

The Written "Exit" Exam in Spanish

Who: Students majoring in Spanish or Spanish FLIT or FLIPS must pass the Written Exit Exam before their graduation is approved. Those seeking teaching certification must pass the Written Exit Exam before beginning their professional semester. This exam should be taken at least two semesters prior to graduation to give the student enough time to work on any deficiencies that may be discovered.

When: This exam is offered in **September, November, January, April,** and **July** — that is five times per year! Students interested in taking it should make arrangements with the undergraduate adviser of the Spanish Section. Students who fail the test must wait until the next scheduled time to retake it — **NO EXCEPTIONS!**

Format: The Written Exam consists of translating 15-20 sentences (approximately 200 words total) from English to Spanish. It may be in the form of a paragraph, individual sentences or groups of sentences. Examinees are given 60 minutes and are allowed to use a bilingual dictionary (any size!).

Grading: Pass/Fail basis. A translation with no more than ten errors of the types listed below is passing. **Notice:** each occurrence of the "same error" is counted separately!

Preparation: As a minimum, examinees should be able to handle the following:

1. Number/gender agreement: article-noun-adjective, subject-verb
2. *Ser/estar; saber/conocer; pedir/preguntar*
3. Preterit vs. imperfect
4. Meaning changes of *saber, conocer, poder* and *querer* in the Preterit
5. Regular and irregular present and past participles
6. *Gustar*-type verbs
7. Direct and indirect object pronouns
8. Reflexive constructions
9. Pronouns as objects of prepositions
10. Basic uses of *por, para, a, de, en*; personal *a*; possession with *de*
11. Perfect tenses: pres. perf., past perf., past perf. subj., cond. perf.
12. Basic uses of the present subjunctive (volition, emotion, unreality, doubt, denial)
13. Basic uses of the present subjunctive in adverbial clauses
14. Present subjunctive with indefinite antecedents (Busco una casa que tenga...; No hay nada que sea...)
15. Two verb-back-to-back constructions (Quiero ir allá; Pienso comer pronto; Me gusta bailar; Es decir...) and verbs following a preposition (Ver para creer; Está por salir; Voy a correr; Es hora de levantarse; Es de suponer...)

16. Definite/indefinite articles; demonstrative adjectives and pronouns
17. *si* clauses: *si* + present with (pres.indicative, future, command) in main clause
18. *si* clauses: *si* + imperfect subjunctive with conditional in main clause
19. *si* clauses: *si* + past perfect subjunctive with conditional perfect in main clause
20. Basic uses of the *se* constructions (se solicitan músicos; se apeló la decisión; se habla español; se registraron las quejas; se mezcla el huevo con el aceite, etc.)