

Guidelines for Senior Honors in Romance Languages & Literatures

Qualified students may be admitted to a program of advanced study during their junior year (or at the beginning of the senior year following foreign study), leading to the degree of Bachelor of Arts with Honors in Romance Languages and Literatures.

Admission to senior-level Honors work in Romance Languages and Literatures is by application only (forms are available on the department website at www.lsa.umich.edu/rll).

A grade point average of at least 3.5 in all courses, as well as in all courses taken for the major, is required for admission and for graduation with Honors in Romance Languages and Literatures. The Curriculum Committee in Romance Languages and Literatures expects applicants to present evidence of superior language skills and a serious interest in comparative research involving both of their languages and the cultures articulated through them.

Romance Languages and Literatures Honors majors are required to complete 42 credits of coursework and successfully defend a thesis:

Course Requirements:

At least 42 credits consisting of the following:

I. A minimum of 30 credits of coursework in 2 languages (from French, Italian, Portuguese, or Spanish) that meet the following qualifications:

- A minimum of 12 credits each in two Romance languages, including at least 6 credits each in upper-level courses ("upper-level" means: 300 or above in French and Italian, 400 or above in Portuguese and Spanish)
- An overall minimum of 15 credits from upper-level courses
- All of these courses must be taught in the target language and must also be courses that would count toward the individual language majors.

II. One course (minimum 3 credits) in the linguistics of the Romance languages, preferably of a comparative nature.

III. ROMLANG 498, the upper-division Seminar in RLL.

IV. ROMLANG 491 and 492, Senior Honors Courses, normally taken in the fall and winter terms, respectively, of a student's senior year.

Thesis Requirement:

Composition of a thesis incorporating the results of individual research and demonstrating a substantial piece of work; and

A presentation and discussion of the thesis and of an agreed upon set of related readings with the student's faculty advisor and one other faculty reader.

Working under the direction of a faculty member who serves as thesis director, the student will research the thesis, complete a bibliography and prospectus, and begin drafting the writing process while enrolled in ROMLANG 491. In the following academic term the student will enroll in ROMLANG 492 and complete the thesis and its presentation and discussion.

Please submit your completed application to:

Romance Languages and Literatures Honors Advisor
c/o Undergraduate Services Assistant
The University of Michigan
Department of Romance Languages and Literatures
4108 MLB
812 E. Washington St.
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1275

Senior Honors in Romance Languages and Literatures Application for Admission

Name

Unique Name

UM ID#

Ann Arbor Address

Ann Arbor Phone

Your application must include the following:

- An up-to-date U-M transcript. An unofficial transcript is acceptable.
- A statement of purpose, written in one of the Romance languages of study. Write a 250 to 300word proposal for the Honors research project you wish to undertake. Include an explanation of why you want to take on the arduous task of researching and writing a senior thesis and pass a juried oral examination on your thesis and a related set of readings. If you have particular research interests, please describe them and indicate the sort of subject that might interest you for a senior thesis.
- A writing sample. Please include a paper written in one of the Romance languages of study by you and corrected and graded by a course professor. It should illustrate your best writing style in a Romance language, its subject may be anything at all.
- A letter of recommendation from a professor with whom you have taken course work from Department. Students returning from a junior year of study abroad have the option of having their program director write this letter.

For Committee and Office Staff Use

ADMITTED/ DECLINED Comments:

Faculty Supervisor Assigned:

Independent Study Number

Class Number

**Request for Recommendation
The University of Michigan:
Senior Honors in Romance Languages and Literatures**

Applicant's Name (type/print clearly)

Applicant: Sign below only if you wish to waive your right to have access to this letter.

I waive my right of access to this letter of recommendation.

Applicant's signature _____ Date _____

Name of Recommender

Signature of the Recommender _____ Date _____

Title

Institution

Recommender: Please indicate below how long you have known the applicant. Then indicate on the back of this page what skills and what qualities of mind the applicant has to equip her/him to undertake a serious, independent research project and to write a senior honors thesis in RLL, pointing out, if possible, your basis for judgment.

Please return directly to:

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c/o Undergraduate Services Assistant
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We appreciate your help in selecting our honors seniors.