



Spanish Language Programs

University of Florida

Noticias

Noticias teaches bilingual students to produce content in Spanish that is published and broadcast multiple days a week, including a weekly show live on Facebook, as part of the Innovation News Center at the University of Florida's College of Journalism and Communications. Students in the Noticias program are able to work on both their Spanish-language and journalism skills and receive credit for doing so through courses that work with beginning and advanced students. All students in Noticias require a minimum level of Spanish proficiency to join as the associated courses are taught primarily in Spanish, though many students find that their language skills develop during the program. Students are required to produce both written and broadcast work in Spanish. More than 30 students a semester enroll in two Noticias courses, with more students continuing their work through independent studies. The program has expanded to two full-time faculty members, Dania Alexandrino and Maria Fernanda Camacho.

Noticias students, regardless of their major, can also solidify and recognize their skills through a Spanish Language News Media Certificate. This 15-credit certificate is a mix of courses in journalism, Latin American Studies, and Spanish that provides students content background and language training alongside the Noticias courses, proving that students are prepared for careers in Spanish language or bilingual media.

For more information: <https://www.wuft.org/noticias>

Contact: Dania Alexandrino and Maria Fernanda Camacho.

Spanish-Language Journalism at Columbia College Chicago

Columbia College Chicago houses an award-winning student newspaper, *The Columbia Chronicle*, which in 2023 launched *La Crónica*, a Spanish-language section that expands the publication's reach and inclusivity. Under the guidance of journalism alum and bilingual faculty advisor Fernando Diaz '04, *La Crónica* offers students the opportunity to write, report, and translate news content entirely in Spanish and reaching audiences throughout Chicago and beyond and also publishes a weekly Spanish-language newsletter, *Cafecito con La Crónica*.

Professor Elio Leturia has championed Spanish-language reporting since 2012 at Columbia. His course, JOUR 265: Reporting in Spanish (Reportaje en español) publishes student work in outlets such as *Telemundo*, *Univision*, *Borderzine*, *Negocios Now*, and *ChicagoTalks*. In 2024,



students in Leturia's course published 21 stories across major Spanish-language outlets. Meanwhile, Diaz led students in a civic engagement project translating *Injustice Watch's* "Check Your Judges" judicial guide into Spanish ahead of Cook County's judicial retention elections. This collaboration offered hands-on experience with mission-driven journalism while supporting voter education for Spanish-speaking communities.

With dynamic faculty leadership, strong media partnerships, and growing student engagement, Columbia College Chicago's Spanish-language journalism program is preparing the next generation of bilingual journalists to serve diverse audiences and shape inclusive media landscapes.

For more information:

Visit: [The Columbia Chronicle – La Crónica Section](#)

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Florida International University, Miami

The Lee Caplin School of Journalism & Media at Florida International University (FIU) provides students a number of opportunities for Spanish language reporting. FIU hosts a Spanish-Language Journalism (SLJ) Master's Program. The program offers two tracks: Spanish-Language & Multimedia Journalism and Spanish-Language Journalism in Latin American & Caribbean Studies. Courses are taught in Spanish but allow for bilingual production, reflecting the linguistic hybridity of the Miami media market. A cornerstone of FIU's bilingual media network is the Spanish-language newscast, *Noticiero en Español*, a student-produced broadcast that trains future journalists to deliver news in Spanish. Students also publish bilingual content on a dedicated Spanish-language section of the university's website, *Caplin News en Español*.

All Spanish-language stories are written, translated, and edited by the students themselves, giving them hands on experience with bilingual journalism from start to finish. FIU has news bureaus in both Miami and Washington, D.C. where students work alongside professionals to report on national issues with a global perspective. FIU also trains students in international reporting, sending student reporters to Panama, Mexico, Colombia, Uruguay El Salvador and the Dominican Republic, producing investigative stories on migration, identity, and cross-border politics. These stories are published through *Caplin News* and often republished by external outlets.

Faculty contacts:



University
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Center for
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KUNR Public Radio

In 2017, KUNR Public Radio started collaborating with the Reynolds School of Journalism's *Noticiero Móvil*, a bilingual student-run newsroom. This initiative started with the goal of filling news gaps for underserved Spanish-speaking populations in the region. *Noticiero Móvil* reporters intern at KUNR. Managing Editor Vicki Adame, a bilingual journalist, has been instrumental in advancing KUNR's bilingual reporting efforts and serves as a mentor to student reporters from the Reynolds School of Journalism. Under her leadership, the station has grown its bilingual team, including reporters like María Palma and Niki Strataras, who directly engage with the community in both English and Spanish.

Al Aire is KUNR's weekly Spanish-language newscast, which offers a five-minute summary of the week's top news stories. Airing both on radio and via WhatsApp, *Al Aire* is accessible to audiences who prefer mobile updates. Additionally, when resources allow, KUNR translates its stories for Spanish-speaking audiences through its bilingual website (kunr.org), ensuring that all community members can access timely news in their preferred language.

Since the launch of *Al Aire*, the initiative has expanded its partnerships with local organizations, including Factchequeado, to combat misinformation. KUNR also collaborates with America Amplified and the Mountain West News Bureau to engage Latine communities and provide bilingual coverage during key events, such as elections and public health matters.

Contact: Vicki Adame vickia@kunr.org

Sources:



<https://thisisreno.com/2024/04/kunr-adds-new-spanish-language-programming/>

<https://www.kunr.org/al-aire>

<https://americaamplified.org/2024/01/31/kunrs-commitment-long-term-engagement-latino-communities/>

University of Arizona, Tucson

The University of Arizona School of Journalism prepares students for reporting in both English and Spanish through a Bilingual Journalism M.A. which also offers a dual M.A. in Bilingual Journalism and Studies of Global Media, providing students with the tools to report internationally and serve multilingual audiences across borders.

The Bilingual Journalism master's program is supported by the School of Journalism, the Department of Mexican American Studies, the Center for Latin American Studies, and the Department of Spanish & Portuguese. Courses are taught in English, Spanish, or a mix of both, reflecting the linguistic hybridity of real world newsrooms. The program emphasizes cultural competence alongside technical skills, with classes covering everything from border politics to social justice movements, identity, and Latin American geopolitics.

Faculty leaders like Kendal Blust, an experienced border and Latin America reporter, who mentors students as they produce bilingual, community centered stories through platforms like *El Inde Arizona*, a student run news site and wire service. Many *El Inde* stories are co-published by the *Arizona Daily Star*, giving students professional bylines and wide exposure. Blust also supports collaborative projects such as *Cat's Eye News en Español*, where bilingual journalism students anchor and produce newscasts entirely in Spanish. In addition to *El Inde*, students work as apprentices at the *Arizona Daily Star*, write and produce for Arizona Public Media (Southern Arizona's NPR and PBS affiliate) and complete internships with Latine focused outlets across the U.S. and Latin America.

Contact: Kendal Blust, University of Arizona, Tucson (they have M.A. in bilingual journalism)
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Sources for case study and websites:

<https://journalism.arizona.edu/bilingual>

<https://journalism.arizona.edu/person/kendal-blust-0>

<https://journalism.arizona.edu/dual-ma-bilingual-journalismstudies-global-media>

<https://journalism.arizona.edu/news/cats-eye-news-students-produce-first-spanish-newscast>