Spanish is all around you. In fact, Spanish is the world’s second-most spoken native language and the fourth-most spoken language. You can understand the language, its nuances, and the culture that goes with it. In addition to language proficiency, you will learn the literature and cultures of Spanish, U.S. Hispanic, Mexican, Central American, and South American peoples. Our caring professors bring a wealth of international experience to your education, as do faculty visiting from Mexico, Colombia, Ecuador, Argentina, Chile and many other countries.

Experience Your Learning

To immerse students in the language, all classes are taught in Spanish, from basic to advanced levels, with a focus on listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Courses in literature and civilization provide a critical understanding of the cultural heritage of the Spanish-speaking world, including the United States.

Take part in full language and cultural immersion through our study abroad options in Oaxaca, Mexico and León, Spain. There, you can participate in meaningful Service Learning by combining your studies with an internship that makes a difference in the lives of local citizens. You’ll also have the option to participate in California State University study abroad programs in Madrid or Granada, Spain, Queretaro, Mexico, or Santiago, Chile.

The Cal Poly Humboldt Center for Translation & Interpretation (CTI) provides free Spanish language oral interpretation and written translation services for students, staff, and faculty. The CTI also offers Spanish majors opportunities to provide critical interpretation and translation support for Latinx parents and families of K–12 students in Humboldt County.

Did you know?

- Hosted by El Centro Académico Cultural de Humboldt, one of four cultural centers at Humboldt, Hispanic Heritage Month is a series of campus events that celebrate Hispanic and/or Spanish cultures.
- The largest demographic among Cal Poly Humboldt’s student population is Latino students.
- El Leñador is the student-run, award-winning bilingual English/Spanish newspaper, which serves the Latino community on campus and in Humboldt County.
Academics & Options

Spanish, B.A.
The Department of World Languages & Cultures prepares students to become global citizens of an increasingly interconnected world. The Spanish Program provides the well-balanced course offerings necessary to acquire and consolidate language skills, up to advanced, native, and near-native proficiency levels, as well as expertise in the areas of literatures and cultures.

Spanish Minor
Study the language, literature, and cultures of Spanish, U.S. Hispanic, Mexican, Central American, and South American peoples.

Spanish Media Minor
The Spanish Media minor combines Spanish language study with journalistic writing and media experience. An interdisciplinary minor, it is an excellent choice for anyone interested in pursuing a degree in business, communication, pre-law, or for professional careers in bilingual news media, advertising, and public relations.

Get Involved
Spanish Translation & Interpretation Club
For students of all majors who are interested in the ways Spanish and English are translated from text to text and interpreted from speakers to audiences. The club provides translation and interpretation services to individuals and community organizations from schools and businesses to nonprofits. All students are welcome, from beginners to bilingual speakers. This is the perfect club to enrich one’s Spanish and English speaking and writing skills. The club is supervised and supported by a Spanish faculty member.

Scholarships
Spanish majors are eligible for several scholarships through the Department of World Languages & Cultures:
• The Benavides–Garb Family International Travel Award
• The Joe and Helen Bottino Memorial Travel Award
• Budig–Markin Family Francophone African Studies Award (exclusive to study abroad to Africa)
• The Frank B. Wood Scholarship

Careers
Students with national and international understanding of cultural, ethnic, and racial issues, coupled with second or third language competency, will be better equipped to meet the professional challenges of the 21st century. Potential careers include the following:
• Customs Officer/Inspector
• ESL/EFL Teacher
• Foreign Language Teacher
• Foreign Service Officer/Diplomat
• Immigration Specialist
• Intelligence Specialist
• International Relations Officer
• Interpreter/Translator
• Language Specialist
• NGO Administrator/Director

It was so valuable to gain a different cultural perspective as a college student. My experiences at Humboldt definitely sowed seeds for the work I’m doing today.”

Kaitlin Yarnall ('05, Geography and Spanish), Chief Storytelling Officer at National Geographic, recalls studying Spanish literature and spending a semester abroad in Quito, Ecuador.