

# Learning Spanish

in Manitoba



Manitoba Spanish Collective

# Why Should I Learn Spanish (or Another Language)?

Spanish is the language of many peoples who have made many important contributions to the history and culture of the world. Today, there are close to 400 million native speakers of Spanish, and close to 500 million speakers worldwide, including Spain and Africa, as well as Central America, South America, and North America. It is a language of enormous social, political, and economic importance.

As our world becomes increasingly connected and interdependent, it has become necessary to learn to communicate effectively with others around the world. Learning a language benefits students in many ways.

---

## Image Credits:

### Compilation of Images on Cover Page

© Parker, Eric. *DSC03118\_ep*. Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial 2.0 Generic (CC BY-NC 2.0). April 5, 2015. <https://www.flickr.com/photos/ericparker/29859959330/>; © Tavener, Ben. *Argentinian Fans at São Paulo Fan Fest*. Creative Commons Attribution 2.0 Generic (CC BY 2.0). July 1, 2014. <https://www.flickr.com/photos/bentavener/14574102053/>; © Prayitno. *Banda Municipal de Acosta—Costa Rica*. Creative Commons Attribution 2.0 Generic (CC BY 2.0). January 1, 2019. <https://www.flickr.com/photos/prayitnophotography/40314508373/>; © Easton, Robert. *El Salvador Beach*. Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial 2.0 Generic (CC BY-NC 2.0). November 29, 2013. <https://www.flickr.com/photos/13968680@N07/11200757034/>; © Palmero, Nan. *School Kids in Parque Naciones Unidas El Picacho*. Creative Commons Attribution 2.0 Generic (CC BY 2.0). March 21, 2014. <https://www.flickr.com/photos/nanpalmero/13440939993/>; © Pedronchi. *Guinea Ecuatorial*. Creative Commons Attribution 2.0 Generic (CC BY 2.0). July 10, 2008. <https://www.flickr.com/photos/pedronchi/3067167211/>; © Cliff. *Ayllu Cultural Tinkus Wayras*. Creative Commons Attribution 2.0 Generic (CC BY 2.0). October 3, 2010. <https://www.flickr.com/photos/nostri-imago/5053313282/>; © Arcadiuș. *Asunción, Paraguay*. Creative Commons Attribution 2.0 Generic (CC BY 2.0). April 5, 2011. <https://www.flickr.com/photos/arcadius/5644771129/>; © AFS-USA. *IMG\_7590.jpg*. Creative Commons Attribution 2.0 Generic (CC BY 2.0). July 1, 2013. <https://www.flickr.com/photos/afsusa/9308716718/>; © Blue, Fibonacci. *March in Support of Immigrants*. Creative Commons Attribution 2.0 Generic (CC BY 2.0). January 20, 2018. <https://www.flickr.com/photos/fibonacci/39851674052/>; © Rama Estudiantil IEEE. *Reunión Zona Caribe IEEE*. Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial 2.0 Generic (CC BY-NC 2.0). 2010. <https://www.flickr.com/photos/ieeecuc/5386097723/>; and © Costanzo, Maurizio. *Ecuador, Cuenca (12-24-1988)—Pase del niño*. Creative Commons Attribution 2.0 Generic (CC BY 2.0). August 18, 2009. [https://www.flickr.com/photos/maurizio\\_costanzo/3834504302/](https://www.flickr.com/photos/maurizio_costanzo/3834504302/).

### Image Banner on Page 3

© Simões, Pedro Ribeiro. (*D. Quixote*) (1914)—*Amadeo de Souza-Cardoso (1887–1918)*. Creative Commons Attribution 2.0 Generic (CC BY 2.0). November 30, 2013. <https://www.flickr.com/photos/pedrosimoes/730854918257/>; © Savage, McKay. *Chili—Puerto Montt—Street Art*. Creative Commons Attribution 2.0 Generic (CC BY 2.0). January 21, 2012. <https://www.flickr.com/photos/mckaysavage/6837459982/>; and © Hawk, Thomas. *Culture Clash*. Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial 2.0 Generic (CC BY-NC 2.0). February 9, 2016. <https://www.flickr.com/photos/thomashawk/43802828472/>.

### Compilation of Flags in Footer on Pages 2 to 8

All images of individual flags are licensed under public domain via Wikimedia Commons.



## Benefits to Students Include

### Academic and Intellectual Achievement

- Students achieve higher test scores in reading, language, and mathematics.
- Students achieve higher test scores in both verbal and non-verbal intelligence.
- Students are better in divergent thinking tasks, and in memory ability and attention span.

### Post-Secondary Admission

- Language courses may be used to meet the Manitoba High School Diploma requirements.
- A 40S-level language course is accepted for university entrance and is a requirement for some faculties and programs.
- Students can continue to study Spanish in many post-secondary institutions.

### Enhanced First Language Skills

Students' first language skills are strengthened in the areas of reading, vocabulary development, grammar, and communication skills.

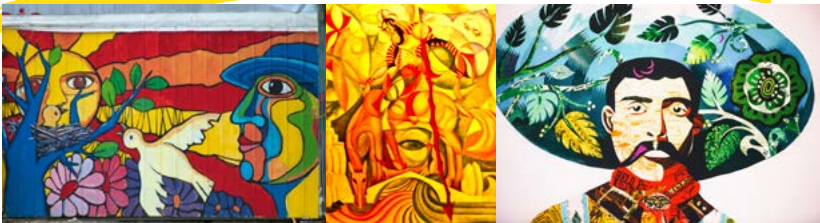
### Cultural Understanding

Students display enhanced cultural sensitivity, gain cross-cultural skills, and are better able to adapt to varying cultural contexts.

### Greater Career Opportunities

The study of Spanish opens up opportunities in fields such as diplomacy, translating, interpreting, teaching, journalism, and commerce. The development of closer Canadian ties with Spain and Latin America is extending the range of career opportunities through various international organizations.

## Hispanidad



# Where Can I Learn Spanish?

## Kindergarten to Grade 12

Many school divisions and schools offer Spanish programming. This includes bilingual programming where Spanish is a language of instruction and Spanish Language and culture courses where students learn Spanish and also learn about Hispanic cultures.

### **Bilingual Programming:**

Bilingual programming is currently offered in the Winnipeg School Division at Earl Grey School.

For more information, see <https://www.winnipeg.ca/schools/EarlGrey/Programs/Pages/Spanish-Kindergarten.aspx>.

### **Spanish Language and Culture Courses**

Approximately 45 schools offer Spanish language and culture courses at the middle years and senior years levels throughout Manitoba. These include English, French Immersion, and Français schools.

**“A different language is a different vision of life.” —Federico Fellini**

Contact your local school division or school to obtain more information. For a list of school division and school contacts, see <https://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/schools/index.html>.

## Post Secondary Institutions

A number of universities and colleges offer Spanish language courses, as well as Bachelor, Master, and even Doctoral programs in Spanish language and culture. Descriptions and links follow.

### **University of Manitoba (UM)**

Many Spanish language and culture courses are offered on an annual basis. Students can take courses or obtain a minor, a major, and an advanced major in Spanish. Some Spanish courses may be combined with courses in Anthropology, Economics, Geography, or History in an inter-disciplinary program leading to a minor in Latin American Studies.



For more information, see <http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/arts/departments/fsi/spanish/index.html>.

### **University of Winnipeg (UW)**

The University of Winnipeg, through the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures, offers language, culture, literature, and translation courses. The U of W offers a 3-year BA (Major or combined Major) or a 4-year BA (Combined Major or Minor), or students may take individual courses. Students will gain the cultural awareness and understanding that is needed in today's global community.

For more information, see <https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/spanish-studies/>

### **Université de Saint-Boniface (USB)**

Students can take language as well as cultural courses, and choose Spanish as a minor or a major when pursuing their undergraduate degree. The Faculty of Education also offers a course on the principles of Spanish instruction for future teachers. Spanish courses are also offered at night through the Continuing Education Division. Their program includes courses ranging from beginner to advanced levels, as well as conversation circles.

For more information, see <https://ustboniface.ca/en/spanish>.

### **University of Brandon (UB)**

UB offers courses in Spanish at the beginner and intermediate levels, dependent on interest and the availability of instructors.

For more information, see <https://www.brandonu.ca/languages/programs/>.

### **Red River College (RRC)**

RRC offers conversational courses in Spanish.

For more information, see <http://me.rrc.mb.ca/catalogue/CourseDescriptions.aspx?ProgCode=LANGP-NA&RegionCode=SC>.

### **Community and Private Language Schools**

There are a number of community groups that offer Spanish language courses for children and adults. These include the Spanish Club, the Winnipeg Chilean Association, and the Spanish Institute.



# Where Can I Learn Spanish Online or at a Distance?

Online courses are offered by a variety of institutions and private businesses. In this brochure we feature a few selected sites.

“If you talk to a person in a language they understand, that goes to their head. If you talk to them in their own language, that goes to their heart.”

—Adaptation of a quote by Nelson Mandela

## Cervantes Institute

The Cervantes Institute (<https://www.cervantes.es/>) is a public not-for-profit institution founded by the Government of Spain to promote Spanish language teaching and knowledge of the cultures of Spanish speaking countries throughout the world. It is now the largest international Spanish teaching organization. It is present in 90 cities in over 43 countries, including Calgary, Alberta, Canada.

The Cervantes Institute offers online Spanish courses via the [Aula Virtual de Español \(AVE\)](#).

## Also Online

The Ultimate Guide to Learning Spanish Online! is from the FU International Academy in Tenerife. It provides links and great ideas for learning Spanish via the Internet.

See <https://www.fu-tenerife.com/learn-spanish-online/>.

*¿Quieres hablar español?*



# Spanish Language Proficiency Exams

There are several Spanish language proficiency exams available to students or adults. These are

## **Diplomas de español como lengua extranjera (DELE) (Diplomas of Spanish as a Foreign Language)**

DELE Spanish Diplomas are official titles certifying degree of competence and mastery of the Spanish language, granted by Spain's Ministry of Education and Vocational Training. The Instituto Cervantes organizes examination sessions, while the Universidad de Salamanca in Spain designs the exams and is in charge of corrections and the final evaluation of all exams. The Université de Saint-Boniface in Winnipeg is an official testing centre for these exams.

For more information on the DELE, visit [www.dele.org](http://www.dele.org).

## **Servicio internacional de evaluación de la lengua española (SIELE) (International Service for Spanish Language Assessment)**

SIELE certifies electronically the command of the Spanish language proficiency for students and professionals. SIELE is promoted by the Instituto Cervantes, the Universidad Autónoma de México, the Universidad de Salamanca, and the Universidad de Buenos Aires.

For more information on the SIELE, visit <https://siele.org/>.

## **Certificado de español : lengua y uso (CELU) (Certificate of Spanish: Language and Use)**

CELU is a proficiency test of Spanish as a foreign language developed and recognized in Argentina. It can be taken by any foreigner whose mother tongue is not Spanish and who wants to prove his or her ability to use Spanish as a second language in working and academic contexts. The CELU examination is officially acknowledged by the Argentinian Ministry of Education and by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

For more information on the CELU, visit [elu.edu.ar/](http://elu.edu.ar/).

*¡Celebra las culturas de los pueblos hispanohablantes!*



# Who Are We?

## Manitoba Education and Training

Manitoba Education and Training is responsible for developing and approving curriculum as well as supporting schools and communities in supporting programming in Spanish, Indigenous, and other international languages. For information on Spanish curriculum in Manitoba, see <https://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/cur/languages/spanish/index.html>.

## Manitoba Teachers of Spanish (MATS)

MATS is a SAGE (Special Area Group of Educators) of the Manitoba Teachers Society. Their mission is to support Spanish teachers in the province, with the preparation of an annual province-wide teachers' conference, and professional development opportunities and events to improve, celebrate, and promote the teaching of the Spanish language and cultures of many Spanish-speaking countries. For more information, see <https://www.mbteach.org/mtscms/2016/05/10/manitoba-association-of-teachers-of-spanish/>.

## Winnipeg Spanish Immersion

Winnipeg Spanish Immersion is a parent and community led organization that was formed to promote Spanish language education opportunities for children and youth. The organization was instrumental in promoting Spanish bilingual education and the launch of the bilingual program at Earl Grey School in the Winnipeg School Division. For more information, see <https://www.facebook.com/WinnipegSpanishImmersion/> and <http://winnipegspanishimmersion.blogspot.com/>.

## Embassy of Spain (Education Office)

Spain promotes and supports Spanish language Education in Manitoba and other provinces in Canada through a variety of programs. These range from Spanish Language and Culture Assistants to support for International Spanish Academies. For more information, see <http://www.educacionyfp.gob.es/canada/portada.html>.

Copyright © 2019.

Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

*Disponible en français.*

Available in alternate formats upon request.

