Students graduating with a B.A. in Spanish or Portuguese should be able to:

**Language Proficiency:**

- Demonstrate advanced proficiency in the four language skills (writing, reading, speaking and listening) in Spanish/Portuguese (for non-native speakers).
- Demonstrate advanced writing, oral and reading abilities at the academic level in Spanish/Portuguese (for Heritage/native speakers).

**Literary and Cultural Knowledge:**

- Explain the diverse social and historical contexts in which Spanish and Spanish American Literature, or Portuguese and Brazilian Literature, are inscribed, as well as with their respective literary histories.

**Linguistic Knowledge:**

- Attain competence in the history and the structure of the Portuguese and/or Spanish languages.
- Make informed cross-linguistic comparisons with English.
- Differentiate and show an appreciation for Spanish and Portuguese dialectal variation.
- Describe and appreciate the extraordinary linguistic diversity and multi-cultural character of the Iberian Peninsula and of Latin America.

**Critical Thinking:**

- Interpret written works within a suitable theoretical framework.
- Distinguish between literal and figurative meaning (significance) when reading or commenting a literary text.
- Analyze the meaning of a literary text within specific Hispanic or Lusophone social, historical and literary contexts.

**Research and Writing Skills:**

- Conduct research in a variety of fields such as linguistics, literature, film, or cultural movements.
- Identify and locate reliable sources at the library or in suitable electronic databases.
- Compile and present bibliographical data of primary and secondary sources in a consistent format.
- Write expository, critical or argumentative prose in clear, idiomatic Spanish or Portuguese.