

SPAN 395 (Spanish Internship)

Course description and requirements

Purpose of the Internship in Spanish

This course is intended for students with a demonstrable need for an internship, one that complements their major in a clear and explicit way. The Internship is an academic course, and as such, must possess rigor, criteria and objectives as do other, conventional courses. Suitability for enrollment in SPAN 395 is determined on a case-by-case basis, and must first be approved by the Internship Coordinator (Alrick Knight, aknigh4@luc.edu). Upon approval by the Internship Coordinator, the student must find a faculty member to oversee the Internship. This step is similar to the abovementioned one: The chosen faculty member must be available and willing to direct the Internship, and will base his/ her decision on personal availability as well as on the quality and appropriateness of the proposal. The final step requires the student to ask the Internship Coordinator for written permission to enroll in the course (this is the policy for any student wishing to take a 300-level course).

Prerequisites for enrollment

The student must first complete SPAN 250, 251, 270 and 271 or 272

Course requirements

The faculty member may adapt the below criteria as he or she sees fit. In general, however, the following requirements typically include some version of the following course components:

- ⇒ The student is responsible for finding an internship experience that relates to his or her major. It is not the responsibility of the faculty member or the department to seek out or identify internship opportunities. One place to start is LUC's Center for Experiential Learning (<http://www.luc.edu/experiential>).
- ⇒ The student submits an internship project proposal that must be approved by the supervising faculty member, who then determines whether or not the proposal is appropriate for the SPAN 395 internship. Permission to enroll is by no means guaranteed; the approval of internships is determined by the merits of the proposal as well as by faculty availability. The student may enroll in SPAN 395 only after his or her proposal is formally approved by both

the Internship Coordinator and the chosen faculty member. If for whatever reason the coordinator, faculty member or both do not deem the proposal acceptable, the student is thereby considered ineligible for enrollment in the Internship. To repeat, ***enrollment in***

SPAN

395 is contingent upon approval of the student's proposal.

- ⇒ The student's internship requires the sustained involvement of two people: 1) a Spanish section faculty member who agrees to oversee the student, and 2) a qualified person from the institution (i.e. the Internship site--hospital, school, law firm, etc.--chosen by the student) who formally agrees to act as the onsite supervisor/ mentor for the student. This external, on-site contact must provide the faculty member with a letter describing the role and expectations of the student.
- ⇒ Given that the internship is, among other things, a language-immersion experience of sorts, the language of communication throughout the internship should be primarily Spanish.
- ⇒ The internship should involve about 5-10 contact hours per week (to be agreed upon by the faculty mentor and the student).
- ⇒ The faculty member and the student will determine what activities and assignments (e.g. regular blogs, journal entries) the student must complete.
- ⇒ The faculty member and student will agree on details concerning how they will maintain contact throughout the semester (e.g. meeting in person every two weeks).
- ⇒ The internship must include a culminating project, such as a paper in which the student describes in detail his/ her experience.