

ROMANCE LANGUAGES (BA)

Department Website (<http://as.nyu.edu/french/>)

NYSED: 08120 HEGIS: 1101.00 CIP: 16.0101

Program Description

The Romance languages are the group of related tongues that began to emerge from spoken Latin after the fall of the Roman Empire in the fifth century. In the High Middle Ages and the Renaissance they evolved into the languages that we recognize as the basis of (among others) modern Italian, French, Spanish, and Portuguese. The great works of literature produced in these centuries became the foundation of the national literatures of their respective cultures.

The nine-course major in Romance Languages in the College of Arts and Science is administered by the Departments of Italian, French, and Spanish and Portuguese. Students choose a combination of any two of these four languages, taking five courses in one and four in the other. Thus, majors in Romance Languages are able to take advantage of the rich course offerings and resources of our world-renowned language departments and to learn from distinguished scholars in two fields.

The major stresses competence in speaking and writing before moving into literary and cultural coursework. To improve students' competency in their two languages and promote cross-cultural understanding and exposure, study away at NYU Buenos Aires, Florence, Madrid, and/or Paris is encouraged. While they are at the Washington Square campus, students can take advantage of talks, exhibitions, films, and other events sponsored by the Departments of French, Italian, and Spanish and Portuguese and NYU's Maison Française, Casa Italiana Zerilli-Marimò, and King Juan Carlos I of Spain Center, as well as by cultural institutions in New York City.

A major in Romance Languages is applicable to careers in international law and business, communications, education, fine arts, tourism, and diplomacy, and also complements majors in such fields as Art History, Cinema Studies, Comparative Literature, History, International Relations, Linguistics, Medieval and Renaissance Studies, and Music.

Overview of the Major

The Romance Languages major requires a total of 36 credits distributed between two languages, with 20 credits taken in the primary language and 16 credits taken in the secondary language. Students typically meet the requirements with nine 4-credit courses (five in the primary language and four in the secondary), but with permission of the appropriate language department(s), combinations of 2- and 4-credit courses may be approved to satisfy advanced language requirements. The combinations of primary-secondary languages are:

- French-Italian
- French-Spanish
- French-Portuguese
- Italian-French
- Italian-Spanish
- Italian-Portuguese
- Spanish-French
- Spanish-Italian
- Spanish-Portuguese

- Portuguese-French
- Portuguese-Italian
- Portuguese-Spanish

For declaration of and advisement in the major, students must visit the departments of both languages they intend to study. They must indicate to both departments which language is primary and which is secondary. Advisement for course sequencing takes place in the relevant departments.

Students must earn a C or better in all courses for the major. Courses graded Pass/Fail cannot be counted toward the major.

Honors in Romance Languages

To be eligible, a student must spend a minimum of three full semesters in residence at the College of Arts and Science (attendance at NYU Buenos Aires, Florence, Madrid, or Paris counts toward this residence). The student must maintain a cumulative and major GPA of at least 3.65. A Romance Languages major who meets these requirements and wishes to pursue a senior honors project should apply to the director of undergraduate studies in the language department of the intended faculty adviser.

Admissions

New York University's Office of Undergraduate Admissions supports the application process for all undergraduate programs at NYU. For additional information about undergraduate admissions, including application requirements, see [How to Apply](https://www.nyu.edu/admissions/undergraduate-admissions/how-to-apply.html) (<https://www.nyu.edu/admissions/undergraduate-admissions/how-to-apply.html>).

Program Requirements

French as Primary Language

Course	Title	Credits
General Education Requirements		
First-Year Seminar		4
EXPOS-UA 1	Writing as Inquiry	4
Foreign Language ¹		16
Quantitative Reasoning		4
Physical Science		4
Life Science		4
Texts and Ideas		4
Cultures and Contexts		4
Societies and the Social Sciences		4
Major Requirements		
FREN-UA 105	Written Contemporary French	4
Select one of the following:		
FREN-UA 101	Spoken Contemp French I	
FREN-UA 102	Advanced French Conversation	
FREN-UA 103	French Phonetics	
FREN-UA 107	French Translation	
FREN-UA 108	French: Advanced Techniques of Translation	
FREN-UA 109	Acting French	
FREN-UA 110	Business French	
FREN-UA 111	Creative Writing in French	
FREN-UA 113	French for International Relations	

Select one of the following:

FREN-UA 115	Approaches to French Language	4
FREN-UA 140	Approaches to French Literature	
FREN-UA 143	Approaches to French and Francophone Performing Arts	
FREN-UA 145	French: Approaches to Francophone Literature	
FREN-UA 163	Approaches to French History	
FREN-UA 164	French Contemporary France	
Eight advanced credits in FREN-UA	8	
Select four secondary language courses	16	
Electives		
Other Elective Credits	44	
Total Credits	128	

¹ The foreign language requirement is satisfied upon successful completion through the Intermediate level of a language. This may be accomplished in fewer than 16 credits, but those credits must then be completed as elective credit.

Italian as Primary Language

Course	Title	Credits
General Education Requirements		
First-Year Seminar		4
EXPOS-UA 1	Writing as Inquiry	4
Foreign Language ¹		16
Quantitative Reasoning		4
Physical Science		4
Life Science		4
Texts and Ideas		4
Cultures and Contexts		4
Societies and the Social Sciences		4
Major Requirements		
ITAL-UA 30	Advanced Review of Modern Italian	4
Select one of the following:		4
ITAL-UA 101	Conversations in Italian	
ITAL-UA 107	Italian Through Cinema	
Select one of the following:		4
ITAL-UA 104	Translingual Writing in Italian	
ITAL-UA 110	Translation	
Select one of the following:		4
ITAL-UA 115	Readings in Medieval and Renaissance Literature	
ITAL-UA 116	Readings in Modern Italian Literature	
Four credits in advanced Italian literature and/or Italian culture and society ²		4
Select four secondary language courses		16
Electives		
Other Elective Credits		44
Total Credits	128	

¹ The foreign language requirement is satisfied upon successful completion through the Intermediate level of a language. This may be accomplished in fewer than 16 credits, but those credits must then be completed as elective credit.

² Or a combination of two approved 2-credit courses, to be determined in consultation with the director of undergraduate studies in the Department of Italian. For Italian as the secondary language, subtract the four advanced credits.

Portuguese as Primary Language

Course	Title	Credits
General Education Requirements		
First-Year Seminar		4
EXPOS-UA 1	Writing as Inquiry	4
Foreign Language ¹		16
Quantitative Reasoning		4
Physical Science		4
Life Science		4
Texts and Ideas		4
Cultures and Contexts		4
Societies and the Social Sciences		4
Major Requirements		
Select five Portuguese courses ²		20
Select four secondary language courses		16
Electives		
Other Elective Credits		44
Total Credits	128	

¹ The foreign language requirement is satisfied upon successful completion through the Intermediate level of a language. This may be accomplished in fewer than 16 credits, but those credits must then be completed as elective credit.

² Beyond the level of PORT-UA 4 Intermed Portuguese II, including courses taken in English with writing assignments completed in Portuguese, approved by the director of undergraduate studies in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese. For Portuguese as the secondary language, students take a total of four upper-level electives.

Spanish as Primary Language

The prerequisite for entering the major is either SPAN-UA 50 Advanced Spanish, or SPAN-UA 51 Advanced Spanish for Spanish-Speaking Students. Note that neither course counts toward the major.

Course	Title	Credits
General Education Requirements		
First-Year Seminar		4
EXPOS-UA 1	Writing as Inquiry	4
Foreign Language ¹		16
Quantitative Reasoning		4
Physical Science		4
Life Science		4
Texts and Ideas		4
Cultures and Contexts		4
Societies and the Social Sciences		4
Major Requirements		
SPAN-UA 50	Advanced Spanish	4
or SPAN-UA 51 Advanced Spanish for Spanish-Speaking Students		
Select one SPAN-UA 3XX course conducted in Spanish ²		4

Select four additional advanced Spanish courses ³	16
Select four secondary language courses	16
Electives	
Other Elective Credits	40
Total Credits	128

¹ The foreign language requirement is satisfied upon successful completion through the Intermediate level of a language. This may be accomplished in fewer than 16 credits, but those credits must then be completed as elective credit.

² This SPAN-UA 3XX course cannot double-count toward the next requirement.

³ Chosen in consultation with the director of undergraduate studies in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese. These are often at the SPAN-UA 3XX level. With departmental permission, students may meet this 16-credit requirement with a combination of 2- and 4-credit courses. One and only one of these additional four courses/16 credits may be an advanced language elective (creative writing, conversation, or translation), chosen from the following: SPAN-UA 60 Advanced Conversation, SPAN-UA 110 Techniques of Translation, SPAN-UA 111 Literary Translation, SPAN-UA 120 Creative Writing in Spanish, SPAN-UA 122 Advanced Fiction and Non-Fiction, or SPAN-UA 124 Writing Poetry. For Spanish as the secondary language, students must still take at least one SPAN-UA 3XX course conducted in Spanish, but will subtract four of the additional advanced Spanish credits.

Sample Plan of Study

Course	Title	Credits
1st Semester/Term		
Intensive Intermediate Language (Primary) ¹		6
Texts and Ideas		4
First-Year Seminar		4
Quantitative Reasoning		4
	Credits	18
2nd Semester/Term		
EXPOS-UA 1	Writing as Inquiry	4
Grammar and Composition (Primary) ¹		4
Intensive Intermediate Language (Secondary) ¹		6
Cultures and Contexts		4
	Credits	18
3rd Semester/Term		
Written Language Course (Primary)		4
Advanced Language Course (Secondary)		4
Societies and the Social Sciences		4
Physical Science		4
	Credits	16
4th Semester/Term		
Spoken Language Course (Primary)		4
Conversations Course (Secondary)		4
Life Science		4
Elective		4
	Credits	16
5th Semester/Term		
Approaches Language Course (Primary)		4
Advanced Composition Course (Secondary)		4
Elective		4
Elective		4
	Credits	16

6th Semester/Term	
Advanced Language Course 1 of 2 (Primary)	4
Readings Language Course (Secondary)	4
Elective	4
Elective	4
	Credits
	16
7th Semester/Term	
Advanced Language Course 2 of 2 (Primary)	4
Elective	4
Elective	4
Elective	4
	Credits
	16
8th Semester/Term	
Elective	4
Elective	4
Elective	4
	Credits
	12
	Total Credits
	128

¹ This course is a prerequisite for entering the major. Does not count toward major requirements.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the program, graduates will have:

1. Oral and written proficiency in both their primary and secondary languages that enables them to communicate in those languages in a variety of informal and formal settings.
2. Skills and knowledge useful for the study of literary and/or cultural texts, such as close reading, sociohistorical contextualization, research techniques, and an understanding of literary, cultural, and/or historical traditions and trends in both the primary and secondary languages.
3. An understanding of the connections between, and shared linguistic heritages of, their primary and secondary languages.
4. The ability to locate their primary and secondary languages in the larger context of transnational historical and cultural dynamics.

Policies

NYU Policies

University-wide policies can be found on the New York University Policy pages (<https://bulletins.nyu.edu/nyu/policies/>).

College of Arts and Science Policies

A full list of relevant academic policies can be found on the CAS Academic Policies page (<https://bulletins.nyu.edu/undergraduate/arts-science/academic-policies/>).