

UC 10789 10S

TO: Lawrence Williams, Chair
Undergraduate Council

FROM: Richard Scamell
Degree Programs Committee: Programs

APPROVED MAR 24 2010
[Signature]

SUBJECT: UC 10777 10S: Change in the Requirements for a Major in Spanish
UC 10778 10S: Change in the Requirements for a Minor in Spanish for Business Professions

DATE: March 17, 2010

The Committee met via email during the week of March 15 to evaluate two proposals from the Department of Hispanic Studies judged to be routine enough that they could be handled without a face-to-face meeting. Participating in the consideration of these proposals were committee members: Betty Barr, Miranda Bennett, Roger Blakeney, Debbie Hermann, Iain Morrison and Richard Scamell.

UC 10777 10S: Change in the Requirements for a Major in Spanish

The Department of Hispanic Studies changed its requirements for a major in Spanish two years ago in order to offer its majors more elective choices between literature, linguistics, civilization and applied courses. In doing so, the requirement that at least six semester hours of these electives be at the 4000 level was inadvertently omitted. The purpose of UC 10777 10S is to correct this omission. The proposed change is reflected in the shaded text.

Requirements For a Major in Spanish

In addition to completing the degree requirements for the Bachelor of Arts, students majoring in Spanish must complete 27 semester hours in Spanish at the advanced level (3000-4000) including the following:

1. SPAN 3301: Oral Communication in Spanish (or SPAN 3307: Public Speaking in Spanish for students on the heritage track)
2. SPAN 3302: Written Communication in Spanish (or SPAN 3308: Written Communication for Hispanic Heritage Learners)
3. SPAN 3305: Spanish Grammar Review
4. SPAN 3384: Introduction to Hispanic Literature
5. Fifteen hours from one or more of the following areas, including six hours at the 4000 level:
 - Literature
 - Linguistics
 - Culture
 - Applied Spanish (business, education, translation, etc.)

Justification For the Proposed Change (Shown by the Shaded Text)

The Department of Hispanic Studies believes that all majors should complete at least six semester hours of coursework in Spanish. Coursework at the 4000 level utilizes texts written entirely in native Spanish without glossary assistance for foreign language students as is the case for texts used in junior level courses.

UC 10778 10S: Change in the Requirements for a Minor in Spanish for Business Professions

The faculty member who taught SPAN 4341: Advanced Business Spanish retired recently and the Department of Hispanic Studies lacks the financial resources to hire business professionals to teach a Spanish business course at the 4000 level. The current and proposed change to the Spanish Minor for Business Professions follows.

Current Requirements for a Minor in Spanish for Business Professions

Students minoring in Spanish for the Business Professions must complete at least 15 semester hours in Spanish, all of which must be advanced, including SPAN 3341: Spanish for Business and Trade, SPAN

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3342: Cross-Cultural Business Contexts: U.S./Latin America, and SPAN 4341: Advanced Business Spanish. Nine semester hours must be completed in residence. Students must earn a 2.50 minimum cumulative grade point average on all Spanish courses attempted in the minor at the University of Houston.

Proposed Requirements for a Minor in Spanish for Business Professions (Proposed Change Shown by the Shaded Text)

Students minoring in Spanish for the Business Professions must complete at least 15 semester hours in Spanish, all of which must be advanced, including SPAN 3341: Spanish for Business and Trade and SPAN 3342: Cross-Cultural Business Contexts: U.S./Latin America plus one of the following courses: SPAN 3312: Fundamentals of English/Spanish Translation, SPAN 3373: Spanish Culture and Civilization, SPAN 3374: Spanish American Culture and Civilization, SPAN 3375: U.S. Hispanic Culture and Civilization, SPAN 3384: Introduction to Hispanic Literature, or SPAN 4341: Advanced Business Spanish. Nine semester hours must be completed in residence. Students must earn a 2.50 minimum cumulative grade point average on all Spanish courses attempted in the minor at the University of Houston.

Note that SPAN 4341: Advance Business Spanish is still listed in case of an unanticipated opportunity to offer a course taught by a business professional fluent in Spanish.

Recommendation

The Committee recommends approval of both UC 10777 10S and UC 10778 10S.

