

# What Can I Do With a Major In...

## Modern Languages & Literatures-Spanish?

**Spanish Teaching programs**<sup>1</sup> help students to become proficient in a foreign language. Proficiency in a foreign language also includes understanding historical context, sensitivity to nuances and values, and an appreciation for dialects. You will learn to speak, listen to, read, and write the language you are studying. You will learn the grammar, syntax, punctuation, and pronunciation of the language. Also you will study the culture and literature produced in the country and in other areas where the language is spoken. In this way you will learn the importance of the language and you will develop a sensitivity and appreciation for the culture.

**Programs at Montana State University**<sup>2</sup> teach foreign cultures, languages, and literature as an integral part of a basic education and an essential component of one's university training. It provides students with the knowledge to better understand their own language and culture and to function intelligently as members of a multicultural society. Students in this program will be required to pass a language proficiency test approved by the Modern Languages department in order to qualify for practice teaching.

**Characteristics associated with success**<sup>1</sup> in this major include a desire to learn about people and cultures that are different from yours.

### **You should have**<sup>1</sup>:

- a high level of proficiency in the Spanish language
- a good ear for language and communication patterns
- the ability to communicate well orally and in writing
- an ability to motivate students
- good communication skills
- patience and a sense of humor
- a willingness to continue education and to stay up-to-date on current issues related to the target culture

**Occupations in this field require ability to**<sup>1</sup>: speak, listen, read, and write Spanish, use the language in real-life contexts, for both social and professional purposes, understand the social, political, historical, and economic background of the countries whose language they are teaching.

### **Related occupations include**<sup>1</sup>:

- Secondary Education Teacher
- Special Education Teacher
- Adult Education Teacher
- English as a Second Language Teacher
- Instructional Coordinator
- Teacher Assistant
- Customs Inspector
- Flight Attendant
- Interpreter
- Foreign Service Officer
- Translator
- College/University Faculty
- Travel Guide
- FBI Agent
- Foreign Trade Clerk
- Welfare Eligibility Worker

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**MSU graduates (Bachelor's degree) were hired in the following selected fields<sup>3</sup>:**

Assistant Transcript Associate—Montana State University  
Casino Runner—Lucky Lil's  
Floor Supervisor—Montana State University  
Food Servicer—Hilton Garden Inn  
Installer—National Partitions  
Missionary—Campus Crusade for Christ  
Officer—United States Army  
Paraprofessional—Teton County School District #401  
Research Scientist—Montana State University  
Retail Manager & Clothing Sales Representative—Portland Boarding Company  
Sales Associate—Old Navy  
Sales & Account Representative—Incomprehensibilities  
Teacher Assistant—Manhattan School District #3  
Tour Guide—Restic Pathways  
Waiter—Trinity Beverage, Cateye Cafe

**Salary averages of survey respondents: (# of respondents in parentheses)<sup>3</sup>**

<b>2007: MT: \$ 27,333 (3)</b>	<b>Out of State: \$ 36,020 (2)</b>
<b>2006: MT: \$20,950 (2)</b>	<b>Out of State: Insufficient Data</b>
<b>2005: MT: Insufficient Data</b>	<b>Out of State: \$ 28,188 (2)</b>
<b>2004: MT: Insufficient Data</b>	<b>Out of State: Insufficient Data</b>

**Graduates from this program entered programs of further education at these institutions:**

None available at this time

### **Other Sources of Information:**

American Association of Teachers of Spanish & Portuguese: [www.aatsp.org](http://www.aatsp.org)  
American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages: [www.actfl.org](http://www.actfl.org)  
Montana Association of Language Teachers: [www.maltsite.org](http://www.maltsite.org)  
The Modern Language Association: [www.mla.org](http://www.mla.org)  
Rocky Mountain Modern Languages Association: <http://rmmla.wsu.edu>  
Department of Modern Languages – Montana State University: [www.montana.edu/wwwml](http://www.montana.edu/wwwml)

For more information contact:



Montana State University  
177 Strand Union Building  
Bozeman, MT 59717  
(406) 994-4353  
[www.montana.edu/careers](http://www.montana.edu/careers)

<sup>1</sup>University of Oregon. 2007. Created by intoCareers, a unit of the University of Oregon. Montana information Montana Career Information System. Discover: 2008 by ACT, Inc.

<sup>2</sup>Montana State University Department of Modern Languages

<sup>3</sup>Montana State University Career & Internship Services

Number of graduates/number of respondents: 2004: 9/7; 2005: 16/6; 2006:15/2; 2007: 20/6