About Our Program
The Ph.D. cooperative program in Hispanic Studies is grounded in a solid knowledge of the language, culture, and literature of Spanish-speaking peoples and is designed to meet the needs of selected students who enter the program with well-defined goals for their course of study. It consists of one curriculum and one set of overarching educational objectives. Within the general framework of the curriculum, however, there are four concentrations, each of which overlap.

A core of four courses will introduce you to the various methods and resources for the study of Hispanic literature, language, culture, and socio-economic issues; the research and the methodological skills necessary to conduct and present research; the linguistic variations of the Southwest; and U.S. Latino/a literature(s). Once you have chosen a particular concentration, you will take 15 hours of course work in that concentration, in addition to 18 hours of prescribed and free electives. The majority of the courses offered will be via distance education.

The flexibility of this program enables you to integrate the subject matter of different disciplines into a course of study relevant to your specific interests in the national and international Hispanic world. In general, however, the program will focus on the transcultural and the transnational as it explores the continuous interchanges between Spanish-speaking countries on both sides of the Atlantic, as well as their interaction with other cultures and languages worldwide.

Why Should You Come Here?
TAMIU is a Member of The Texas A&M University System. The University is accredited by the Texas Education Agency and by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. The University is a member of the American Association of the State Colleges and Universities, the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education, the American Council on Education, and the American Association of Collegiate Schools of Business.

TAMIU’s campus represents more than a $200 million investment in new facilities. You will take courses in the first new campus in Texas in over 20 years. Our campus is situated in the heart of South Texas along the U.S.-Mexico border in Laredo, Texas, affording immense opportunities for international, comparative and developmental studies. You will study in our new state-of-the-art classrooms and facilities; such as the Lamar Bruni Vergara Science Center.

Texas A&M International University offers a unique environment for studying Spanish. This institution not only provides a solid academic foundation, but also promotes a culturally diverse atmosphere. Because the majority of Spanish graduate students are native or heritage speakers of Spanish, you have the opportunity to engage in discussion that focuses on content and learning rather than solely on language skills; consequently, your search for knowledge consists of exciting and interactive learning experiences.

Furthermore, the Laredo community is linguistically and culturally rich in Hispanic traditions and customs, which allows you to live and learn in a Hispanic community within the United States but with immediate access to Mexico just across the border. Laredo, Texas, a city under seven flags, is distinguished by its colonial architectural influence.
About Our Faculty
Our full-time faculty has doctorates in all specialty areas of Spanish, such as Golden Age and Latin American Literature, and Hispanic Linguistics. They are nationally and internationally recognized and have active research agendas. Moreover, they are committed to providing the highest standards in the classroom and to preparing future scholars, teachers, and practitioners. The low student/teacher ratio provides a comfortable learning setting. As a result, each student at TAMIU is able to interact on a one-to-one basis with the professor. Inspirational minds and warm, friendly spirits are always ready to assist students in reaching their educational goals.

Graduate Assistantships
A limited number of graduate assistantships are available each year to students. Interested parties may contact the Office of Graduate Studies at 956.326.3027.

Careers
The face of the United States is becoming increasingly bi- and multilingual. Possessing a high-level of proficiency in Spanish and understanding of Hispanic culture, art, customs and history is your key to opening the door to a new world. Although employment in traditional language and literature departments is typically limited to professionals with specializations and proficiency in Spanish, students with a doctoral degree in Hispanic Studies should also be prepared to join a department of language and literature. On the other hand, graduates with a doctoral degree in Hispanic studies will have opportunities in non-academic careers in public and private sector organizations dealing with Latin America and the Hispanic world as well.

Admission Standards
Admission to the doctoral program will be predicted on several factors: (1) a completed master’s degree in Spanish or Hispanic Studies or in a related area, with a minimum grade point average of 3.2; (2) demonstrated oral and written proficiency in Spanish; (3) the Graduate Record Examination (GRE); (4) at least three letters of recommendation; (5) the student’s goals and career interests as stated on the application form; and (6) the availability of faculty members who are qualified to direct the student’s program of study. Admission will be consistent with House Bill 1641.
Alternatively, students holding an appropriate baccalaureate degree (including a minimum of 12 hours in Spanish at the advanced undergraduate level) could be admitted to the program under the same criteria 2-6 outlined above. These students will need to complete an additional 30.0 hours at the graduate level.

How Do I Apply?
• Complete and submit University graduate application and submit undergraduate transcripts to the Office of Graduate Studies and Research.
• A bachelor’s degree from an accredited college or university is required.
• All applications can be downloaded from www.tamiu.edu/gradschool/admissions or visit www.applytexas.org
• Have official GRE test scores sent directly from ETS.
• Write a student narrative describing particular academic and career goals and objectives. Narratives must contain a minimum of 300 words.
• Complete and submit graduate application to Texas A&M University in College Station.

Spring application deadline is Nov. 30; Fall and Summer application deadline is April 30.

For more detailed information including program costs and courses, please visit or call:

Website: www.tamiu.edu/coas/psy/psych.htm
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