

## SPANISH

The objective of the Spanish programme is to bring participants to a high level of proficiency in the language as well as to provide them with a sound knowledge of the society and culture of Spanish-speaking countries. The Spanish programme is offered both as a major and a minor.

In order to declare a major in Spanish, applicants must initially complete two introductory courses i.e. **SPAN1001. Spanish I.1** and **SPAN1002. Spanish I.2** (12 credits in all) and achieve at least a grade C in **SPAN1002**. In their second, third and fourth years of study, students pursuing a major in Spanish must take a total of 54 credits of Spanish courses which should normally be distributed as follows:

- 24 credits from courses at level 2XXX, of which 12 credits must be from the core language courses, i.e. **SPAN2001. Spanish II.1** and **SPAN2002. Spanish II.2**
- 30 credits from courses at level 3XXX or 4XXX, of which 12 credits must be from the core language courses, i.e. **SPAN3001. Spanish III.1** and **SPAN3002. Spanish III.2** and 6 credits from **SPAN4003, SPAN4004 or SPAN4005**, a 'capstone' course designed to allow students to advance their analytical thinking by permitting the application of disciplinary knowledge and principles learned in the first, second and third years.

Finally, students will be strongly encouraged to participate in a 3 to 4 week linguistic stay in Spain or a Spanish-speaking country during the summer either between their second and third year or their third and fourth year of study. Upon their return to HKU they can apply for **SPAN3119. Overseas immersion language course - Spanish**.

### Major (72 credits)

To complete a major in Spanish, students are expected to take a total of 72 credits with the following components:

- **Prerequisite courses (12 credits):**  
SPAN1001. Spanish I.1  
SPAN1002. Spanish I.2  
*These courses will be offered to undergraduates in Year 1 or 2.*
- **Other Arts Faculty introductory courses to be taken from any Arts programmes (6 credits).**
- **Core courses (24 credits):**  
SPAN2001. Spanish II.1  
SPAN2002. Spanish II.2  
SPAN3001. Spanish III.1  
SPAN3002. Spanish III.2  
*These courses will be offered to undergraduates in Year 2, 3 and 4.*
- **Spanish elective courses (24 credits):**  
At least four 6-credit elective courses from the list below.  
*These courses will be offered to undergraduates in Year 2, 3 and 4.*
- **Capstone experience course (6 credits):**  
SPAN4003. Developing autonomy in Spanish language learning (capstone experience)  
SPAN4004. Hispanic culture research project (capstone experience)  
SPAN4005. Internship for students of Spanish (capstone experience)  
*These courses will be offered to undergraduates in Year 4.*

## Minor (36 credits)

To complete a minor in Spanish, students are expected to take a total of 36 credits with the following components:

- **Prerequisite courses (12 credits):**  
SPAN1001. Spanish I.1  
SPAN1002. Spanish I.2  
*These courses will be offered to undergraduates in Year 1 or 2.*
- **Core courses (24 credits):**  
SPAN2001. Spanish II.1  
SPAN2002. Spanish II.2  
SPAN3001. Spanish III.1  
SPAN3002. Spanish III.2  
*These courses will be offered to undergraduates in Year 2, 3 and 4.*

## CORE COURSES

### SPAN1001. Spanish I.1 (6 credits)

This course is intended for students who have no previous knowledge of Spanish. The main objective of the course is to provide students with a firm foundation in the four language skills (reading, writing, listening and speaking) as well as to offer insights into Spanish-speaking cultures. Through an action-based approach, this course should quickly enable participants to engage in simple conversations and interactive situations. By the end of the course, students should be able to use the Spanish language at an A1.1 level of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFRL) where they can understand and use familiar everyday expressions and basic phrases. More specifically, they should be able to introduce themselves and others, ask and answer questions about personal details and interact in a simple way. Classes will be conducted in small groups in order to ensure a high degree of interaction between students and teachers.

Prerequisite: Nil

Assessment: 100% coursework. Coursework includes: i) progress tests, ii) other assignments and iii) participation in class.

### SPAN1002. Spanish I.2 (6 credits)

The aim of this course is to develop students' language proficiency at a higher level by building on the skills acquired in SPAN1001. The objectives are to consolidate the knowledge acquired in the first semester and to broaden participants' foundation in Spanish in the four language skills (reading, writing, listening and speaking) through an action-based approach. Based on the guidelines set out by the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFRL), this course should lead students towards a more independent and autonomous use of the language, equivalent to an A1.2+/A2.1 level. Students will be able to understand specific information in written and oral texts as well as exchange personal information about family, education and work. Classes will be conducted in small groups in order to ensure a high degree of interaction between students and teachers.

Prerequisite: Students wishing to be admitted to **SPAN1002. Spanish I.2** must have completed **SPAN1001. Spanish I.1**. Students wishing to be admitted to **SPAN1002** without having previously completed **SPAN1001. Spanish I.1** will be required to satisfy the Faculty Board through the Head of the School of Modern Languages and Cultures that they have attained elsewhere the required standard.

Assessment: 100% coursework. Coursework includes: i) progress tests, ii) participation in class, iii) a brief oral test and iv) other assignments.

**SPAN2001. Spanish II.1 (6 credits)**

The aim of this course is to develop the students' language proficiency at a higher level by building on the skills acquired in the previous year's work. Through an action-based approach, students will work towards consolidating and broadening the knowledge acquired in previous semesters in the four language skills (reading, writing, listening and speaking). Based on the guidelines set out by the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFRL), the course should lead students towards a more independent and autonomous use of the language, equivalent to an A2.2 level. By the end of this course students should be able to communicate effectively in tasks requiring a direct exchange of information on familiar and routine matters encountered in work, school, leisure, etc.

**Prerequisites:** Students wishing to be admitted to **SPAN2001. Spanish II.1** must have completed **SPAN1002. Spanish I.2**. Students wishing to be admitted to **SPAN2001** without having previously completed **SPAN1002. Spanish I.2** will be required to satisfy the Faculty Board through the Head of the School of Modern Languages and Cultures that they have attained elsewhere the required standard.

**Assessment:** 100% coursework. Coursework includes: i) progress tests, ii) other assignments, and iii) participation in class.

---

**SPAN2002. Spanish II.2 (6 credits)**

The aim of this course is to develop the students' language proficiency at a higher level by building on the language foundation acquired in SPAN2001. Through an action-based approach, students will work towards consolidating and broadening the knowledge acquired in the first semester in the four language skills (reading, writing, listening and speaking). Based on the guidelines set out by the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFRL), the course should lead students towards a more independent and autonomous use of the language, equivalent to a B1.1 level.

**Prerequisites:** Students wishing to be admitted to **SPAN2002. Spanish II.2** must have completed **SPAN2001. Spanish II.1**. Students wishing to be admitted to **SPAN2002.** without having previously completed **SPAN2001. Spanish II.1** will be required to satisfy the Faculty Board through the Head of the School of Modern Languages and Cultures that they have attained elsewhere the required standard.

**Assessment:** 100% coursework. Coursework includes: i) progress tests, ii) other assignments iii) an oral examination at the end of the semester and iv) participation in class.

---

**SPAN3001. Spanish III.1 (6 credits)**

This course continues to build on the two previous years' work at a more advanced level. The intention is to lead participants towards a more independent use of the Spanish language. Students will be exposed to a variety of texts from different media (written, audio and video) from the Spanish-speaking world. This course aims to develop students' language proficiency through a more in-depth study of important grammatical topics as well as to increase their vocabulary acquisition. The overall aim of the course is to bring the students to a stage consistent with the level B1.2 as defined and established by the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFRL). By the end of this course students should be able to understand the main ideas of relatively complex standard texts. They should also be able to interact with native speakers with a certain degree of fluency, produce clear, detailed texts on familiar topics, and give reasons and explanations for their own opinions and plans.

**Prerequisites:** Students wishing to be admitted to **SPAN3001. Spanish III.1** must have completed **SPAN2002. Spanish II.2**. Students wishing to be admitted to **SPAN3001** without having previously completed **SPAN2002. Spanish II.2** will be required to satisfy the Faculty Board through the Head of the School of Modern Languages and Cultures that they have attained elsewhere the required standard.

Assessment: 100% coursework. Coursework includes: i) progress tests, ii) other assignments and iii) participation in class.

---

### **SPAN3002. Spanish III.2 (6 credits)**

The aim of this course is to build on the work done in the previous semester with SPAN3001. SPAN3002 will lead participants towards a more independent use of the Spanish language, bringing students to a stage consistent with the level B2.1 as defined and established by the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). Students will be exposed to a variety of texts from different media (written, audio and video) from the Spanish-speaking world. The selection of documents will also serve as a basis for discussion on social issues related to contemporary Spain and Spanish-speaking countries. The course aims at further developing students' language proficiency through a more in-depth study of important grammatical topics. It also aims to increase students' vocabulary acquisition so as to facilitate oral and written expression and comprehension of the Spanish language. By the end of this course students should have reached a stage where they are able to use the language independently and understand the main ideas of complex texts dealing with concrete and abstract topics. They should also be able to interact with native speakers with a degree of fluency and spontaneity, produce clear, detailed texts on a wide range of subjects and explain a viewpoint in detail giving the advantages and disadvantages of various options.

Prerequisites: Students wishing to be admitted to **SPAN3002. Spanish III.2** must have completed **SPAN3001. Spanish III.1**. Students wishing to be admitted to **SPAN3002** without having previously completed **SPAN3001. Spanish III.1** will be required to satisfy the Faculty Board through the Head of the School of Modern Languages and Cultures that they have attained elsewhere the required standard.

Assessment: 100% coursework. Coursework includes: i) progress tests, ii) other assignments, and iii) an oral examination at the end of the semester and iv) participation in class.

---

## CAPSTONE COURSES

### **SPAN4003. Developing autonomy in Spanish language learning (capstone experience) (6 credits)**

The objective of this course is to enable students to develop autonomous habits in Spanish language learning, at the same time as they get exposed to authentic samples of linguistic and cultural production. Students will demonstrate mastery of the skills they have developed and the knowledge they have gained during their degree, as well as reflect on their academic, personal, social and linguistic development.

The course takes the form of a portfolio of autonomous learning activities to be completed throughout the semester. Students will be required to complete a portfolio consisting of a series of activities of their choice within a given repertoire (e.g. watching a film in Spanish, analysing a historical documentary, summarising and critically assessing the contents of weekly news bulletins, etc.) with the aim of putting into practice all the language skills and cultural knowledge they have developed during their university studies. Teachers will organize a series of workshops aimed at preparing students for such tasks. They will also provide students with worksheets to facilitate and monitor their work. Students will have to attend supervision meetings to review the progress of their portfolio. By the end of the semester students should have compiled the number of activities as required and should have demonstrated that they can self-manage their language learning.

Prerequisite: **SPAN3002. Spanish III.2**; OR

Co-requisite: **SPAN3002. Spanish III.2**

This course is open to students who are in year 4 and have successfully completed or are currently enrolled in **SPAN3002. Spanish III.2**. Priority will be given to Major students. Students wishing to be admitted to **SPAN4003** without having previously

completed or being currently enrolled in **SPAN3002. Spanish III.2** will be required to satisfy the Faculty Board through the Head of the School of Modern Languages and Cultures that they have attained elsewhere the required standard.

Assessment: 100% coursework. Coursework includes a series of activities which students will have to complete in order to satisfy the requisites of the course.

---

#### **SPAN4004. Hispanic culture research project (capstone experience) (6 credits)**

**SPAN4004** is held in both semesters and Spanish is the medium of instruction. This Content and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL) project allows students to pursue independent research under the supervision of the course instructors within the disciplines of cultural and film studies, literature, applied linguistics, language acquisition, and language and society. The course offers a series of seminars designed to provide students with guidance and support in the process of applying the knowledge and skills acquired in their studies to the completion of a research project. Students will develop their research and writing skills and conduct discussion sessions related to their projects. The research proposals must be submitted to the instructors for approval during the first month of the course, and the final projects by the end of the course. These individually supervised projects must be written in Spanish and the maximum extension will be 3,500 words (excluding graphics, captions and bibliographies).

Prerequisite: **SPAN3002. Spanish III.2**; OR

Co-requisite: **SPAN3002. Spanish III.2**

This course is open to students who are in year 4 and have successfully completed or are currently enrolled in **SPAN3002. Spanish III.2**. Priority will be given to Major students. Students wishing to be admitted to **SPAN4004** without having previously completed or being currently enrolled in **SPAN3002. Spanish III.2** will be required to satisfy the Faculty Board through the Head of the School of Modern Languages and Cultures that they have attained elsewhere the required standard.

Assessment: 100% coursework

---

#### **SPAN4005. Internship for students of Spanish (capstone experience) (6 credits)**

The internship aims at providing selected senior students with an opportunity to work in environments where they will be able to apply their disciplinary knowledge and skills, and acquire work experience through on-the-job training. Internship positions are arranged by students, under the guidance of the course coordinator, in host organisations which provide relevant experiences, such as in government offices, educational institutions, private companies engaged in trade or legal relations between Spanish-language and Asian partners, PR and media relations, event organisation, research and database creation. The student learning activities include preparation, on-site internship work under the guidance and supervision of an internship supervisor, meetings with the academic coordinator/ supervisor, and all associated reading and assessment-related work, which must be completed in Spanish. Assessment (pass/fail) is based on written reports of no more than 3,500 words and feedback from the internship supervisor.

Internships should be conducted at any point during the year before the end of the second semester of year 4 but the registration is offered at the beginning of the first and second semesters only. Students selecting this course as a capstone experience can only register in year 4.

Prerequisite: **SPAN4005** is open to students who have successfully completed **SPAN2002. Spanish II.2**. Students wishing to be admitted to **SPAN4005** without having previously completed **SPAN2002** will be required to satisfy the Faculty Board through the Head of the School of Modern Languages and Cultures that they have attained elsewhere the required standard.

Assessment: 100% coursework (graded on a Distinction/Pass/Fail basis)

---

## ELECTIVE COURSES

### **SPAN1021. Introduction to the culture of Spain (6 credits)**

This course is a general introduction to the culture of Spain. Through a series of lectures and talks, students will learn about the history, economy, geography and contemporary society of Spain. The history of the Spanish Civil War and its consequences, and the political evolution of Spain from the 20th century to the present will be covered. The course will also explore different aspects of Spanish customs, traditions and festivals.

Prerequisite: Nil

Assessment: 100% coursework

Medium of Instruction: English

*This course is a free standing elective and as such cannot be counted towards the Major/Minor.*

---

### **SPAN2021. The sounds of Spanish: An introduction to Spanish phonetics and pronunciation (6 credits)**

The main objective of this course is to help students improve their oral skills by reflecting on the phonetic and phonological particularities of Spanish while practicing the language in context. The practice of pronunciation will be carried out through a variety of contextualized activities that will stimulate perceptive, productive and interactive skills. Such activities will be divided into two categories: individual work and in-class interaction. The individual work focuses on perception (from distinguishing phonological pairs to identifying intonation patterns in real pieces of speech) and individual production (in the form of podcasts). The objective of the individual work is to help each student identify his/her personal difficulties dealing with the pronunciation of Spanish. In-class activities focus on group readings, role plays and oral communication in relation to the course content. The course will pay attention to particular problems that Cantonese speakers encounter when learning Spanish and will establish comparisons between the main phonological and phonetic features of Cantonese, English and Spanish. It will also offer an insight into the linguistic variations of colloquial speech and dialectology.

Besides the linguistic and theoretical nature of the discipline, The Sounds of Spanish is structured around lexical, grammatical and cultural themes adequate to the student's level of Spanish as to contextualize the practice of pronunciation.

This is mainly a practical course and no previous knowledge of Linguistics is required. Teaching materials and medium of instruction will be Spanish.

Prerequisites: (i) **SPAN2021. The sounds of Spanish: An introduction to Spanish phonetics and pronunciation** is open to students who have successfully completed **SPAN1002. Spanish I.2**. Students wishing to be admitted to **SPAN2021** without having previously completed **SPAN1002. Spanish I.2** will be required to satisfy the Faculty Board through the Head of the School of Modern Languages and Cultures that they have attained elsewhere the required standard. Students may not enroll in **SPAN2021** if they have already completed **SPAN2002**.

(ii) Students may not enroll in **SPAN2021**, without enrolling in **SPAN2001. Spanish II.1**.

Assessment: 100% coursework. Coursework includes the following: progress tests (written and oral) and assignments such as internet based tasks and blogs (podcasts) as well as class participation

**SPAN2025. Spanish-writing workshop I (6 credits)**

The aim of the course is to familiarize students with different writing genres to lead them to an understanding about how different purposes are commonly expressed. Another objective is to provide the students with good strategies when reading and writing in Spanish. This course is very practical and students are expected to work in class and also at home. Course materials will be selected according to the progress made by students in the core course (**SPAN2001**) in order to further consolidate the students' reception and production skills. Based on the guidelines set out by the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFRL), this course should lead students towards a more proficient use of written Spanish, equivalent to an A2.2 level. Teaching materials are in Spanish and medium of instruction will be mainly Spanish.

Prerequisites: (i) Students wishing to be admitted to **SPAN2025. Spanish writing workshop I** must have completed **SPAN1002. Spanish I.2**. Students wishing to be admitted to **SPAN2025** without having previously completed **SPAN1002. Spanish I.2** will be required to satisfy the Faculty Board through the Head of the School of Modern Languages and Cultures that they have attained elsewhere the required standard. Students may not enroll in **SPAN2025** if they have already completed **SPAN2002**.

(ii) Students may not enroll in **SPAN2025** without also enrolling in **SPAN2001. Spanish II.1**

Assessment: 100% coursework

---

**SPAN2026. Spanish-writing workshop II (6 credits)**

The aim of this course is to further develop students' reading and writing skills and to capacitate them to distinguish different types of texts and to analyze how they are written. Students will be taught how to work with the target language in order to achieve a specific objective in their writing. Course materials will be selected according to the progress made by students in the core course in order to further consolidate the students' reception and production skills. Based on the guidelines set out by the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFRL), this course should lead students towards a more proficient use of written Spanish, equivalent to a B1.1 level. Students will analyze different types of texts (both written and audiovisual) that will serve as models and examples of the typologies explained in class. During the first half of the course, students will focus on the process of writing whereas in the second half they will focus on the analysis and practice of five text typologies: description, narration, exposition, argumentation and dialogue. This course has a distinct "hands on" approach which will require students to work in class as well as at home.

Teaching materials are in Spanish and the medium of instruction will be Spanish.

Prerequisites: (i) **SPAN2026** is open to students who have successfully completed **SPAN2001. Spanish II.1**. Students wishing to be admitted to **SPAN2026** without having previously completed **SPAN2001. Spanish II.1** will be required to satisfy the Faculty Board through the Head of the School of Modern Languages and Cultures that they have attained elsewhere the required standard. Students may not enroll in **SPAN2026** if they have already completed **SPAN2002**.

(ii) Students may not enroll in **SPAN2026** without also enrolling in **SPAN2002. Spanish II.2**

Assessment: 100% coursework

---

**SPAN2027. Cultural icons from the Hispanic world (6 credits)**

This course explores a variety of cultural icons related to the Spanish speaking world (Spain and Latin America) from the fields of art, music, architecture, historical figures, pop culture and cinema. It will introduce students to the origin, meaning and values related to some of the most common icons of the

Hispanic world from a local and global perspective. It will also look at country specific cultural referents and their role in the formation of identity and language. In addition to that, the course will explore the role played by media, advertising and internet in the creation of a cultural icon in today's world. Students will be encouraged to reflect on their own culture, establish comparisons and identify and critically assess their own preconceived ideas. Reading and oral practice will be an essential part of the course. Overall, the course's main objective will be to reinforce and expand students' general knowledge of Hispanic cultures as well as to improve their linguistic skills.

**Prerequisite:** This course is open to students who have successfully completed **SPAN2001. Spanish II.1** and are currently enrolled in **SPAN2002**. Students wishing to be admitted to **SPAN2027** without having previously completed **SPAN2001. Spanish II.1** will be required to satisfy the Faculty Board through the Head of the School of Modern Languages and Cultures that they have attained elsewhere the required standard. Students may not enroll in **SPAN2027** if they have already completed **SPAN3002**.

**Assessment:** 100% coursework

---

### **SPAN2028. Spanish for professional purposes (6 credits)**

**SPAN2028** is a Spanish for Specific Purposes course which aims at preparing students to effectively interact with Spanish-speaking commercial or governmental institutions. It is aimed at developing students' communicative competence in all four skills (oral, listening, writing, reading), their grammar knowledge and the necessary intercultural competence that will allow them to successfully interact in common situations encountered during the development of administrative and business activities in Spanish-speaking professional environments. The course covers topics such as job applications and interviews, structure and organization of companies, publicity, product description and elementary business correspondence. Students will be exposed to articles on Economy and Business at an elementary level, and will write simple texts to conduct business transactions or apply for a job. Face-to-face negotiations will also be conducted at a level suitable for this course. The level of this course is B1.1 of the European Framework of Reference for Languages. Guest speakers from Spanish-speaking institutions and companies located in Hong Kong may be invited to give guest lectures and students may be invited to participate in internships in Spanish-speaking institutions or companies.

**Prerequisite:** **SPAN2028. Spanish for Professional Purposes** is open to students who have successfully completed **SPAN2001. Spanish II.1** and are currently enrolled in **SPAN2002. Spanish II.2**. Students wishing to be admitted to **SPAN2028** without having previously completed **SPAN2001. Spanish II.1** will be required to satisfy the Faculty Board through the Head of the School of Modern Languages and Cultures that they have attained elsewhere the required standard. Students may not enroll in **SPAN2028** if they have already completed **SPAN2002**.

**Assessment:** 100% coursework

---

### **SPAN2029. Culture and history of Latin America (6 credits)**

This course introduces students to the cultural diversity and history of Latin America using films, letters, monuments, artworks, historical and fictional accounts as windows onto the Latin American world. The course is primarily aimed at students with no previous or little knowledge of the history and cultures of Latin America. Students will learn about the geography, religion, history, politics, economy and culture of Latin America by critically analyzing primary texts such as historical accounts, religious books, short stories, films and other art works, and secondary texts such as textbooks and scholarly articles. Topics discussed in lectures might include, but are not limited to, the development of Latin American civilizations before the arrival of the Spanish and the Portuguese to the subcontinent, the conquest, the development of a colonial system, the processes of national

independence and the establishment of different socio-political systems across the twentieth and twenty-first centuries, and Latin American contributions to art in connection to these developments. Guest lecturers might be invited to contribute to this course. Reading material will be in English and original texts in Spanish or Portuguese will be provided whenever possible. SPAN2029 is taught during the second semester and English is the medium of instruction.

Prerequisite: Nil

Assessment: 100% coursework

Medium of Instruction: English

---

### **SPAN2030. Key topics in Spanish grammar: From theory to practice (6 credits)**

This course will help students strengthen and further develop the grammar skills acquired during their previous studies of Spanish. The main aim of the course is to provide students with the necessary tools to move from mechanical application of grammar rules to conscious and reflective usage of such rules. Students will be introduced to linguistic concepts and analysis techniques that will guide them towards a deeper understanding of essential grammar points. Students will then build on these insights in order to complete communicative tasks designed to reinforce the usage of the target structures. Upon completion of this course, students will be able to apply language analysis strategies to identify core grammatical features, and to use appropriate terminology to describe them. They will also be able to apply grammatical insights to evaluate and to demonstrate appropriate usage of the grammar topics reviewed. This course assumes no prior knowledge of linguistic terminology or analysis. Topics covered include the use of determiners, pronouns, ser vs estar, preterite vs imperfect, subjunctive, and word order.

Prerequisite: **SPAN2001**

Assessment: 100% coursework

---

### **SPAN3021. The art of translation: From Spanish to English (6 credits)**

This course is an introduction to the art of translating texts from Spanish to English and to a lesser extent from English to Spanish. Special attention will be paid to the particular problems created by differences in grammar and other common errors such as “false friends” and influences from the mother tongue.

The aim of this course is to provide students with basic translation skills and to develop their understanding of Spanish grammar and syntax. Special attention will be paid to the differences in verb tenses in English and Spanish. Students will also learn about the stylistic differences of various genres (newspaper articles, novels, etc.) and how to translate these different types of texts.

Course materials will be selected according to the topics covered in the core course (Spanish III.2) in order to further consolidate the students’ knowledge of Spanish grammar and sentence structure. The course focuses mainly on acquiring practical translation skills rather than the theoretical background and students will be expected to do extensive practical work in class as well as at home.

Prerequisite: (i) This course is open to students who have successfully completed **SPAN3001. Spanish III.1** and are currently enrolled in **SPAN3002. Spanish III.2**.  
 (ii) Students wishing to be admitted to **SPAN3021** without having previously completed **SPAN3001. Spanish III.1** will be required to satisfy the Faculty Board through the Head of the School of Modern Languages and Cultures that they have attained elsewhere the required standard.

Assessment: 100% coursework. Coursework includes the following: in-class tests, translation assignments and class participation.

**SPAN3023. Hispanic film and literature (6 credits)**

Latin America and Spain are the birthplaces of some of the most influential and innovative films and books produced. Many of these artworks form part of the canon of world classics in cinematographic and literary fields, and the list of Nobel Prize winners contains a large number of Spanish-language writers. This course examines some of the major visual and literary contributions to the world by Spanish and Latin American filmmakers and writers. The course is taught in Spanish following a CLIL approach and is intended for students who are working towards a B2 level of the CEFRL. Visual and literary texts are contextualized within their socio-historical milieux and the selection of texts and themes is designed with a view towards gender and ethnic balance. Classes are organized thematically to allow for the combined study and comparison of texts created in different media. SPAN3023 is taught during the second semester and Spanish is the medium of instruction.

Prerequisites: This course is open to students who have successfully completed **SPAN3001. Spanish III.1**. Students wishing to be admitted to **SPAN3023** without having previously completed **SPAN3001. Spanish III.1** will be required to satisfy the Faculty Board through the Head of the School of Modern Languages and Cultures that they have attained elsewhere the required standard.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**SPAN3025. Spanish-American cultures and civilizations (6 credits)**

This course adds a New World dimension to the already existing courses on Spanish language and culture currently on offer. It focuses on the Spanish-speaking countries of Latin America (México, Guatemala, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Costa Rica, Honduras, Panamá, República Dominicana, Puerto Rico, Cuba, Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Perú, Bolivia, Paraguay, Uruguay, Argentina and Chile) where Spanish is also the official language (19 of the 21 Spanish-speaking countries in the world are located in central and south America). The course will explore different aspects of their cultures and civilizations, from the discovery of America and the establishment of colonies to the fight for independence and the development of the different nations. Topics will include history (from Pre-Columbian civilizations up to contemporary developments), geography, politics, economy, society, art and traditions of a selected number of countries. These will be examined with a view towards understanding contemporary cultural patterns and their historical antecedents.

Teaching materials will be in Spanish and medium of instruction will be Spanish.

Prerequisite: This course is open to students who have successfully completed **SPAN3001. Spanish III.1** and are currently enrolled in **SPAN3002. Spanish III.2**. Students wishing to be admitted to **SPAN3025** without having previously completed **SPAN3001. Spanish III.1** will be required to satisfy the Faculty Board through the Head of the School of Modern Languages and Cultures that they have attained elsewhere the required standard.

Assessment: 100% coursework

---

**SPAN3026. Spanish in Latin America and bilingualism in the U.S. (6 credits)**

The main objective of the course is to offer an introduction to Spanish Dialectology as well as to develop students' communicative competence in a horizontal way, that is, by linking theory and practice the course intends to make students familiar with the main dialect areas of the Spanish-speaking world, their evolution, and the influence of other languages (mainly indigenous languages, creoles, Portuguese and English) on the Spanish spoken in certain areas of the world. The course will present basic concepts related to the fields of Sociolinguistics and Dialectology, and will also raise awareness of the current widespread extension of the Spanish language and its future prospects. There will be a special emphasis on the characteristics of each particular dialect area at the levels of

phonology, lexis and grammar, as well as on the Spanish spoken in the U.S. and the different phenomena related to bilingual speech / bilingual language acquisition.

The methodology of this course is a blended-learning one. Students will need to access Moodle on a weekly basis, read the corresponding document and do the language practice exercises and tests in preparation for the lecture. In class students will have the opportunity to discuss the contents of the lesson, previously prepared at home, and will be exposed to language excerpts taken from real printed and audiovisual materials which will help to illustrate the contents previously examined at home and further discussed in class. Different language activities will be conducted in class for students to put into practice what they have learned and to promote “learning by doing”, in some cases with the help of native speakers who will be attending the lectures in order to provide students with real language exposure.

**Prerequisite:** This course is open to students who have successfully completed **SPAN2002. Spanish II.2** and are currently enrolled in **SPAN3001. Spanish III.1**. Students wishing to be admitted to **SPAN3026** without having previously completed **SPAN2002. Spanish II.2** will be required to satisfy the Faculty Board through the Head of the School of Modern Languages and Cultures that they have attained elsewhere the required standard.

**Assessment:** 100% coursework

---

### **SPAN3028. Spanish for business and intercultural communication (6 credits)**

This is a Spanish for Specific Purposes course which aims at preparing students to effectively interact with Spanish-speaking companies and institutions. It is a CLIL course which combines the learning of specific linguistic skills (reading, writing, listening and speaking) at a B1 level with the study of cultural and socio-economic aspects that are relevant for the development of commercial and intercultural relations between Spanish-speaking and East-Asian countries. Topics discussed in this course include trade negotiations, etiquette, banking transactions, product promotion and publicity, commercial fairs, the current state of relations between Spanish-speaking and East-Asian governments and organizations, and opportunities for the promotion of business partnerships between companies in East Asia and the Spanish-speaking world. Guest speakers from Spanish-speaking institutions and companies located in Hong Kong are regularly invited to the classes.

**Co-requisite:** **SPAN3028** is open to students who are currently enrolled in **SPAN3001. Spanish III.1**. Students wishing to be admitted to **SPAN3028** without being enrolled in **SPAN3001. Spanish III.1** will be required to satisfy the Faculty Board through the Head of the School of Modern Languages and Cultures that they have attained elsewhere the required standard.

**Assessment:** 100% coursework

---

### **SPAN3031. Contemporary Spain: cultural and societal changes (6 credits)**

The aim of this course is to offer a glimpse of the cultural and societal changes in contemporary Spain. Through a series of lectures, students will learn about Spain in the 20th and 21st centuries, the changes undergone through the political transition from a dictatorship to a democracy and the current challenges. The course will cover topics such as history, politics, economy, society, traditions and customs among others. This course is a good complement to the core language courses as it offers students the opportunity to learn more about the culture of Spain. Teaching materials are in Spanish and medium of instruction will be Spanish.

**Prerequisites:** (i) **SPAN3031** is open to students who have successfully completed **SPAN2002. Spanish II.2**. Students wishing to be admitted to **SPAN3031** without having previously completed **SPAN2002. Spanish II.2** will be required to satisfy the Faculty Board through the Head of the School of Modern Languages and Cultures that they have attained elsewhere the required standard.

Assessment: 100% coursework. Coursework includes: i) progress tests, ii) other assignments, and iii) participation in class

---

**SPAN3032. Hispanic sociolinguistics (6 credits)**

This course is an introduction to Hispanic Sociolinguistics with special emphasis on the interaction between language and society. Students will learn about the role of linguistic and social factors such as 'gender', 'class', 'age' and 'education', in language variation and change.

Prerequisites: SPAN3001

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**SPAN3119. Overseas immersion language course - Spanish (6 credits)**

This course provides an opportunity to study Spanish and to experience linguistic and cultural immersion in a partner institution located in a Spanish-speaking country. The course usually takes place during the summer months (e.g., June, July and/or August) and the duration of the stay may vary from two weeks to one month, but must include at least 60 hours of formal class tuition. Students typically take part in this course after the completion of their second year of language studies at HKU. The course is designed to build on and to reinforce the language competence acquired during the previous years of study as well as to prepare the participants for more advanced work in the final years of the programme.

The aims and objectives of this course are as follows: i. to expand the participants' proficiency in all aspects of the language; ii. to offer a first-hand cultural and linguistic experience of the environment where the language is spoken; iii. to better prepare the participants for more advanced work upon their return.

Prerequisite: Students must have completed **SPAN2002. Spanish II.2**. Students wishing to be admitted to **SPAN3119** without having previously completed **SPAN2002. Spanish II.2** will be required to satisfy the Faculty Board through the Head of the School of Modern Languages and Cultures that they have attained elsewhere the required standard.

Assessment: In order to be granted credits for this course, participants are requested to check with the teacher in charge prior to their enrolment and departure whether the course they have chosen is suitable for the purpose and, after completing of the course, (1) to produce a formal statement of attendance and certified transcript bearing mention of the final grade(s) obtained from the host institution, as well as the level attained according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFRL); (2) to provide a portfolio including i. a learning journal written in Spanish relating to daily class activities and, ii. samples of assessments (written assignments, tests, examinations, projects etc.) along with evaluation results.

---

**SPAN4001. Spanish IV.1 (6 credits)**

The aim of this course is to build on the work done in the previous semester with **SPAN3002**. The intention is to continue leading participants towards a more independent use of the Spanish language in order for them to complete the B2 level of the CEFRL. Students will be exposed to a variety of texts from different media (written, audio and video) from the Hispanic world. The selection of documents will also serve as a basis for discussion on social issues related to contemporary Spain and Spanish-speaking countries. This course aims at further developing students' language proficiency through a more in-depth study of important grammatical topics. It also aims to increase students' vocabulary acquisition so as to facilitate oral and written expression and comprehension of the Spanish language. By the end of this course students should have reached a stage where they are able

to use the language independently and understand the main ideas of complex texts dealing with concrete and abstract topics. They should also be able to interact with native speakers with a degree of fluency and spontaneity, produce clear, detailed texts on a wide range of subjects and explain a viewpoint in detail giving the advantages and disadvantages of various options.

Prerequisites: **SPAN4001** is open to students who have successfully completed **SPAN3002. Spanish III.2**. Students wishing to be admitted to **SPAN4001** without having previously completed **SPAN3002. Spanish III.2** will be required to satisfy the Faculty Board through the Head of the School of Modern Languages and Cultures that they have attained elsewhere the required standard.

Assessment: 100% coursework. Coursework includes: i) progress tests, ii) other assignments, and iii) participation in class

---