AP Spanish Exam</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Equals</th>
<th>Placement</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>Lang &amp; Cult</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1-3</td>
<td>Span 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lang &amp; Cult</td>
<td>4</td>
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<td>Span 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lang &amp; Cult</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1-5</td>
<td>Span 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lit &amp; Cult</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1-4</td>
<td>Span 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lit &amp; Cult</td>
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<td>Span 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lit &amp; Cult</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1-6</td>
<td>Span 25</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Native/heritage Spanish speakers should take the Language Fluency Evaluation through the Spanish department. Enrolling in Spanish 16A and 16B prior to participating in an EAP immersion program is generally recommended to ensure that you are ready for writing all of your papers and exams in Spanish.

**Where should I study abroad?**

If you are interested in taking lower-division language classes, look into language programs in Argentina or Spain. If you want to take upper-division coursework for the Spanish major abroad, Hispanic literature and other possible major elective courses are offered at all immersion program universities in Chile, Mexico and Spain. Spanish majors will find plenty of courses to fulfill upper-division major requirements on immersion programs.

If you want to study Catalan literature and culture, in addition to Spanish, go to Barcelona. If you want to study non-Spanish speaking Mexican indigenous groups, do the Field Research Program in Mexico. If you’re interested in colonial literature, consider a program in Latin America. If you like medieval poetry or golden-age drama, study it in Spain. For maximum Spanish language credit in a unique setting, the language program in Buenos Aires, Argentina is ideal.

Portuguese majors should chose a program in Brazil.

**How do I get started?**

Consult the EAP web pages (eap.ucop.edu) to identify the appropriate EAP programs to meet your goals.

Once you have researched your options, come by the EAP office at 2431 South Hall. Peer advisors who have recently returned from studying abroad as well as staff advisors are eager to answer your questions. Go see your undergraduate advisor in the department office.

**What happens when I return?**

If you go abroad in your junior year, you should strongly consider doing a senior honors thesis based on the coursework and intellectual interests you developed abroad. This provides an ideal way of integrating time abroad with the completion of your major. Returnees must petition in order to receive Spanish or Portuguese major credit for work done abroad.

**Department of Spanish & Portuguese**

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