Spanish

Degree conferred
Master of Arts in Languages and Literatures: Spanish

Languages of study
Study in Spanish

Commencement of studies
Commencement of studies in the Autumn Semester (September) or in the Spring Semester (February)

Access to further studies
Ph.D.

This Master's programme allows students to acquire knowledge in the four following fields: different types of Hispanic literature in their historical and cultural context and in terms of their mutual relationships; study of the Spanish language in its historical development and in its current varieties (Spain and Latin America); analysis of literary and linguistic modernity; documentation and research techniques.

Fribourg’s specific teaching has an inter-cultural focus and a dual linguistic and philological perspective. It is the only university specialised in the latter.

The programme comprises four compulsory modules, two of which concern the historical perspective and two of which concern modernity.

Profile of the study programme

This study programme has four sections:
– Knowledge of Hispanic literature in its historical and cultural context and in terms of its mutual relationships. Teaching is focused on an inter-cultural perspective, the bases of which were established during the Bachelor’s programme. This is specific to Fribourg because it is the only Swiss University that offers this focus;
– Study of the Spanish language in its historical development and in its modern varieties (Spain and Latin America). The perspective is dual and complementary: linguistics and philology. Fribourg is the only university in the BENEFRI network specialised in the latter;
– Analysis of literary and linguistic modernity; the emergence of twenty independent countries and their insertion in modernity (not forgetting the demographic explosion of Spanish in the United States) raises many problems in terms of perspective and analysis content for which systematic thinking is necessary;
– Documentation and research skills to extend the education received to professional life.

The programme consists of two parts, each one divided into two modules:

1. The first is focused on a mainly historical perspective (for Spain and Latin America), in the literary and language fields;
2. The second focuses on the specific study of modernity and the relationships of our discipline with the other Latin languages and cultures.

To pass a seminar, students must actively take part in work sessions, make an oral presentation during the semester and write a report in Spanish (subject to courses offered in other languages in our field).

Although the modules are independent of each other, it is recommended to take them in the order indicated: it is possible for modules M3 and M4 to be dedicated, where applicable, to work in preparation for the Master's thesis.

The Master's study programme consists of four compulsory modules and of a thesis. The Master's thesis covers a subject which is related to the Master's study programme or a literary subject put forward and justified by the student. It may also be multidisciplinary, as long as it is written in Spanish and covers a topic related to the Hispanic world. It must show that the candidate is capable of bringing together the bibliography and sources corresponding to the chosen subject, of making a critical summary and of raising questions. The oral presentation in support of the thesis allows the student to justify the methods used and the approach taken, to answer questions raised by the thesis and, more generally, to demonstrate knowledge in the field concerned.

This course leads to a variety of career opportunities, such as:

- Education: university teaching and research; teaching at secondary and higher secondary level or in private schools and companies;
- Writing professions: journalism, advertising, libraries, archives, literary and technical translation, book industry (publishing, management and retail);
- Other: diplomacy, banking sector, tourism, hotel industry, public relations, new technologies, interpreting, commercial and cultural management, international organisations (Red Cross and others), public and private administration, etc.

Studies organisation

Structure of studies

90 ECTS credits + 30 ECTS credits as an option in a minor study programme freely chosen or in a specialisation programme, 3-4 semesters

Curriculum

http://studies.unifr.ch/go/h2ehx

Admission

Master's degree programmes are built on the knowledge and abilities that were acquired when obtaining a Bachelor's degree.
Holders of a Bachelor’s degree awarded from a Swiss university can be admitted to a Master’s degree programme within the corresponding discipline (requires the acquisition of minimum 60 ECTS credits at Bachelor level in the corresponding discipline) without any additional requirements. The same applies to holders of a Bachelor’s degree awarded by a foreign university, provided that the Bachelor’s degree is recognised and considered equivalent by the University of Fribourg.

Holders of a Bachelor’s degree awarded from a Swiss university or holders of a Bachelor’s degree awarded by a foreign university, provided that the Bachelor’s degree is recognised and considered equivalent by the University of Fribourg, can be admitted to a Master’s degree programme within another discipline with prerequisites (must be successfully completed before starting the Master’s degree programme) or additional requirements (can be completed during the Master’s degree programme). According to existing agreements, holders of a Bachelor’s degree awarded from a Swiss university of applied sciences can also be admitted with prerequisites or additional requirements.

The respective conditions of admission for each Master’s degree programme are reserved.

Alternatives

Also offered as a minor study programme and as a specialisation programme (30 ECTS credits).

Contact

Faculty of Humanities
Department of Spanish
Prof. Julio Peñate
julio.penate@unifr.ch
http://studies.unifr.ch/go/es-spanish