

Spanish 4400 *Spanish with Service Learning*

Spring 2026, 3 credit hours

Wednesdays 12:30-1:45

Service learning at WMU puts academics into practice by addressing needs within the community. Students have the opportunity to work on challenges identified by community organizations, and they learn through experiences and reflection.

WMU identifies several goals for students in service learning courses:

- Enhance critical thinking skills
- Increase awareness about the importance of civic engagement
- Promote feelings of empowerment
- Build cultural awareness
- Foster relationship skills
- Develop a professional network

Spanish 4400 provides students a valuable opportunity to utilize and improve their Spanish communication skills through a service-learning experience in the Kalamazoo community. Students work with public schools, healthcare clinics, community services, immigration offices, and other organizations to assist in their projects and outreach.

This class is hybrid and includes Wednesday class meetings (in person, on campus) and some individual, scheduled meetings with the instructor. Other course hours are completed on-site with students' service projects and internship coordinators. Wednesday class meetings will focus on discussion of students' experiences, readings about the U.S. Hispanic community, and cultural and service-oriented projects.

SPAN 4400 Requirements:

- A declared Spanish major or minor
- A minimum of 9 hours of Spanish in courses at the 3000-4000 level or above by spring 2026
- Application (Google forms) to the service-learning program before November 14, 2026
- An interview during the fall 2025 semester to discuss placement options

If you are interested in participating in service learning in spring 2026, please fill out the application in Google forms: <https://tinyurl.com/SPAN4400spring26>. Or, use the QR code. Once you submit an application, Dr. Jeffers will schedule an interview to discuss placement options.

Questions? Please email Dr. Lindsay Jeffers (lindsay.jeffers@wmich.edu).

The application closes November 14, 2025, and placements are offered in order of receipt of student applications (waiting until November may result in fewer placement options). Please apply early for prompt registration and to allow sufficient time for optimal placements.

