

Constitution of the Association of Spanish and Portuguese Graduate Students

Article I - Name

The name of this organization shall be the Association of Spanish and Portuguese Graduate Students (hereafter referred to as ASPGS).

Article II - Purpose

The purpose of ASPGS is to provide and encourage the highest levels of critical thinking and research in Spanish and Portuguese cultural and linguistic studies, and to offer support and solidarity to its members.

Article III - Membership

Membership is open only to graduate students in the Spanish and Portuguese Department.

Article IV – Officers

Section 1. Number and Method of Election.

ASPGS shall elect from its membership a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Faculty Representative, GSSA Representative and a Cultural Encounters Coordinator. Election shall be at last ASPGS meeting of each academic year. Votes shall be cast by a show of hands, and ratification by simple majority or as group deems necessary.

Section 2. Duties of Officers.

The Executive Committee shall share between them the following duties: (i) disseminate information about ASPGS and its meetings, (ii) oversee expenditure of funds from the ASPGS treasury, (iii) represent or ensure representation of ASPGS at GSSA meetings, (iv) be available to members for comments, suggestions, constitution amendments, calls for extraordinary meetings, assistance with speaker requests and any other business, (v) maintain ASPGS documents and accounts and (vi) coordinate yearly graduate student conference: Cultural Encounters.

Section 3. Terms of Office.

Officers shall serve for an academic year, and may be re-elected.

Section 4. Removal of Officers.

Officers may be removed by a two-thirds vote of the membership. An officer must be informed of any such vote pending and reasons for the movement, and shall have the opportunity to address the membership.

Article V - Meetings

Section 1. Regular Meetings.

ASPGS shall meet at least once a month. Extraordinary meetings can be called by either President or Cultural Encounters Coordinator, at their own request, or the request of a member.

Section 2. Quorum.

The quorum at all meetings shall be those ASPGS members attending.

Article VI - Amendments

Any member may propose an amendment to this constitution at any meeting. After initial discussion, a vote shall be taken as to the need for further debate, after which the amendment is either voted on, or deferred until the next meeting. Ratification requires a two-thirds vote.