

AP[®] Spanish Literature and Culture

About the Advanced Placement Program[®] (AP[®])

The Advanced Placement Program[®] has enabled millions of students to take college-level courses and earn college credit, advanced placement, or both, while still in high school. AP Exams are given each year in May. Students who earn a qualifying score on an AP Exam are typically eligible, in college, to receive credit, placement into advanced courses, or both. Every aspect of AP course and exam development is the result of collaboration between AP teachers and college faculty. They work together to develop AP courses and exams, set scoring standards, and score the exams. College faculty review every AP teacher's course syllabus.

AP Spanish Literature and Culture Course Overview

The AP Spanish Literature and Culture course uses a thematic approach to introduce students to representative texts (short stories, novels, poetry, plays, and essays) from Peninsular Spanish, Latin American, and U.S. Hispanic literature. Students develop proficiencies across the three modes of communication (interpretive, interpersonal, and presentational) in the range of Intermediate High to Advanced Mid of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages' (ACTFL) Proficiency Guidelines. Through careful examination of the required readings and other texts, students work to hone their critical reading and analytical writing skills. Literature is explored within the contexts of its time and place, and students gain insights on the many voices, historical periods, and cultures represented in the required readings and other texts. The course also includes a strong focus on cultural, artistic, and linguistic connections and comparisons, which is supported by the exploration of various media (art, music, film, articles, and literary criticism).

AP Spanish Literature and Culture is equivalent to a college or university survey course of literature written in Spanish at the first level counted towards a major in this subject area.

RECOMMENDED PREREQUISITES

While there are no prerequisites for this course, AP Spanish Literature and Culture is designed for students who have successfully completed at least three years of high school–level Spanish language study. While not a prerequisite, students may wish to complete the AP Spanish Language and Culture course before taking AP Spanish Literature and Culture, as the texts are presented in Spanish. In the case of native or heritage speakers, there may be a different pathway of study leading to this course.

AP Spanish Literature and Culture Course Content

The course content is organized into eight units, which have been arranged in a logical chronological sequence:

- **Unit 1:** La época medieval
- **Unit 2:** El siglo XVI
- **Unit 3:** El siglo XVII
- **Unit 4:** La literatura romántica, realista, y naturalista
- **Unit 5:** La generación del 98 y el Modernismo

- **Unit 6:** Teatro y poesía del siglo XX
- **Unit 7:** El Boom latinoamericano
- **Unit 8:** Escritores contemporáneos de Estados Unidos y España

The content is grounded in 38 required texts. The required readings may present difficult human issues and situations that may be challenging for some students. Teachers should prepare, guide, and support students as they engage with these texts.

Course Themes

The following six themes provide a meaningful basis for making contextual connections among the works of different genres, periods, movements, and techniques:

- Las sociedades en contacto (Societies in Contact)
- La construcción del género (The Construction of Gender)
- El tiempo y el espacio (Time and Space)
- Las relaciones interpersonales (Interpersonal Relationships)
- La dualidad del ser (The Duality of Being)
- La creación literaria (Literary Creation)

Course Skills

The following skill categories describe what skills students should develop during the course:

- **Analysis:** Analyze and/or interpret literary texts and audio sources in the target language.
- **Cultural Context and Connections:** Make connections between a literary text and a non-literary text or an aspect of culture.
- **Comparing Literary Texts:** Compare literary texts.
- **Comparing Texts and Art:** Compare a text to artistic representations.
- **Argumentation:** Write a literary analysis.
- **Language and Conventions:** Use accurate language and apply appropriate conventions of written language.
- **Literary Discussions and Presentations:** Engage in discussions about literary texts in the target language.

AP Spanish Literature and Culture Exam Structure

AP SPANISH LITERATURE AND CULTURE EXAM: 3 HOURS

Assessment Overview

The AP Spanish Literature and Culture Exam assesses student understanding of the skills and required readings outlined in the course framework. The exam is 3 hours long and includes 65 multiple-choice questions and 4 free-response questions.

Format of Assessment

Section I: Multiple-choice | 65 Questions | 1 Hour, 20 Minutes | 50% of Exam Score

- **Part A:** Interpretative Listening – Audio Texts (15 Questions; 20 Minutes)
 - **Part B:** Reading Analysis – Print and Texts (50 Questions; 60 Minutes)
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Section II: Free-response | 4 Questions | 1 Hour, 40 Minutes | 50% of Exam Score

- Question 1: Short-answer – Text Explanation
- Question 2: Short-answer – Text and Art Comparison
- Question 3: Essay – Analysis of a Single Text
- Question 4: Essay – Text Comparison

Exam Components

Note: On the AP Spanish Literature and Culture Exam, all directions, questions, and texts are presented in Spanish.

Multiple-Choice Section

Part A:

Interpretative Listening – Audio Texts (15 Questions)

Part A of the AP Spanish Literature and Culture Exam includes 15 multiple-choice questions in sets of 4 or 7 questions each. Each set includes authentic stimulus materials presented in audio format. The audio texts include an interview, a poem, and a discussion or lecture on literary topics.

Part B:

Reading Analysis – Print and Texts (50 Questions)

Part B includes 50 multiple-choice questions in sets of 7 to 10 questions each. Each set includes authentic stimulus materials presented in written format. These literary readings include required texts from the course, nonrequired texts, and a critical commentary.

Free-Response Section

Short Answer Questions

- ◆ Text Explanation
 - Students identify the author and period of the text and explain how a theme is developed within a text while providing textual examples to support their response.
- ◆ Text and Art Comparison
 - Students compare how a theme is presented both in a literary text and in a work from the visual arts in relation to a literary period, movement, genre, or technique.

Essay Questions

- ◆ Analysis of a Single Text
 - Students, using a selection or fragment of a required reading text, analyze how the text represents a literary period, movement, genre, or technique and analyze how the text represents a cultural context. They discuss the use of literary figures and rhetorical devices and provide textual examples to support their analysis.
- ◆ Text Comparison
 - Students analyze the effect of literary figures and rhetorical devices that authors use to present a theme in a selection or fragment of text from the required reading list and a selection or fragment of a nonrequired text. They compare the theme that the texts share and provide textual examples to support their analysis and comparison.