

Honestly speaking Spanish Language and Hispanic Culture was not my first choice when it came to a major. I was originally in the Computer Science program of California State University Monterey Bay, for about a year and a half. I changed majors as I noticed I was no longer able to keep up with the workload for those courses, and I felt it was better to change when I had the chance rather than force myself to continue an uneven path. Thankfully by transferring my credit from the AP Spanish test I took; I was able to be placed with the right group of people as if I had started taking Spanish courses since my freshman year. For the most part, falling back onto Spanish as a major, especially since I am Mexican and Spanish is a major part of who I am, has made me feel more comfortable being around people who have experienced similar backgrounds. It has helped me mature as a person, being able to learn more about my own culture lets me understand that I am worth more than what I have been taught.

Concerning the MLOs mentioned for the major I am in; they seem to be simple when reading about them but become complicated when compared to accomplishing the requirements needed to cover each MLO. I have understood that for the most part I need to have in-depth knowledge about the language I am learning. This might involve simple things like being able to read, speak, and write in Spanish to see how modern-day culture revolving around Hispanic cultures has changed throughout the years. I simply cannot rely on my Hispanic background; I need to go further if I want to accomplish my dreams, especially when it comes to having to learn about another culture to fulfill certain requirements. This major provides a different perspective when it comes to certain topics, seeing the vast difference in cultures ranging from cuisine to lifestyles. As such, it allows someone like me to expand their knowledge of the world.

I plan to become a Spanish to English interpreter in a courthouse or in the medical field. If someone is happy to receive help, then I am satisfied with my choice. Spanish to English translation for old Hispanic writings or current day stories that have not been translated to English is also a career which I wish to explore. These two career choices came after several weeks of reflecting on what I am best at, looking at previous assignments I have done for my Spanish courses, and I wholeheartedly believe that becoming an interpreter and translator is the next option for me.