
Hebrew Language and Literature

Courses of Study:
 Minor
 Major (BA)
 Master of Arts in Teaching Hebrew

Objectives

The Hebrew Language Program of the Department of Near Eastern and Judaic Studies offers instruction in Hebrew language and literature and in the teaching of Hebrew language. The Hebrew program is the largest in the United States, averaging 600 students per year and offering a range of 40 courses. Our program allows students to acquire an advanced level of proficiency and a strong background in Hebrew culture and literature. Courses are taught by faculty whose fields of specialization include biblical studies, post-biblical and Talmudic literature, modern Hebrew literature and culture, Hebrew language, and Hebrew language education.

Undergraduate Major and Minor

Undergraduate students are welcome to participate in the Hebrew program as majors, minors, or to simply take individual courses, as well as to fulfill university language requirements. An undergraduate major in Hebrew will prepare students for graduate school and professions in education, business, journalism, diplomacy, and other fields.

Graduate Program in Hebrew

The degree of Master of Arts in teaching Hebrew is offered to provide teachers and students with the knowledge and training to become teachers of the Hebrew language at all levels; that is, elementary, secondary, post-secondary, and adult education. This program emphasizes the different areas that any Hebrew teacher should master to teach in a variety of frameworks. These include the theoretical knowledge of learning and teaching Hebrew, as well as hands-on experience in teaching. This program is the first of its kind in the United States and addresses the urgent need for qualified Hebrew teachers in Jewish education.

How to Become a Major

Students who wish to major in Hebrew must complete the language requirement no later than by the end of their second year at Brandeis. In addition, they must complete the following three prerequisites:

- Any fourth-semester Hebrew course, excluding HBRW 41a. Exemptions will be granted only to those students who place out on the basis of the Hebrew placement test administered by the Hebrew program at Brandeis.

- One course in classical Hebrew: HBRW 122a, 122b, or NEJS 10a.
- One course in modern Hebrew literature: HBRW 123a, 123b, 143a, or 143b. Any course taken to fulfill the prerequisites may not count toward the major. Students are required to meet with the undergraduate advising heads in NEJS and Hebrew to develop a course of study in order to fulfill the program requirements and personal interests.

How to Be Admitted to the Graduate Program

The general requirements for admission to the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, as specified in an earlier section of this *Bulletin*, apply to candidates for admission to this program.

In addition, applicants must have achieved at least advanced-mid level in Hebrew language, according to the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) guidelines. Advanced-mid competence is defined as the ability to function successfully and effectively in most formal and informal settings, with ease and accuracy. This ability must be reflected in the four skills of reading, writing, speaking, and listening comprehension.

Applicants must present two letters of recommendation and a statement of purpose and must be interviewed by the director of the program.

Program of Study

Our two-year program focuses on different skills that we believe professional Hebrew educators should master. Theoretical and methodological learning, as well as hands-on experience and rigorous field training, are emphasized. The curriculum consists of twelve courses and two semesters of practicum training. Seven of the twelve required courses focus exclusively on different aspects of teaching and learning the Hebrew language. Such courses focus on theories of language acquisition, instructional methodologies, curriculum development, development of teaching materials, learner assessment, classroom management, and conducting research. The remaining course requirements include enrichment courses such as biblical texts, modern Hebrew literature, and the history of the Hebrew language, as well as courses that prepare students to teach specifically in Jewish settings.

The practicum training component of the curriculum, which closely accompanies the course work, provides students with an opportunity to practice their teaching, in formal and informal education as well as in different settings such as day schools, afternoon schools, and elementary and high schools.

Faculty

See Near Eastern and Judaic Studies.

Requirements for the Minor

The minor consists of a sequence of five semester courses in Hebrew, two of which may be taken at other universities. At least one of the five courses must be a writing-intensive course in Hebrew.

- A.** One course in modern Hebrew literature: HBRW 123a, 123b, 143a, 143b, NEJS 174a, 174b, 177a, 178a, or 180b.
- B.** One course in biblical or rabbinic Hebrew: HBRW 122a, 122b, NEJS 10a, 25a, 110b, 111b, 114b, 115a, 117b, 118b, 121b, 122b, 123b, 126a, 126b, 127b, or 170a.
- C.** Three additional courses selected from the following: HBRW 41a, 44b, 49b, 121a, 121b, 123a, 123b, 141a, 143a or 143b, 144a, 146a, 161b, 164b, 166b, 167b, 168a, 168b, 170a, or any of the NEJS courses listed above.
- D.** HBRW 123a, 123b, 143a, 143b, if used to fulfill the requirement for section A, cannot be counted for the requirement in section C.
- E.** HBRW 123a, 123b, 143a, 143b, 146a, 161b, 164b, 166b, 167b, 170a may satisfy the writing intensive requirement. Not all of the courses are given in any one year. Please consult the *Course Schedule* each semester. Courses that satisfy the requirement in a particular semester are designated “wi” in the *Course Schedule* for that semester. Students may double count these courses for requirements in sections A–D.
- F.** By department rule, a maximum of two semester course credits taken at other universities may be accepted toward the minor in Hebrew language and literature. Each course transferred from another university must have the approval of the Hebrew program in order to be accepted for credit toward the minor requirements. This rule applies to courses completed at any other institution, whether in the United States or abroad. Students are encouraged to seek advance approval from the Hebrew program advisor for all courses intended for transfer credit. For courses taken in Israeli universities, one Brandeis semester credit will be given for a three-hour-per-week one-semester course; a two-semester, two-hour-per-week course; or two two-hour, one-semester courses. Credit is not granted for Ulpan courses.

Students are encouraged to declare their interest in a Hebrew minor by the end of their junior year.

Requirements for the Major

The major consists of seven semester courses, which may not overlap with courses taken to fulfill the language requirement and additional prerequisites. These seven courses are to include the following:

- A.** NEJS 5a (Foundational Course in Judaic Studies).
- B.** Two Advanced Composition and Grammar Study. HBRW 161b (Israel Today: Advanced Conversation and Writing) and HBRW 167b (The Revival of Modern Hebrew).
- C.** Two NEJS courses (in addition to those courses listed above) with at least one from each of the following categories:
1. Biblical and Rabbinic Hebrew: NEJS 10a, 25a, 110b, 111b, 114a, 114b, 115a, 117b, 118b, 121b, 122b, 123b, 126a, 126b, 127b, and 170a.

2. Modern Hebrew literature: NEJS 177a, 174a, 174b, 178a, and 180b.
- D.** At least one additional elective from the following courses: HBRW 121a, 121b, 123a, 123b, 141a, 143a or 143b, 144a, 146a, 164b, 166b, 168a, 168b, 170a or any of the NEJS courses listed above.

E. Either HBRW 97a or b (Senior Essay) or HBRW 99a and b (Senior Thesis—a two-semester course) count toward the eight required courses; *the essay or thesis must be written in Hebrew*. Candidates for departmental honors must have a 3.50 GPA in Hebrew courses prior to the senior year.

Evaluation of Transfer Credits

- A.** No more than two courses taken at special programs for overseas students may be applied toward the major. Students are encouraged to seek advanced approval from the department’s undergraduate advising head for all courses intended for transfer credit.
- B.** Credit will not be granted for Ulpan courses, but students may take the Hebrew Placement Test to place out of the Hebrew language requirement.

Requirements for the Master of Arts in Teaching Hebrew

Residence Requirement and Program of Study

Ordinarily, two years of full-time residence at a normal rate of work of seven courses each year are required. Successful completion of fourteen courses is required: eight required courses, two semesters of practicum training, and four elective courses (one course from each of the four elective areas listed below).

Required Courses

HBRW 167b	The Revival of Modern Hebrew
NEJS 101a	Comparative Grammar of Semitic Languages
HBRW 168a	Proficiency Based Instruction in Hebrew I
HBRW 168b	Proficiency Based Instruction in Hebrew II
HBRW 222b	The Role of Jewish Texts in Communal Organizations
HBRW 303a	Assessing the Learning and Teaching of Hebrew
HBRW 307a	Curriculum Theory, and Development
HBRW 309a	Readings on Connection of Language and Identity

Required Practicum Courses

HBRW 301a	Hebrew II Practicum I
HBRW 301b	Hebrew II Practicum II

Elective Courses

Four from the following list of electives:

Psychology and Education

ANTH 61b	Language in American Life
ED 101a	Elementary School Curriculum and Teaching: Literacy, Social Studies, and Other Topics
ED 101b	Elementary School Curriculum and Teaching: Arts, Multiculturalism, and Other Topics
ED 157b	The Psychology of Student Learning
PSYC 130b	Life Span Development: Adulthood and Old Age

Biblical Texts in Hebrew

HBRW 122a and 122b	Introduction to Classical Hebrew
NEJS 10a	Biblical Hebrew Grammar and Text
NEJS 110b	The Hebrew Bible: Meaning and Context
NEJS 114b	Biblical Ritual, Cult, and Magic
NEJS 115a	The Book of Deuteronomy
NEJS 117b	The Dead Sea Scrolls
NEJS 118b	The Book of Psalms
NEJS 122b	Biblical Narrative Texts: The Historical Tradition
NEJS 208a	Biblical Hebrew Composition
NEJS 210a	Exodus: A Study in Method

Hebrew Literature

HBRW 123a and 123b	Introduction to Modern Hebrew Literature
HBRW 143a and 143b	An Advanced Survey of Hebrew and Israeli Literature
HBRW 144a	Hebrew Drama
HBRW 146a	Voices of Jerusalem
HBRW 164b	Israeli Theater
NEJS 174a	Reading Israel from the Margins: An Exploration of the Self in Modern Hebrew Literature
NEJS 174b	Line of Resistance: Israeli Women Writers on War and Peace
NEJS 177a	Representing the Holocaust in Hebrew Literature
NEJS 180b	(Re) Imagining Israel: Narrative, Identity, and Zionism in Hebrew Literature

Courses of Instruction**(1–99) Primarily for Undergraduate Students****HBRW 10a Beginning Hebrew**

Six class hours and one additional lab hour per week.

For students with no previous knowledge and those with a minimal background. Intensive training in the basics of Hebrew grammar, listening comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. Several sections will be offered. Usually offered every semester.

Staff

HBRW 19a Beginning Hebrew: Honors

Prerequisite: Hebrew placement exam. Only one 10-level Hebrew course may be taken for credit.

A beginner course for those students with some exposure to Hebrew. Builds upon the initial exposure, continuing to teach the basics of grammar, vocabulary, speaking, and writing. Usually offered every year.

Staff

HBRW 20b Intermediate Hebrew

Prerequisite: HBRW 10a or the equivalent as determined by placement examination. Only one 20-level Hebrew course may be taken for credit. Four class hours and one lab hour per week.

Continuation of HBRW 10a, employing the same methods. Intensive training in Hebrew grammar, listening, comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. Several sections offered every semester.

Staff

HBRW 29b Intermediate Hebrew I: Honors

Prerequisite: HBRW 10a or the equivalent as determined by placement examination. Only one 20-level Hebrew course may be taken for credit. Four class hours and one lab hour per week.

This course is designed for honor students who wish to excel in the language. Students are admitted upon recommendation of the director of the Hebrew language program. Usually offered every year in the spring.

Staff

HBRW 34a Intermediate Hebrew II: Aspects of Israeli Culture

[fl]

Prerequisite: Any 20-level Hebrew course or the equivalent as determined by placement examination. Two 30-level Hebrew courses may be taken for credit. Four class hours and one lab hour per week.

A continuation of HBRW 20b. An intermediate- to mid-level course that helps students strengthen their skills at this level. Contemporary cultural aspects will be stressed and a variety of materials will be used. Usually offered every semester.

Staff

HBRW 35a Conversation and Writing Skills

[fl]

Prerequisite: HBRW 20b or the equivalent as determined by placement examination. This course is recommended for students who have not previously studied Hebrew at Brandeis and have been placed at this level. This course may not be repeated for credit by students who have taken HBRW 31a in previous years. Four class hours and one lab hour per week.

An intermediate-level course designed to improve the linguistic and writing skills of students who have an extensive background in the language but lack the academic skills to fulfill the language requirements or to pursue a higher level of Hebrew or Judaic studies. Usually offered every year in the fall.

Staff

HBRW 39a Intermediate Hebrew II: Honors

[fl]

Prerequisite: HBRW 29b or permission of the instructor. Four class hours and one lab hour per week.

A continuation of HBRW 29b. Designed for honor students who wish to excel in Hebrew. Students are admitted upon recommendation of the director of the Hebrew language program. Usually offered every year in the fall.

Staff

HBRW 41a Intensive Conversational Hebrew I

[fl hum]

Prerequisite: Any 30-level Hebrew course or the equivalent. Students may take this course and HBRW 44b for credit. Four class hours per week.

For students who have acquired an intermediate knowledge of Hebrew and who wish to develop a greater fluency in conversation. This course does not satisfy the language requirement for the NEJS major or the major in Hebrew. Usually offered every year in the fall.

Staff

HBRW 44b Advanced Hebrew: Aspects of Israeli Culture

[fl hum]

Prerequisite: Any 30-level Hebrew course or the equivalent. Students may not take this course and HBRW 49b for credit. Four class hours per week.

Reinforces the acquired skills of speaking, listening comprehension, reading, and writing at the intermediate to mid/high level. Contemporary cultural aspects are stressed; conversational Hebrew and reading of selections from modern literature, political essays, and newspaper articles. Required for NEJS majors and Hebrew majors and recommended for others who would like to continue studying Hebrew beyond the foreign language requirement. It is a prerequisite for many upper-level Hebrew courses. Usually offered every semester.

Staff

HBRW 49b Advanced Conversation and Writing Skills: Honors

[fl hum]

Prerequisite: Any 30-level Hebrew course, or the equivalent, or placement by the director of the Hebrew Language Program. Students may not take this course and HBRW 44b for credit. Four class hours per week.

A fourth semester course that prepares honors students for advanced-level courses. Intended for students who have completed HBRW 35a or 39a or by recommendation. Usually offered every year in the spring. Staff

HBRW 97a Senior Essay

Usually offered every semester. Staff

HBRW 97b Senior Essay

Usually offered every semester. Staff

HBRW 98a Independent Study

Usually offered every year in the fall. Staff

HBRW 98b Independent Study

Signature of the instructor required.

Usually offered every year in the spring. Staff

HBRW 99a Senior Thesis

Signature of the director required to enroll. Usually offered every year. Staff

HBRW 99b Senior Thesis

Signature of the director required to enroll. Usually offered every year. Staff

(100–199) For Both Undergraduate and Graduate Students**HBRW 102a Hebrew Reading Proficiency**

Prerequisite: Intermediate knowledge of Hebrew reading. Primarily intended for graduate students. Not for credit.

An intermediate- to mid-level course for graduate students interested in strengthening their reading skills. Emphasizes recognition of grammatical structures in the written language and the acquisition of recognition vocabulary. Intended to help students in their research or in preparation for the Hebrew language exam. Usually offered every year. Staff

HBRW 102b Advanced Reading Proficiency and Comprehension

Prerequisite: HBRW 102a or high-intermediate reading knowledge of Hebrew. Not for credit.

A continuation of HBRW 102a. Different materials and texts are studied. This class is conducted in English. Usually offered every year. Staff

HBRW 121a Conversation: Israel, The Early Years

[fl hum]

Prerequisite: Any 40-level Hebrew course or the equivalent. Four class hours per week.

An intermediate-mid/high-level conversation course for students who wish to improve their speaking skills before entering more advanced-level courses. Role playing, vocabulary building, and guided speaking activities develop conversational skills for various situations. Reading and discussion of contemporary texts assist in vocabulary building. Usually offered every year in the fall. Ms. Azoulay

HBRW 121b Conversation: Israel, Immigrants and Minorities

[fl hum]

Prerequisite: Any 40-level Hebrew course or the equivalent. Four class hours per week.

An intermediate- to mid/high-level conversation course for students who wish to improve their speaking skills before entering more advanced-level courses. Role playing, vocabulary building, and guided speaking activities develop conversational skills for various situations. Reading and discussion of contemporary texts assist in vocabulary building. Usually offered every year. Ms. Azoulay

HBRW 122a Introduction to Classical Hebrew I

[fl hum]

Prerequisite: Any 40-level Hebrew course or the equivalent, except HBRW 41a (formerly HBRW 42a), as approved by the director of the Hebrew language program. Four class hours per week.

Concentrates on the study of biblical and classical Hebrew literary works, such as epigraphy, rabbinic, as well as selections from the Dead Sea Scrolls. Written and oral expression in modern Hebrew are also stressed. Staff

HBRW 122b Introduction to Classical Hebrew II

[fl hum]

Prerequisite: Any 40-level Hebrew course or the equivalent, except HBRW 41a, as approved by the director of the Hebrew language program. Four class hours per week.

An intermediate- to mid/high-level course that focuses on comparing grammatical, textual, and lexical forms and ideas in classical Hebrew texts ranging from the biblical literature to the Dead Sea Scrolls (1000 BCE to 68 CE). Written and oral expression in modern Hebrew are also stressed. Staff

HBRW 123a Introduction to Modern Hebrew Literature I

[fl hum wi]

Prerequisite: Any 40-level Hebrew course or the equivalent, as determined by the director of the Hebrew language program. Four class hours per week.

An intermediate- to mid/high-level course, which focuses on modern Hebrew prose and poetry stressing major trends. Students are expected to acquire better fluency in reading, writing, and conversation. Usually offered every year. Ms. Hascal

HBRW 123b Introduction to Modern Hebrew Literature II

[fl hum wi]

Prerequisite: Any 40-level Hebrew course or its equivalent, as determined by the director of the Hebrew language program. Four class hours per week.

An intermediate- to mid/high-level course that focuses on the representation of the Holocaust and the generational relationships in modern Hebrew prose and poetry. Students are expected to acquire better fluency in reading, writing, and conversation. Usually offered every year. Ms. Hascal

HBRW 141a Advanced Hebrew Conversation

[fl hum]

Prerequisite: Four semesters of Hebrew or permission of the instructor. Four class hours and one additional hour of lab work or speaking practice per week are required.

For advanced students who want to work on accuracy, fluency, and vocabulary building. The course prepares students to become advanced speakers of Hebrew. Reading of contemporary texts and newspaper articles and listening to Israeli videos will serve as a basis for building higher-level speaking proficiency. One additional weekly hour of lab work or speaking practice is required. Usually offered every year. Ms. Azoulay

HBRW 143a Advanced Survey of Hebrew and Israeli Literature I

[fl hum wi]

Prerequisite: Four semesters of Hebrew or permission of the instructor. Four class hours per week.

An advanced course that enhances advanced language skills through a survey of early Israeli literature and poetry (1950–1975) while stressing the various trends and reactions to different aspects of Israeli daily life during this period. Usually offered every second year.

Ms. Hascal

HBRW 143b Advanced Survey of Hebrew and Israeli Literature II

[fl hum wi]

Prerequisite: Four semesters of Hebrew or permission of the instructor. Four class hours per week.

An advanced-level course that enhances advanced language and literary skills. Surveys the later Israeli literature and poetry (1975–present). Stresses the various trends and reactions to different aspects of Israeli daily life during this period. Usually offered every second year.

Ms. Hascal

HBRW 144a Hebrew Drama: Language through Creativity and Action

[hum ca fl]

Prerequisite: Four semesters of Hebrew or permission of the instructor. Four class hours and two additional weekly hours of lab work are required.

Helps improve Hebrew language skills at the intermediate-high/advanced-level by focusing on various creative aspects such as improvisations, drama, performance, and other acting techniques such as movement, imagination, and other basic skills necessary to act out scenes from various plays in the Hebrew language. Writing assignments and self-critique enhance the students' skills in language acquisition. The course culminates in the writing of one-act plays in Hebrew along with a theatrical performance and production. Usually offered every year in the fall.

Ms. Azoulay

HBRW 146a The Voices of Jerusalem

[fl hum wi]

Prerequisite: Four semesters of Hebrew or permission of the instructor. Four class hours per week.

Aims to develop students' language proficiency through analysis of selected materials that depict the unique tradition, literature and poetry, history, politics, art, and other features related to Jerusalem. Usually offered every second year in the fall.

Ms. Hascal

HBRW 161b Israel Today: Advanced Conversation and Writing

[fl hum wi]

Prerequisite: Five semesters of Hebrew or permission of the instructor. Four class hours per week.

For advanced students who wish to enhance proficiency and accuracy in writing and speaking. Plays, essays, current articles from Israeli newspapers, and films provide the basis for written assignments and discussions. Usually offered every spring.

Ms. Porath

HBRW 164b Israeli Theater

[fl hum wi]

Prerequisite: Five semesters of Hebrew or permission of the instructor. Four class hours and two lab hours per week.

An advanced course that enhances advanced language skills through reading and analysis of plays. The student's creativity is developed through participation in acting and creative writing lab. In reading plays, students can also participate in Hebrew acting lab. Usually offered every second year in the fall.

Ms. Azoulay

HBRW 166b Portrait of the Israeli Woman

[fl hum wi]

Prerequisite: Five semesters of Hebrew or permission of the instructor. Four class hours per week.

An advanced culture course that enhances advanced language skills through examination of the Israeli woman's role, image, and unique voice reflected in Israeli literature, history, tradition, and art. Usually offered every second year in the fall.

Ms. Hascal

HBRW 167b The Revival of Modern Hebrew

[fl hum]

Prerequisite: Five semesters of Hebrew or permission of the instructor. Four class hours per week.

An advanced course that surveys the origins of the Hebrew language and its development throughout the centuries, focusing on its major stages (biblical, rabbinic, medieval, and modern). Explores the unique phenomenon of its revival as a spoken language and its adaptation to the modern world. Usually offered every fall.

Ms. Porath

HBRW 168a Proficiency-Based Instruction in Hebrew I

[hum fl]

Prerequisite: Five semesters of Hebrew or permission of the instructor. Three class hours per week.

An advanced-level methodology course that focuses on the theories and methodologies for teaching Hebrew. Course taught in Hebrew and in English. Designed primarily for students at the advanced level who are interested in eventually being able to teach Hebrew. Usually offered every fall.

Ms. Ringvald

HBRW 168b Proficiency-Based Instruction in Hebrew II

[fl hum]

Prerequisite: Five semesters of Hebrew or permission of the instructor. Three class hours per week.

An advanced seminar that focuses on students' understanding of second languages, particularly the students of Hebrew, as well as understanding the foundations of curriculum development. The course is taught in Hebrew and in English and is a continuation of HBRW 168a. Students participate in teaching practicum through internship and learn how to apply their knowledge. Usually offered every spring.

Ms. Ringvald

HBRW 170a Israeli Cinema

[fl hum wi]

Prerequisite: Five semesters of Hebrew or permission of the instructor. Four class hours per week.

An advanced culture course that focuses on the various aspects of Israeli society as they are portrayed in Israeli films and television. In addition to viewing films, the students will be asked to read Hebrew background materials, to participate in class discussions, and to write in Hebrew about the films. Usually offered every spring.

Ms. Azoulay

(200 and above) Primarily for Graduate Students**HBRW 236a Teaching and Learning in Jewish Classrooms**

Open to undergraduate juniors and seniors with permission and signature of instructor. As there is a field component, students should consult the instructor prior to enrolling.

Explores the intellectual, moral, and practical requirements of good teaching in Jewish classrooms. Through reading and writing, observations and investigations in the field, and practical experiments, students will develop skills to study and improve their teaching. Usually offered every year.

Staff

HBRW 298a Independent Study

Staff

HBRW 301a Hebrew Practicum I

Required of all master's degree students.

Staff

HBRW 301b Hebrew Practicum II

Continuation of HBRW 301a.

Staff

HBRW 303a Readings in Assessing the Learning and Teaching of Hebrew
Staff

HBRW 304b Readings in Hebrew Grammar
Ms. Porath

HBRW 305a Readings in Biblical Text
Staff

HBRW 306b Reading of the Israeli Media
Ms. Ringvald

HBRW 307a Readings in Curriculum Theory and Development
Staff

HBRW 309a Readings on Connection of Language and Identity
Ms. Ringvald

Hispanic Studies

Courses of Study:
Minor
Major (BA)

Objectives

The Hispanic studies program explores Hispanic and Latino studies. Courses promote not only communication skills, but also an understanding of the various cultural contexts through interdisciplinary explorations of texts. Literature, film, history, politics, gender studies lead to some depth of understanding of issues facing Hispanic communities at home and abroad. Increasingly, technology (uses of the Internet, Web page design, PowerPoint presentations, and others) plays a part in these explorations.

Students are prepared to pursue careers in a wide range of fields where effective communication is essential, including those in which they will have contact with Spanish speakers and/or Hispanic cultures, in this country or globally. Students often go on to pursue graduate studies in academic or professional fields, such as education, law, medicine, business, international relations, and social services in which their language and technological skills will make them especially attractive to employers, and which will enable them to succeed in a competitive environment.

How to Become a Major or a Minor

Students considering a major or a minor in Hispanic studies should complete the language requirement as soon as possible, preferably by the end of their first year at Brandeis. Students who complete a 30-level Spanish course are advised to enroll in HISP 104b; students with an AP Spanish score of 4 or an SAT II score of 620 in Spanish should enroll in HISP 105a, and those with an AP Spanish score of 5 should enroll in HISP 106b. Heritage speakers should enroll in HISP 108a. These last two courses are the first in the sequence that count toward the major.

Once students have completed HISP 106b or HISP 108a, they then begin the sequence of literature and culture courses. These include at least one, but no more than two, of the following: HISP 109a, 110a, or 111b. For a total of nine courses to complete the major, students take up to six electives numbered above 111, and in the fall of the senior year, and HISP 198a (Senior Seminar). Please note: many Hispanic studies majors and minors choose to study in Spain or Latin America for all or part of their junior year. Normally, any full-credit Spanish or Latin American literature course taken abroad will count toward the Spanish major (two courses per semester) up to a maximum of four courses and minor (up to two courses). Students interested in learning more about the major or minor are encouraged to speak with the undergraduate advising head in Spanish.

How to Fulfill the Language Requirement

The foreign language requirement is met by successful completion of a third semester course (numbered in the 30s) in the language program.

How to Choose a Course at Your Level

To choose the appropriate course, students need to take a placement exam. It is a self-graded exam that can be accessed online at www.brandeis.edu/registrar/spantest.html. After finishing the exam, students complete the questionnaire online. A faculty member will then contact students to discuss their placement. Students who fail to take the placement exam will not be permitted to enroll.

If a student has a score of 620 or above on the Spanish SAT II, or a score of 4 or 5 on the Spanish AP exam, language requirement is automatically fulfilled and the student is eligible to enroll in 100-level courses. See "How to Become a Major or a Minor" above.

Faculty

See Romance Studies.

Requirements for the Minor

The minor consists of five semester courses:

A. HISP 106b (Spanish Composition, Grammar, and Stylistics) or HISP 108a (Spanish for Bilingual Students).

B. At least one, but no more than two, of the following: HISP 109b (Introduction to Hispanic Cultural Studies), HISP 110a (Introduction to Peninsular Spanish Literature), or HISP 111b (Introduction to Latin American Literature).

C. The additional courses must be from the Spanish literature offerings numbered above 111. No more than one of these electives may be taken in English. Courses conducted in English include those abbreviated HECS (Hispanic and European Cultural Studies). All students pursuing a Hispanic studies minor will be assigned an advisor in the department. Enrollment in the Hispanic studies minor must be completed by the end of the first semester of the senior year. All courses are conducted in Spanish, unless otherwise noted.

Requirements for the Major

The major consists of nine semester courses:

A. HISP 106b (Spanish Composition, Grammar, and Stylistics) or HISP 108a (Spanish for Bilingual Students).

B. At least one, but no more than two, of the following: HISP 109b (Introduction to Hispanic Cultural Studies), HISP 110a (Introduction to Peninsular Spanish Literature), or HISP 111b (Introduction to Latin American Literature), to be completed as early as possible.

Courses of Instruction

(1–99) Primarily for Undergraduate Students

HISP 10a Beginning Spanish

Prerequisite: Students enrolling for the first time in a Spanish course at Brandeis must take the online placement exam at www.brandeis.edu/registrar/spantest.html.

For students who have had no previous study of Spanish. A systematic presentation of the basic grammar and vocabulary of the language within the context of Hispanic culture, with focus on all five language skills: listening, speaking, reading, writing, and sociocultural awareness. Several sections will be offered. Usually offered every year.

Staff

HISP 20b Continuing Spanish

Prerequisite: HISP 10a or the equivalent. Students enrolling for the first time in a Spanish course at Brandeis must take the online placement exam at www.brandeis.edu/registrar/spantest.html.

For students with some previous study of Spanish. Continuing presentation of the basic grammar and vocabulary of the language within the context of Hispanic culture and practice of the four language skills. Special attention to reading and writing skills, as well as guided conversation. Several sections will be offered. Usually offered every semester.

Staff

HISP 31a Intermediate Spanish: Composition and Grammar

[fl]

Prerequisite: HISP 20b or the equivalent. Students enrolling for the first time in a Spanish course at Brandeis must take the online placement exam at www.brandeis.edu/registrar/spantest.html.

This course focuses on the development of writing and/or grammatical skills in the context of continuing development of linguistic competence in Spanish. Usually offered every year.

Staff

D. The additional courses must be from the Spanish literature offerings numbered above 111, at least two of which must deal with Spanish or Latin American literature before 1900. No more than two of the electives may be taken in English. Courses conducted in English include those abbreviated SECS (Spanish and European Cultural Studies).

E. HISP 198a (Seminar in Literary and Cultural Studies) in the fall semester of the senior year. Those seeking departmental honors will also take HISP 99b in the spring to complete the senior thesis. Honors students must have maintained a 3.60 GPA in Hispanic studies courses previous to the senior year. Honors are awarded based on cumulative excellence in all courses taken in the major, including the senior thesis.

Students may petition the undergraduate advising head for changes in the above program. Students wishing to receive credit toward the Hispanic studies major for courses that are cross-listed under ECS (abbreviated HECS) will be required to do the reading and writing in Spanish. All courses are conducted in Spanish, unless otherwise noted. All students pursuing a Hispanic studies major will be assigned an adviser in the department. Enrollment in the Hispanic studies major must be completed by the end of the first semester of the senior year.

Special Notes Relating to Undergraduates

Students may take two 30-level Spanish courses for credit with permission of the director of language programs.

HISP 32a Intermediate Spanish: Conversation

[fl]

Prerequisite: HISP 20b or the equivalent. Students enrolling for the first time in a Spanish course at Brandeis must take the online placement exam at www.brandeis.edu/registrar/spantest.html. This course focuses on the development of oral expression and conversational skills in the context of continuing development of linguistic competence in Spanish. Usually offered every year.
Staff

HISP 33a Intermediate Spanish: Reading

[fl]

Prerequisite: HISP 20b or the equivalent. Students enrolling for the first time in a Spanish course at Brandeis must take the online placement exam at www.brandeis.edu/registrar/spantest.html. This course focuses on the development of reading skills in the context of the continuing development of linguistic competence in Spanish. Usually offered every year.
Staff

HISP 34a Intermediate Spanish: Topics in Hispanic Culture

[fl]

Prerequisite: HISP 20b or the equivalent. Students enrolling for the first time in a Spanish course at Brandeis must take the online placement exam at www.brandeis.edu/registrar/spantest.html. Topics or themes from Hispanic cultures are the context for continuing development of linguistic competence in Spanish. Usually offered every year.
Staff

HISP 98a Independent Study

May be taken only with the written permission of the advising head of the major and the chair of the department. Reading and reports under faculty supervision.
Staff

HISP 98b Independent Study

May be taken only with the written permission of the advising head of the major and the chair of the department. Readings and reports under faculty supervision. Usually offered every year.
Staff

HISP 99b Senior Thesis

Students should first consult the undergraduate advising head. Usually offered every year.
Staff

(100–199) For Both Undergraduate and Graduate Students**HISP 104b Peoples, Ideas, and Language of the Hispanic World**

[hum fl]

Prerequisite: 30-level Spanish course or equivalent.
Participants will expand their skills in Spanish while deepening their understanding of Hispanic cultures. Focuses on aspects of the history and idea that shape the Spanish-speaking world, from its peninsular origins to the realities of Spanish speakers in the Americas.
Staff

HISP 105a Spanish Conversation and Grammar

[hum fl]

Prerequisite: HISP 104b, or an AP Spanish exam score of 4, or an SAT II Spanish exam score of 620 or higher, or permission of the instructor.
Students learn to communicate effectively in Spanish through class discussions, oral and written exercises, presentations, literary and cultural readings, film, and explorations of the mass media. Emphasis on improvement of oral and written fluency, and acquisition of vocabulary and grammar structures. Usually offered every semester.
Staff

HISP 106b Spanish Composition, Grammar, and Stylistics

[wi hum fl]

Prerequisite: HISP 105a, an AP Spanish exam score of 5, or permission of the instructor.
Focuses on written communication and the improvement of writing skills, from developing ideas to outlining and editing. Literary selections will introduce the students to the principles of literary analysis and serve as topics for class discussion and writing. Usually offered every semester.
Staff

HISP 108a Spanish for Bilingual Students

[hum]

Designed specifically for heritage Spanish speakers who would like formal training in reading, writing, and critical thinking. Students wishing to use this course to fulfill the language requirement must pass the department exemption exam after this course. Usually offered every year.
Ms. Davila

HISP 109b Introduction to Hispanic Cultural Studies

[hum fl]

Prerequisite: HISP 106b, or HISP 108a, or permission of the instructor.
Introduces students to basic ideas with respect to the study of Hispanic cultures. "Texts" are drawn from a variety of cultures and traditions and might include literature, film, architecture, maps, music, and even pop stars and pop-star wannabes. Usually offered every year.
Mr. Mandrell

HISP 110a Introduction to Peninsular Spanish Literature

[hum fl]

Prerequisite: HISP 106b, or HISP 108a, or permission of the instructor.
Was el Cid a political animal? How do women, Jews, and Muslims fare in classical Spanish literature? Study of major works, authors, and social issues from the Middle Ages to the end of the seventeenth century. Texts covered range from the epic Cantar del Cid to Cervantes and masterpieces of Spanish Golden Age theater. Usually offered every year.
Ms. Fox

HISP 111b Introduction to Latin American Literature

[nw hum fl]

Prerequisite: HISP 106b, or HISP 108a, or permission of the instructor.
The goal of this course is to recognize main trends of Latin American literary and cultural production. Examines canonical Latin American texts (poems, short stories, chronicles, and a novel) from the time of the conquest to modernity. Emphasis is placed on problems of cultural definition and identity construction as they are elaborated in literary discourse. Looks at continuities and ruptures in major themes (coloniality and emancipation, modernismo and modernity, indigenismo, hybridity and mestizaje, nationalisms, Pan-Americanism, etc.) throughout Latin American intellectual history. Usually offered every semester.
Ms. Perez or Mr. Rosenberg

HISP 120b Don Quijote

[hum fl]

Prerequisite: HISP 109b, or HISP 110a, or HISP 111b, or permission of the instructor.
A reading for fun and critical insight into what is often called "the first modern novel." Discusses some reasons for its reputation as a major influence on subsequent fiction throughout the Western world and view several film interpretations. Usually offered every second year.
Ms. Fox

HISP 125b Literary Women in Early Modern Spain

[hum fl]

Prerequisite: HISP 109b, or HISP 110a, or HISP 111b, or permission of the instructor.

Examines works by and about women in early modern Spain, with particular attention to engagements with and subversions of patriarchal culture on theater, prose, and poetry, by such writers as Caro, Zayas, Cervantes, and Calderon. Usually offered every second year.

Ms. Fox

HISP 136b Latino Cultural Expression: Literature, Performance, and Film

[wi hum]

May not be repeated for credit by students who took took SPAN 195a in spring 2007 or SPAN 136b in prior semesters. Readings and discussions are in English.

Introduction to Latino creative expression in various genres. Themes include the relationship between gender and sexuality with race and ethnicity; class; language; autobiography and memory; migration and diasporas; sexual and cultural citizenship; multiracial ideates; queer subjectivities; and religious "transgressions." Usually offered every year.

Ms. Negron

HISP 140a Topics in Poetry: Hispanic Poetry of the Twentieth Century

[hum fl]

Prerequisite: HISP 109b, or HISP 110a, or HISP 111b, or permission of the instructor.

Topics vary from year to year, but may focus on different periods, poets, or poetics from both sides of the Atlantic. Study may include jarchas, Garcilaso de la Vega, Becquer, the Generation of '98 or '27, Neruda, Vallejo, Rosario Castellanos, Octavio Paz, Huidobro, Borges. Usually offered every second year.

Ms. Perez or Mr. Rosenberg

HECS 150a Golden Age Drama and Society

[hum]

Open to all students. Conducted in English with readings in English translation.

The major works, comic and tragic, of Spain's seventeenth-century dramatists. Texts may include Cervantes's brief witty farces, Tirso's creation of the "Don Juan" myth, Lope's palace and "peasant honor" plays, and Calderon's baroque masterpieces, which culminate Spain's Golden Age. Usually offered every second year.

Ms. Fox

HISP 155b Latin America between Baroque and Kitsch

[hum fl]

Prerequisite: HISP 109b, or HISP 110a, or HISP 111b, or permission of the instructor.

Analyzing general characteristics associated with a baroque style such as ornamentation, double meaning, parody, satire, imitation, and so on, this course offers opportunities to understand how artists and writers have used this aesthetic artifice to contest the hegemonic discourses of their times. Literature, films, and art from the seventeenth and twentieth centuries. Usually offered every second year.

Ms. Perez

HISP 160a Literatura y Justicia en Latinoamerica

[hum fl]

Prerequisite: HISP 111b.

Twentieth- and twenty-first-century Latin American literature, film, performance, and art. The cultural material to be examined addresses issues of justice and the rule of law, such as the organization of the nation-state, the rights of minorities, revolution, dictatorship and its aftermath, testimony and witnessing, and so on. Literature and the arts as alternative tribunals where justice is debated and adjudicated. Usually offered every second year.

Mr. Rosenberg

HISP 163a The Latin American Boom and Beyond

[fl hum nw]

Prerequisite: HISP 109b, or HISP 110a, or HISP 111b, or permission of the instructor.

Course may be repeated for credit. Examines texts of the Latin American "boom" as well as contemporary narrative trends. Usually offered every year.

Ms. Davila

HISP 164b Studies in Latin American Literature

[fl hum nw wi]

Course may be repeated for credit.

A comparative and critical study of main trends, ideas, and cultural formations in Latin America. Topics vary year to year and have included fiction and history in Latin American literature, Latin American autobiography, art and revolution in Latin America, and humor in Latin America. Usually offered every year.

Ms. Davila, Ms. Perez, and Mr. Rosenberg

HISP 166b Writing the Latin American City

[fl hum]

Prerequisite: HISP 109b, 110a, or 111b, or permission of the instructor.

Examines the representation of the Latin American city within the context of modernity. Texts from various Latin American countries are examined in light of critical approaches to the city and its inhabitants. Usually offered every second year.

Ms. Davila

HISP 168b Latin America Narrated by Women

[fl hum nw]

Prerequisite: HISP 109b, 110a, or 111b, or permission of the instructor.

How do Latin American women represent their own realities? How do their artistic versions of social realities challenge traditional historical representations? Why aren't women included in the "boom" of Latin American literature? Literary and artistic works from the seventeenth to the twenty-first century are studied, looking at the different ways in which gender intersects their discourses. Usually offered every second year.

Ms. Perez

HECS 169a Travel Writing and the Americas: Columbus's Legacy

[hum]

Open to all students. Conducted in English with readings in English translation.

Following the arrival of Columbus, the continent later known as America engaged with other continents in a mutual process of cultural, historical, geographical, and economic representation. The development of some of those representations is explored, beginning with travel writing and ending with recent images of the encounter. Usually offered every second year.

Ms. Perez

HISP 170a Topics in Eighteenth- and Nineteenth-Century Spanish Literature

[hum]

Prerequisite: HISP 110a or permission of the instructor. Course may be repeated for credit.

Topics will vary from year to year, but might include Spanish Enlightenment and romanticism: *costumbrismo*, Romantic drama, Becquer, Galdos (the novelas contemporaneas), or eighteenth- and nineteenth-century poetry of the sublime. Usually offered every second year.

Mr. Mandrell

HISP 171a Inquisicion: Brujas, fornicadores, judios y protestantes

[hum]

Prerequisite: HISP 109b, 110a, or 111b.

An examination of the interaction between the Spanish Inquisition and a wide range of targets. The course is particularly interested in the ways that individual "heretics" present themselves to their inquisitors and how they transform their interrogations into acts of self-fashioning. In addition to inquisitorial records, literary and visual interpretations of the Inquisition are also examined. Special one-time offering, fall 2008.

Mr. Perclis

HISP 181a Autores, narradores y lectores

[hum]

Prerequisite: HISP 109b, 110a, or 111b.

Considers the delicate relationships between and among authors, narrators, and readers across a spectrum of fiction, from medieval to modern, Spain to the U.S.

Usually offered every second year.

Mr. Mandrell

HISP 185b Espana 200X

[fl hum]

Prerequisites: HISP 109b, 110a, 111b, or permission of the instructor. Conducted in Spanish.

Looks at cultural production and its context in Spain for an entire calendar year. The goal is to familiarize students with what has been read and watched in Spain most recently and to understand it in terms of contemporary politics and society. Usually offered every year.

Mr. Mandrell

HISP 191a Hispanic Topics in Translation

[fl hum]

Open to all students. Conducted in English with readings in English translation. Course may be repeated for credit.

Topics vary from year to year, but might include realist representations of women, ideas of the modern and modernity, Spanish realism, "Latinidad," or the Spanish Civil War. Usually offered every second year.

Staff

HISP 193b Topics in Cinema: Global Latin American Cinema

[hum wi]

Course may be repeated for credit.

Topics vary from year to year, but might include consideration of a specific director, an outline of the history of a national cinema, a particular moment in film history, or Hollywood cinema in Spanish. Usually offered every second year.

Ms. Perez, Mr. Mandrell, or Mr. Rosenberg

HISP 195a Latinos in the United States: Perspectives from History, Literature, and Film

[hum]

Open to all students; conducted in English.

Comparative overview of Latino literature and film in the United States. Particular attention paid to how race and ethnicity, gender and sexuality, and concepts of "nation" become intertwined within texts.

Topics include: explorations of language, autobiography and memory, and intertextuality. Usually offered every second year.

Staff

HISP 198a Seminar in Literary and Cultural Studies

[hum]

Prerequisite: HISP 109b, 110a, or 111b, or permission of the instructor.

A research seminar organized around varying themes ("the other," "the nation," Cervantes, etc.). Instruction on literary/cultural theory, researching a topic, and analytical skills necessary for developing a scholarly argument. Students present research in progress and write a research paper of significant length. Usually offered every year.

Mr. Rosenberg