Scoring Rubric for Admission into Master's and PhD Spanish graduate programs

1. **Strength of research interests as stated in the statement of purpose**
   10 Excellent   8 Very good   6 Good   2 Poor   1 Unqualified

2. **Potential of candidate's experiences, perspectives, and/or future research to contribute to the diversity of the field**
   10 Excellent   8 Very good   6 Good   2 Poor   1 Unqualified

3. **Quality of the writing sample, such as the articulation of a clear argument**
   10 Excellent   8 Very good   6 Good   2 Poor   1 Unqualified

4. **Demonstrated academic achievement as shown on the transcript in humanities classes or strong potential for academic achievement such as improvement in grades over time**
   10 Excellent   8 Very good   6 Good   2 Poor   1 Unqualified

5. **Indication of immersion in Spanish language, such as evidence of being a heritage speaker or native speaker, study abroad experiences and/or significant formal training**
   10 Excellent   8 Very good   6 Good   2 Poor   1 Unqualified

6. **Alignment of proposed research with SIP faculty research interests and graduate program**
   5 Excellent   4 Very good   3 Good   2 Poor   1 Unqualified

7. **Potential for proposed research to intersect with interdisciplinary initiatives at UVa**
   5 Excellent   4 Very good   3 Good   2 Poor   1 Unqualified

8. **Quality of the recommendation letters, keeping in mind the capacity of the letter writers to evaluate the student's potential, their indication of students' preparedness, and the common and subtle gender/race/class disparities that can occur in recommendation letters when describing student potential (see below)**
   5 Excellent   4 Very good   3 Good   2 Poor   1 Unqualified

   Common disparities in recommendation letters for women and minorities:
   - *Shorter length of the letter (16% shorter on average for women)*
   - *Minimal assurances and hedges rather than ringing endorsements*
   - *Adjectives describing effort (e.g. hard-working, diligent, dependable) rather than ability or achievement (e.g. excellent, brilliant, knowledgeable)*
   - *Positive descriptions of soft skills when describing women (e.g. caring, helpful, warm) or judgment for perceived lack of soft skills (e.g. challenging, difficult)*

   Please pull 1-2 key statements from the recommendation letters that summarize your evaluation:

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