

Information for prospective applicants

THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT CHICAGO

DEPARTMENT OF HISPANIC & ITALIAN STUDIES

GRADUATE PROGRAMS IN HISPANIC STUDIES

AFTER READING THE INFORMATION BELOW, [CLICK HERE TO APPLY](#)

The Department of Hispanic & Italian Studies offers coursework leading to degrees in

Master of Arts in Hispanic Studies

Doctor of Philosophy in Hispanic Studies

Prospective students with a B.A. degree on a related field may apply to our two-year M.A. program. Students who already possess an M.A. in a related field should apply directly to the Ph.D. program.

The M.A. program includes two options: Hispanic Literary and Cultural Studies, and Hispanic Linguistics (descriptive and applied). The Ph.D. in Hispanic Studies offers two areas of specialization: Hispanic Literatures and Cultures, and Hispanic Linguistics (descriptive and theoretical linguistics, sociolinguistics, and second language acquisition). Students may also earn a Graduate Concentration Certificate from the Latin American and Latino Studies Program or from the Gender and Women's Studies Program. Additionally, a Graduate Certificate in Language Teaching is available to students who do not concentrate on applied linguistics.

Program Requirements

Master of Arts: 37 semester hours required.

Doctor of Philosophy: 96 semester hours required from the B.A. Students who have received an M.A. degree or its equivalent may receive up to 32 hours of semester credit toward the 96 hours.

APPLICATION DEADLINES, PROCEDURES, REQUIREMENTS

FOR ADMISSION TO THE M.A.

Domestic & International applicants

The Department of Hispanic and Italian Studies has 2 EARLY application deadlines for both domestic and international applicants, the first is: **December 15th 2017** to be considered for possible university fellowship nominations (GRE required). The second deadline is: **January 15th 2018** to be considered for Teaching Assistantship opportunities or possible BOT (Board of Trustees) waivers. The online application system closes after the 2nd EARLY application deadline, and paper applications are no longer accepted at UIC.

NOTE: ALL REQUIREMENTS (OFFICE OF GRADUATE ADMISSIONS AND DEPARTMENTAL) MUST BE SUBMITTED ONLINE

FIRST 2 STEPS TO TAKE PRIOR TO ANY OTHER PROCESS

- 1) Fill out [ALL SECTIONS OF THE ONLINE APPLICATION](#), AND

NOTE: Office of Graduate Admissions and Departmental requirements MAY BE UPLOADED ONLY after applicant has completed application and paid application fee.

Office of Graduate Admissions Requirements:

- A). Transcripts and diplomas of all academic work completed for the B.A. or equivalent degree (s) **do not** have to be official; you may upload photocopies.
- B). Photocopy of diploma(s).

Departmental Requirements:

- C). One-page Curriculum Vitae, including: complete name, address, phone number and email address, educational history, degrees and academic honors, and detailed GRE results (if you took the exam), and TOEFL results if you are an international student. If you have written an honors and/or MA/MS thesis/es, include the title(s). Include relevant professional experience.
- D). A Statement of Purpose in Spanish or English approximately 500 words in length.
- E). One (1) sample research paper written in Spanish.
- F). Three letters of recommendation by upper-division professors on official university letterhead. An applicant will be provided instructions after completing online application and paying application fee on how to send Professors a link where they will be able to submit a confidential letter of recommendation.
- G). Graduate Appointment Application - LINK:

<http://pols.uic.edu/docs/student-docs/application-for-graduate-appointment.pdf?sfvrsn=0>

The applicant must print it, fill it out completely and upload it.

Additional requirements/information ONLY for International Applicants:

- H). An international credential evaluation fee will be assessed on any applicant presenting international course work requiring an evaluation regardless of residency.
- I). TOEFL or the IELTS must be sent to the OFFICE OF GRADUATE ADMISSIONS directly from the testing institution; however you may also upload unofficial copies. The University of Illinois at Chicago accepts 3 types of results for the TOEFL, here are the minimum for each (internet based, computer based, or written):
 - Internet based MAIN score: 80 with the following minimum sub-cores: Reading – 19, Listening – 17, Speaking – 20, Writing – 21
 - Computer Based: minimum score of 213
 - Written Score: minimum 550.

IELTS minimum score is: 6.5 (total) and 6.0 sub-scores

UIC's institution exam code is: 1851.

J). In addition to transcripts and diplomas International applicants must upload unofficial mark sheets; all in English translation. If the applicant is admitted, official documents will be requested by the Office of

Graduate Admissions of both original language and official English translations for all academic credentials not originally issued in English, and they will also send application submission instructions.

Link to more information for International Applicants: <https://grad.uic.edu/international-admission>

***** PLEASE NOTE *** AN APPLICANT WILL BE REQUIRED TO COMPLY WITH THE BELOW MENTIONED ITEMS ONLY AFTER HAVING RECEIVED BY EMAIL AN “ADMIT” LETTER FROM PROGRAM (HISPANIC STUDIES)**

Domestic applicants:

1. Official final set of transcripts (hard copies from university) stating “degree conferred”. They have to be mailed directly to the Office of Graduate Admissions from educational institution where degree was obtained.

2. University attested copy of Diploma(s) which is referred to as proof of degree; this copy may be turned in person by the applicant to the Office of Admissions.

International applicants:

1. Official final set of transcripts (hard copies from university) stating “degree conferred”. They have to be mailed directly to the Office of Graduate Admissions from educational institution where degree was obtained. The student can directly submit to the Office of Graduate Admissions a certified translation of the final “degree conferred” transcripts by mail.

Note: There are instances where a student graduate (concludes his/her degree in May) and may not have a diploma until 6 months or so after, in these cases, the Office of Graduate Admissions will give the applicant one semester to comply with this requirement.

2. The student can hand deliver a University attested copy of Diploma(s) which is referred to as proof of degree, ALONG WITH a certified translation of the attested copy (copies).

and

3. The Declaration and Certification of Finances (DCF) Form. The applicant should fill it out stating: “I have been awarded a full Teaching Assistantship by the department”. AGAIN, this requirement should be submitted **ONLY -- AFTER** applicant HAS BEEN INFORMED by the department that HE/SHE HAS BEEN ADMITTED TO PROGRAM AND IS BEING AWARDED A TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIP.

APPLICATION DEADLINES, PROCEDURES, REQUIREMENTS

FOR ADMISSION TO THE Ph.D.

Domestic & International applicants

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Assistantship opportunities or possible BOT (Board of Trustees) waivers. The online application system closes after the 2nd EARLY application deadline, and paper applications are no longer accepted at UIC.

NOTE: ALL REQUIREMENTS (OFFICE OF GRADUATE ADMISSIONS AND DEPARTMENTAL)

MUST BE SUBMITTED ONLINE

FIRST 2 STEPS TO TAKE PRIOR TO ANY OTHER PROCESS

- 1). Fill out ALL SECTIONS OF THE ONLINE APPLICATION, AND
- 2). SUBMIT PAYMENT OF APPLICATION FEE

NOTE: Office of Graduate Admissions and Departmental requirements MAY BE UPLOADED ONLY after applicant has completed application and paid application fee.

Office of Graduate Admissions Requirements:

- A). Transcripts and diplomas of all academic work completed for the B.A., and MA or equivalent degree (s) **do not** have to be official; you may upload photocopies.
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Departmental Requirements:

- C). One-page Curriculum Vitae, including: complete name, address, phone number and email address, educational history, degrees and academic honors. If you have written an honors and/or MA/MS thesis/es, include the title(s). Include relevant professional experience, detailed GRE results (if you took the exam), and TOEFL results if you are an international student.
- D). A Statement of Purpose in Spanish or English of approximately 500 words in length.
- E). Two (2) sample research papers, at least one of them written in Spanish.
- F). Three letters of recommendation by upper-division professors on official university letterhead. An applicant will be provided instructions after completing online application and paying application fee on how to send Professors a link where they will be able to submit a confidential letter of recommendation.
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Domestic applicants:

1. Official transcripts (hard copies from university) stating degree conferred. They have to be mailed directly to the Office of Graduate Admissions from educational institution where degree was obtained.
2. University attested copy of Diploma(s) which is referred to as proof of degree.

International applicants:

1. Official final set of transcripts (hard copies from university) stating “degree conferred”. They have to be mailed directly to the Office of Graduate Admissions from educational institution where degree was obtained. The student can directly submit to the Office of Graduate Admissions a certified translation of the final “degree conferred” transcripts by mail.

Note: There are instances where a student graduate (concludes his/her degree in May) and may not have a diploma until 6 months or so after, in these cases, the Office of Graduate Admissions will give the applicant one semester to comply with this requirement.

2. Once the student arrives in the states, he/she can hand deliver a University attested copy of Diploma(s) which is referred to as proof of degree, ALONG WITH a certified translation of the attested copy (copies).

and

3. The Declaration and Certification of Finances (DCF) Form. The applicant should fill it out stating: “I have been awarded a full Teaching Assistantship by the department”. AGAIN, this requirement should be submitted **ONLY -- AFTER** applicant HAS BEEN INFORMED by the department that HE/SHE HAS BEEN ADMITTED TO PROGRAM AND IS BEING AWARDED A TEACHING ASSSISTANTSHIP.



APPLICATION TIPS

1. Be informed. Make sure the program you are applying for meets your needs. You can check our web site, the university course catalog and/or request information from us directly. Read the faculty profiles in our web page and see if their interests mesh with yours. It is not a bad idea to write to a faculty member directly with questions.
2. The statement of purpose is an extremely important document. It must be written and presented professionally: it must convince us that you are prepared to undertake graduate studies. It must tell us why you want to study the field you are applying for and why you want to come to UIC. If you are switching fields, explain to us why and whether you'd be willing to be admitted as a "Limited Standing" student. If you are applying for the PhD, the statement of purpose should include a research project in some detail. The statement of purpose should be clear, specific and to the point. We are not interested in vague or grand statements (I want to study linguistics because of my thirst of knowledge...). Biographical details are rarely relevant.
3. Sample research papers must be written and presented professionally. They must include a 200-word abstract right underneath the title. Make sure you revise them thoroughly so that they highlight your abilities. If you have them proof-read by a native speaker you might increase the chances of being accepted, but you should not submit something that misrepresents your languages skills.
4. Recommendation letters can only be accepted if they are written in an official letterhead. For MA applicants, at least one of the letters should be written by an upper-division professor of Spanish and address your Spanish competence. For PhD applicants, at least one of the letters should address your competence in Spanish, at least two of the letters should be from professors of Spanish and at least two of the letters should be from the applicant's MA program. If you have been out of school for over five years or if your situation does not seem to allow you to secure letters as suggested above, please contact us to discuss who could be a good recommender.
5. GREs. They may make you eligible for University Fellowships or external fellowships.

If you have questions regarding our Non-degree seeking status option or any other inquiries please do not hesitate to get in touch with us: mexotic@uic.edu (Att. Ms. Rocío García)