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If you have any questions about courses, applications or student life at Bristol, please contact the Enquiries Team.

Photography

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Spanish, Portuguese and Catalan



Undergraduate study



Courses

Single Honours

BA Hispanic Studies

four years RR45

BA Spanish

four years R400

Joint Honours

BA Czech and Spanish

four years RR4V

BA English and Spanish

four years QR34

BA Film and Spanish

four years L288

BA French and Spanish

four years RR14

BA German and Spanish

four years RR24

BA History and Spanish

four years VR14

BA History of Art and Spanish

four years VR34

BA International Business Management and Spanish*

four years NR14

BA Italian and Spanish

four years RR34

BA Music and Spanish

four years WR34

BA Philosophy and Spanish

four years RV45

This leaflet contains information for students planning to start university in autumn 2020. We have made every effort to ensure all details are correct at the time of going to press (May 2019). However, since this information is subject to change, you are advised to check the University's website, bristol.ac.uk/ug-study, for the latest updates.

Joint Honours continued

BA Politics and Spanish

four years RL42

BA Spanish and Portuguese

four years RR54

BA Spanish and Russian

four years RR47

BA Theatre and Spanish

four years 4D8C

LLB Law and Spanish

four years MR13

BA Czech and Portuguese

four years RR5V

BA English and Portuguese

four years QR35

BA Film and Portuguese

four years 4PP8

BA French and Portuguese

four years RR15

BA German and Portuguese

four years RR25

BA History and Portuguese

four years VR15

BA History of Art and Portuguese

four years VR35

BA Italian and Portuguese

four years RR35

BA Music and Portuguese

four years WR35

BA Philosophy and Portuguese

four years RV55

BA Politics and Portuguese

four years RL52

BA Russian and Portuguese

four years RR57

BA Theatre and Portuguese

four years R2DB

* This course is subject to approval.

Why study Spanish, Portuguese and Catalan at Bristol?

After English, Spanish is the world's most widely spoken European language and is the second language of the USA. Portuguese is the world's seventh most widely spoken language, used in Portugal, Brazil, five African countries and parts of Asia. Since it is so important, yet so rarely studied, knowledge of Portuguese is a very marketable skill. Catalan is also taught at Bristol and is becoming increasingly important in Spanish culture and politics.

Our teaching focuses on many aspects of the history, literature and culture of Iberia and Latin America, from medieval times to the present day.

The department enjoys a strong reputation for its teaching and research in Hispanic, Latin American, Portuguese and Catalan cultures, and has a cosmopolitan and student-focused atmosphere. Staff research and teaching specialisms range from Spanish and Portuguese

literature and history to the Colombian Wars of Independence and the cultures of the indigenous people of Latin America. Regular Hispanic, Portuguese and Latin American cultural events are organised by both staff and students, including an annual Luso-Hispanic Cultural Week.

Modern languages students at Bristol benefit from a state-of-the-art multimedia centre, which provides access to over 2,000 film titles, foreign satellite channels, magazines and newspapers as well as equipment for oral practice, presentations and projects.

'Now more than ever, graduates equipped with linguistic skills, intercultural understanding and the ability to think outside the box are in high demand. At Bristol, through a broad, interdisciplinary range of language and culture units taught by world-class researchers, we prepare our students to become creative leaders, capable of responding to local and global challenges.'

Professor Andreas Schonle, Head of the School of Modern Languages

What will you study?

All of our single and joint honours degrees are available to complete or near beginners, for whom a tailor-made intensive language course is offered in the first stages of the course. Hispanic studies comprises Spanish, Portuguese and Catalan (from the second year). All courses are centred on the study of the relevant language(s), complemented by options in the history, literature and cultures of Iberia and Latin America. If you enter with an A-level you will follow your own advanced language course, plus additional cultural units to consolidate and extend your experience.

In the first year you will receive an introduction to Hispanic and Latin American studies and/or Portuguese and Lusophone studies, taught through lectures by teams of specialist academic staff. These units also focus on the development of key skills for progression through the degree course: you will improve your language skills through reading modern representative texts and viewing films, while getting a taste of the cultural diversity of the relevant countries.

Modern languages students can access our state-of-the-art Multimedia Centre, which includes a student cinema suite, an audio recording and editing studio, and a library of foreign films, books and magazines.

In years two and four you choose from a wide range of optional units covering the languages, literature, history, politics and culture of the Spanish- and/or Portuguese-speaking world. Examples of units offered previously include:

Spanish units

- From Frontiers to Football: Nations in Latin America;
- Republic, War and Dictatorship in Spain, 1931-1982;
- Women's Writing in Post-war Spain;
- The Cuban Revolution in the World: Culture and Politics of Internationalism;
- Hispanic Sociolinguistics;
- Conflict and Transformation in the Arts of the Hispanic World;
- Themes in Latin American Film: Social Changes and Challenges.

Portuguese units

- Migration and Movement: Cultural Exchange in the Lusophone World;
- Transnational Narratives in Contemporary Brazilian Culture;
- Audio-visual Translation.

You may also take interdisciplinary units in the School of Modern Languages, such as: World Cinema; Translation as Professional Practice; Linguistics; The Radical Right; and Communism in Europe. In the final year you may also choose to write a dissertation exploring a topic of your choice in detail.

Your timetable, teaching and modes of learning will vary according to the year of study, but typically you will experience a mixture of lectures, seminars and various types of language classes (written, oral/aural and grammar) throughout your course. Independent study and preparation will occupy a considerable part of your timetable in addition to scheduled classes.

All courses last four years and include a period of residence abroad in at least one appropriate country during the third year.

Units are assessed by a combination of coursework, examinations and seminar presentations. The ratio between each type of assessment depends upon which optional units are chosen.

Year abroad

You may spend your year abroad working or volunteering, giving you valuable professional experience, or studying at one of our partner universities. We currently have exchange agreements with universities in Spain and Portugal and several universities in Brazil, Chile, Mexico, Colombia and elsewhere in Latin America. The Global Opportunities office will help you to arrange study or work placements and assist with associated administration.

If you study two languages, you will divide your year abroad equally between countries where they are spoken. Students on the Hispanic studies course will spend part of the year in Catalonia in order to experience both Spanish and Catalan. Your year abroad will provide you with a highly attractive skill set for employers.



'The lecturers are incredible – they are warm and welcoming and incredibly keen on their subject.'

Harley (BA German and Spanish)

Careers and graduate destinations

In addition to linguistic aptitude, modern languages graduates develop employability skills, including:

- written and oral communication skills;
- information gathering and analysis;
- time management skills;
- self-confidence and independence;
- international outlook and cultural awareness;
- presentation skills.

Many of our students use their languages after graduation, and a high proportion find employment in which their languages are advantageous. Our graduates enter a wide variety of careers, including banking, law, marketing, the media, accountancy, tourism and the civil service.

Some go on to further study or training in programmes such as international relations and development, teaching and translation. Some recent graduates now work for international institutions including the United Nations and the Organisation of American States.

The Bristol Skills Framework enables our students to recognise their development in academic writing, problem solving, group work, and individual and group presentations. We will equip you with the tools to market your skills, your achievement and your potential in whatever career path you choose to pursue after you graduate.

The University of Bristol has one of the best employment records in the UK. We are the second most targeted university by top UK graduate employers (High Fliers Research 2019).

'Studying languages has proved indispensable to getting my first graduate job. I really couldn't imagine applying for a job role where foreign languages aren't utilised or considered an asset.'

Isabella (BA Russian and Spanish)

Source: Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education survey 2016/17. Data is for students of all modern languages courses. Find out more at bristol.ac.uk/careers/be-inspired.



Graduate employers

British Council
EY
Focus PR
Éléphant groupe
Merbis-Kirk Translations



Career destinations

Auxiliaire de Conversation
Accountancy Associate
Team Assistant
Freelance Researcher
Translator

Making your application

Visit bristol.ac.uk/ug20-spanish or bristol.ac.uk/ug20-portuguese for more information about our courses.

Typical offer for BA Hispanic Studies/ Spanish

A-levels AAB (contextual BBB) including B in Spanish.

IB Diploma 34 points overall (contextual 31) with 17 at Higher Level (contextual 15), including 5 at Higher Level in Spanish.

Our contextual offer is a grade reduction of up to two grades below the standard entry requirements, made to applicants from under-represented groups. Find out more at bristol.ac.uk/contextual-offers.

GCSEs No specific subjects required.

Selection process UCAS.

For other accepted qualifications, and for our English language requirements, visit bristol.ac.uk/ug20-spanish or bristol.ac.uk/ug20-portuguese.

Application advice for Spanish, Portuguese and Catalan courses

Admissions tutors are looking for evidence that you will be interested, motivated and able to begin exploring all aspects of Spanish, Catalan and/or Portuguese language and culture.

When making your application, please consider the following:

- interest in and commitment to the language, history and culture;
- evidence of clear thinking and understanding, and problem-solving and analytical skills;
- suitability of the course for you;
- reading or research which goes beyond the A-level syllabus;
- non-academic achievements, extracurricular interests and positions of responsibility;
- evidence of teamwork;
- response to challenges faced;
- standard of written English.

Further information

Find out more about the Department of Hispanic, Latin American and Portuguese Studies: bristol.ac.uk/hispanic.

This information is correct at the time of printing (May 2019), but we recommend you check the University website for the latest information: bristol.ac.uk/ug20-spanish or bristol.ac.uk/ug20-portuguese.



Read more about how we support you when you are here:

bristol.ac.uk/students