



# THE PATHWAY FROM EDUCATION TO VOCATION

*Becoming a Difference Maker in*  
**SPANISH**

## Why Study **Spanish** at Azusa Pacific University?

Spanish is one of the most spoken languages in the world, and Los Angeles is one of the world's largest Spanish-speaking cities. There is a growing need for people with linguistic and cultural skills to work in increasingly globalized communities. Indeed, a recent study stated that bilingual speakers earn 10-15% more than those who only speak English. The Spanish program is designed to fill this need. It works well as a double-major, with low unit requirements and high compatibility with many career paths. It equips businessmen, health care professionals, community workers, journalists—in short, anyone interested in other cultures—to thrive in the diversity of our planet.

The Spanish major at Azusa Pacific University offers opportunities to serve in local Spanish-speaking communities, through internships and hands-on coursework, or to go abroad, through international programs in Costa Rica, Ecuador, and Spain.

## YOU MIGHT CONSIDER A SPANISH MAJOR IF YOU:

- Are preparing for a profession involving international affairs: diplomacy, international business, international ministries, etc.
- Are preparing for a profession involving community service: social and health services, non-profit work, business, law, education, etc.
- Desire to pursue graduate studies that require secondary language proficiencies
- Are interested in other languages and cultures
- Want to complement your primary major with valuable secondary language skills
- Enjoy learning how to perceive and understand the world from a variety of perspectives



**JAMIE BROWNLEE TURGEON '99**  
Director of Student Services  
Brandman University

During her time at APU, Jamie studied abroad in the Dominican Republic and was mentored by professors at APU. She is now a Ph.D. candidate at Regent University and has co-published two novels.

*“I love learning about people and culture. Learning Spanish was not just about learning how to speak another language, but about how to interact and engage with another culture.”*



**BENJAMIN GAINES '03**  
Principal  
Rancho Minerva Middle School

Ben began his career as a Spanish teacher then worked his way up from administrator to principal. His degree in Spanish has been beneficial as it has helped him communicate with his students who primarily come from Spanish speaking homes.

*“Enjoy the community, relationships, and atmosphere at APU. Once you leave it, you will greatly miss it.”*

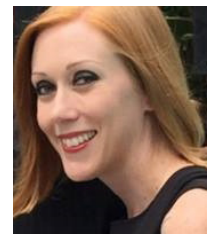
## SPANISH MAJORS ARE PREPARED FOR:

- Understanding and interacting with different cultures
- Thinking critically about contemporary cultural issues
- Communicating effectively in Spanish
- Conducting historical and literary research in Spanish
- Reading, translating, writing, editing, and interpreting in Spanish

## GRADUATES IN SPANISH WORK AS:

- Foreign student advisors
- Pastors/ministers
- Immigration inspectors
- Translators and interpreters
- Import/export managers
- Diplomats
- Speech pathologists
- Customs inspectors
- Social/medical services
- Teachers/professors

*\*Many of these careers may require additional training and/or graduate education*



**JOCELYN SHERMAN-FALCIONI '01**  
Spanish Professor  
Orange Coast College

Jocelyn fell in love with the Spanish culture and language after taking a trip to Spain in high school. During her time at APU, she went on a mission trip to Ensenada, which she identifies as a very meaningful experience. She now has her Master's Degree from UCLA and is a tenured Spanish professor at OCC where she leads study abroad trips to Madrid.

*“APU helped me succeed because I had small classes and great professors who really cared about my learning.”*

To connect with these and other APU alumni, email [clasalumni@apu.edu](mailto:clasalumni@apu.edu)

## STEPS TO TAKE AS A MAJOR IN SPANISH

## OPTIONS TO EXPLORE AROUND APU

### BE CALLED.

EXPLORE. DEFINE. RESEARCH. LEARN.

- **TAKE ELEMENTARY SPANISH I AND II (SPAN 101, SPAN 102)**  
Learn in an environment geared toward real-life situations. Develop basic listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills.
- **TALK TO STUDENTS IN THE MAJOR**  
Learn from the experiences of fellow students.
- **VISIT ONE OF THE PROFESSORS IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES**  
Explore options for students learning Spanish.

- **LEARN HOW TO APPLY YOUR STRENGTHS WITHIN YOUR ACADEMICS, LIFE, AND CAREER**  
Meet with a Career Consultant\* or Strengths Mentor.
- **CONSIDER CAREER OPTIONS FOR YOUR MAJOR**  
Meet with a Career Consultant\* or your faculty advisor to explore and discuss requirements for your career options.

### BE PREPARED.

IDENTIFY. STRENGTHEN. PRACTICE.

- **DEVELOP YOUR SPEAKING AND WRITING SKILLS**  
Sign up for a total immersion experience in Costa Rica, Ecuador, or Spain. Students may hone their skills further in advanced courses (SPAN 301, SPAN 302).
- **SECURE AN INTERNSHIP**  
Register for an internship locally or abroad in SPAN 494 (Internship). Students may work in hospitals, libraries, schools, or TV networks.
- **ENGAGE IN A CROSS-CULTURAL EXPERIENCE**  
The Costa Rica Study Abroad program matches students according to their career goals with local businesses and organizations, or check out other APU Study Abroad options.
- **IF YOU'RE INTERESTED IN GRADUATE-LEVEL EDUCATION**  
Seek advice from professors in the Department of Modern Languages.

- **RECEIVE FEEDBACK ON YOUR INTERVIEWING ABILITIES**  
Complete a Mock Interview with a Career Consultant\*
- **CREATE A RESUME TO APPLY FOR AN INTERNSHIP**  
Meet with a Career Consultant\* to review your resume and cover letter. Run them by your professors, too.
- **GROW YOUR SKILLS IN AN ON CAMPUS JOB OR STUDENT LEADERSHIP POSITION**  
Talk to Student Employment or Student Life about the available opportunities.
- **VOLUNTEER LOCALLY AND GLOBALLY TO SHAPE YOUR PERSPECTIVE**  
Talk to the Center for Student Action about how you can serve.
- **GAIN KNOWLEDGE ABOUT YOUR CAREER OPTIONS**  
Do informational interviews or go to a career-related event to learn more about your career, degree, and experience requirements.

### BE CONNECTED.

JOIN. NETWORK. BE ACTIVE.

- **QUALIFY FOR THE SPANISH HONORS SOCIETY: SIGMA DELTA PI**  
Participate and connect with other members to learn more about the discipline and opportunities in the field.
- **ATTEND ALUMNI PANELS AND EVENTS**  
Students have the opportunity to engage with other students, professors, and professionals who are passionate about Spanish language and culture. Opportunities include the Latin American Student Association, International Chapel, DML Spanish Colloquia, and the Bruce-Novoa Series on Chicano/Latino Experience.
- **JOIN APU CONNECT**  
Use the exclusive online networking portal to connect with other alumni.

- **TALK TO ALUMNI FROM YOUR MAJOR**  
Join [APUConnect.com](http://APUConnect.com) and start reaching out. You can also email [clasalumni@apu.edu](mailto:clasalumni@apu.edu)\* for help connecting with alumni.
- **GET ACTIVE ON LINKEDIN**  
Meet with a Career Consultant\* to review your profile and learn how to use LinkedIn.
- **ATTEND CAREER-RELATED EVENTS**  
Keep an eye out for career events related to your major or that are happening around campus.
- **HAVE LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION ON HAND**  
Request them from professors and advisors at least a month before due.

\* Visit [apucareer.youcanbook.me/](http://apucareer.youcanbook.me/) to make an appointment with a Career Consultant

\* Use subject line: Connect me with APU alumni

# APPLYING TO GRADUATE SCHOOL

## EXPLORE.



Learn more at  
[www.apu.edu/career/graduateschool](http://www.apu.edu/career/graduateschool)

## SELECT.

ONLINE RESOURCES TO HELP IDENTIFY THE BEST PROGRAM FOR YOU

[Peterson's Guide](#)  
[GradSchools.com](#)  
[The Princeton Review](#)  
[National Assoc. of Graduate Professional Students](#)  
[The Council of Graduate Schools](#)  
[APU Pew Society Graduate Guide](#)

EXAMPLES OF SCHOOLS ATTENDED BY APU **SPANISH** GRADUATES:

[University of California, Santa Barbara](#)  
[University of California, Los Angeles](#)  
[University of Southern California](#)  
[Pepperdine University](#)  
[Universidad de Salamanca](#)

## APPLY.

- APPLICATION FORM AND FEES**  
Follow instructions carefully and have one or more people check for errors.
- ENTRANCE ESSAY**  
Provide a writing example that shows your personal objectives.
- TRANSCRIPT**  
Ask APU to send it directly to the school you are applying to.
- LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION**  
Schools usually require three letters, so get them early.
- INTERVIEWS**  
If your potential school requests an interview, treat it as a job interview.

# FINDING YOUR CAREER

## IDENTIFY.

- Search online job boards and professional associations in the Spanish field
- Regularly check-in with your organizations of interest and network with those who can inform you of opportunities
- Look on APU Career Network for possible opportunities

### SPANISH ASSOCIATIONS:

[American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese \(AATSP\)](#)  
[Christian Association of World Languages](#)  
[Sigma Delta Pi](#)  
[California Language Teachers Association](#)  
[Modern Language Association](#)  
[Cervantes Society of America](#)  
[Instituto Cervantes](#)

## PREPARE.

### BRAINSTORM YOUR EXPERIENCE

What have you done? What is relevant?



### TAILOR YOUR RESUME

What does the job description say?



### WRITE GOOD BULLET POINTS

Do you focus on your accomplishments?



### FORMAT YOUR RESUME

Is it easy to read and follow?



### PRACTICE INTERVIEWING

Know yourself.  
Know the position.  
Know the organization.

## RESEARCH OPTIONS

OCCUPATIONAL OUTLOOK HANDBOOK

[www.bls.gov/ooh/](http://www.bls.gov/ooh/)

O\*NET ONLINE

[www.onetonline.org](http://www.onetonline.org)

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION REFERENCE

[www.weddles.com/associations](http://www.weddles.com/associations)

## NETWORK.

WHO DO YOU KNOW?  
WHO DO YOU NEED TO KNOW?



### WHY NETWORK?

- Learn about different options in your field
- Research companies and positions of interest
- Find hidden opportunities that are not advertised
- Obtain referrals from those who have influence

EXAMPLES OF COMPANIES THAT HIRE APU **SPANISH** GRADUATES:

Grifols Biologicals USA  
World Vision  
Teach for America  
Universidad Autónoma de Guadalajara  
Semester in Spain  
Pasadena Unified School District  
Vanguard University  
Orange Coast University  
United Airlines  
Sinopec Oil and Gas  
Toyota Motor Company  
Exxon Mobil