



INSTITUTO UNIVERSITARIO DE INVESTIGACIÓN  
EN ESTUDIOS NORTEAMERICANOS  
"BENJAMIN FRANKLIN"

<b>Course</b>	Spanish for Healthcare Professionals
<b>Program</b>	Study Abroad
<b>Credits ECTS</b>	3 USA
<b>Class hours</b>	45
<b>Office Hours</b>	By appointment
<b>Requirements</b>	Intermediate Spanish level
<b>Language of instruction</b>	Spanish
<b>Type of teaching</b>	In person (with online sections in Blackboard if necessary)

## INTRODUCTION

Students will finish the course highly qualified to communicate and understand communications in Spanish in the healthcare setting. This class is essential for healthcare professionals who want to work in bilingual English-Spanish environments as it helps the student, not only to develop their language skills, but also to identify and understand the cultural differences that may arise when dealing with Spanish-speaking patients.

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is designed for students with a high level of Spanish (B2-C1) who need Spanish to function in the health care field, that is to say, who are pursuing university studies in biology, pre-medicine, nursing, pharmacy or psychology. The students' learning will take place in the classroom and in a public hospital when possible. In the classroom, a series of activities and tasks with a communicative approach will be developed and real-life situations and the world of health will be proposed. Special attention will be paid to the acquisition of terminology in context, to oral expression in specific situations and to written expression, without forgetting cultural elements. In the hospital, students will apply what they have learned in class, learn first-hand about the Spanish health system and observe the most common health practices in the consulting rooms, operating rooms, laboratories, etc. The internship in the hospital has an additional cost of 150 € and before starting the internship the student must prove his/her good health condition by means of a medical certificate.

## COMPETENCES

The course will aim to develop the following competencies:

### **General Competencies (GC):**

GC1: Improve communicative skills in Spanish.

GC2: Be aware of the influence of culture in different social interactions.

GC3: Acquire knowledge about Hispanic culture and recognize the difference with respect to that of Anglo-Saxon countries.

### **Specific competences (SE):**

SE1: Understand and learn medical-health terminology in Spanish.

SE2: To be able to participate in communicative situations typical of the Spanish healthcare field.

SE3: Know how to identify the cultural differences that exist between the Hispanic community and the North American community with respect to the health/disease process and know how they can affect the interaction between doctor and patient.

## METHODOLOGY

This course is developed under a "service-learning" methodology that combines communicative learning of the language in the classroom with 15 hours of practice in a public hospital when possible and always accompanied by a doctor-tutor. This didactic model is intended to enable students to communicate in real situations - not only orally, but also in writing - with other Spanish speakers; for this reason, texts, recordings and real materials are often used in class, and activities are carried out in an attempt to imitate

reality outside the classroom (simulation activities). The purpose of the internships in the hospital is to work on the theoretical content, as well as the students' attitudes and skills, so that they can develop and put into practice the aforementioned competencies. In the course, the four linguistic skills are worked on: listening, speaking, reading and writing. The teaching is student-centered and the teacher guides the class, but the student acquires greater responsibility in the classroom.

## PREPARATION FOR CLASS

Working on the readings before coming to class prepares you to ask questions and give opinions on the subject matter in class.

- Read assigned topics before class.
- Reflect on questions that may lead to interesting discussions.
- Take notes during explanations and class discussions.

The professor will instruct the student on how to prepare for class and the activities that should be done for the greatest benefit of the subject.

## EVALUATION

The course will be evaluated trying to combine different evaluation systems, so that all students can develop their abilities. The student's continuous work will be the guiding criterion of the evaluation system. Consequently, the global evaluation will be based on the participation of the students in the theoretical and practical sessions; the completion of exercises, assignments and written tests; the preparation of presentations and oral expositions and the participation in the course activities. The percentage of the grade assigned to each of the course sections is distributed as follows:

- Participation.

It must be active, that is to say, the students must not only ask their doubts, but must also make comments and actively participate in the exercises proposed in class both in groups and individually. In addition, the students must read the texts assigned by the teacher and do the exercises related to the text. The students are expected to demonstrate maturity and responsibility in the classroom so that gestures, passive attitude such as sleeping in class, and having inappropriate behaviors in the classroom may have a negative impact on the grade of this section.

The total percentage of this section is 5%.

- Complementary activity outside the classroom.

ONE academic activity will be carried out outside the classroom as a complement to the theoretical exposition of the teacher, which will be the visit to a hospital where the students will later carry out the internship (this activity will be carried out whenever the hospital allows it). If so, this activity will be mandatory. During the visit, each student will be provided with a gown and an identification card. It is essential that the student uses these items throughout the internship period and gives them to the teacher at the end of the internship. Failure to provide the gown or card to the teacher will result in a grade of 0% for the course.

The total percentage of this section is 5%.

- Exams.

A single exam will be held in the middle of the course (the date is provided in the section of the class schedule) and will be of an eliminatory nature. The exam will have a duration of one and a half hours and will deal with the topics studied so far. The exam will incorporate both theoretical questions and practical exercises similar to those seen in class previously. The teacher will notify the students of the exercises to be included in the exam as they are seen in class and a test exam will be given in the class prior to the exam. The total percentage of this section is 30%.

If the professor detects copying or plagiarism in the exam, the student will receive a grade of zero and will not have the option of any type of recovery.

The professor reserves the right to give "surprise exams" when he/she deems it appropriate. These exams will always be at the beginning of the class and will be very brief (five minutes more or less). They will be valued as an additional homework grade.

- Written work.

The objective of the paper is to research on a topic within the field of healthcare and make a comparison between the situation in Spain and in the United States. The final paper must be typed double-spaced in Times New Roman 12, will have an extension between 3 or 4 pages and must contain a bibliography. When evaluating the written work, the following will be taken into account:

- Spelling and grammar. The work must be correctly written in Spanish respecting spelling and grammar rules. 25% of the work.
  - Content The work must be well structured with an introductory paragraph of the research carried out, a body in which the results of the research are explained and a conclusion. Since it is a comparative study, data should be provided in relation to the subject matter in each of the countries. 50% of the work.
  - Terminology. Terminology specific to the field of health should be used. 25% of the work.
- The total percentage of this section is 15%.

Note: If the work is not handed in on the indicated date, the student will receive one point less for each day of delay.

- Oral presentation.

The written work must be presented in public in the classroom on the days set in the program. The duration of the oral presentation will be between 10-15 minutes and will be taken very much into account:

- Content and development. The student must make a well-structured presentation making an introduction to the main topic whose information and ideas must be developed in a coherent and related way to end with a logical conclusion according to the research that has been carried out.
- Specific language. The student must expose his work using specific terms of the Spanish of health and will take special care with the concordance, verb tenses and use of complex constructions.

- Body language. The student must show control over the content of the topic and the attention of the class. To this end, eye contact, intonation and body language are important. The student must show an effective attitude to maintain the attention of the class. To develop this section, it would be interesting for the class to participate in the presentation through comprehension exercises or questions related to the topic.

- Audiovisual Media. It is very important that the student uses audiovisual media to make his oral presentation. The student is advised to use Power Point, flashcards, videos, images, newspaper clippings, etc. It is also very important that the student does not read directly the information to be presented. Supporting notes can be used, but never a direct reading of the presentation. The total percentage of this section is 15%.

- Plagiarism.

Research papers should state students' own ideas. The work of other writers or experts used to support students' ideas must be properly cited. Inappropriate use of someone else's text or work is considered plagiarism. Plagiarism is a violation of academic standards and may result in failure of the paper or even the subject for which the paper was written. In extreme cases it may result in expulsion from the program. Guidelines for writing the paper properly should be provided by the teacher.

- Hospital internships.

Hospital internships will be evaluated by the doctor-tutor assigned to each student. This will answer a questionnaire in which several aspects of the student will be assessed such as:

- punctuality and attendance at the hospital.
- positive interaction with health personnel and patients.
- communication skills (ability to understand and participate in conversations about medical issues)
- the effort made by the learner to understand, e.g. by asking for clarification or repeating more precisely what has just been said
- tolerance and understanding of the different situations that arise in the medical community as a result of cultural differences.

Students should make sure that the doctor signs each of the hours they have covered in the hospital on the paper provided by the teacher. It is the student's responsibility, not the physician's, to arrange the hours with the physician or to reassign hours if they are unable to meet the hours that were originally agreed upon. If there is a problem of this type, the student should contact the teacher immediately.

The total percentage of this section is 15%.

- Internship report.

The student must write a final written report on his/her internship at the hospital. This report should include aspects such as the day's activities, English-Spanish glossary of terms learned during the internship, experiences, cultural problems encountered, curiosities, etc. In addition to this report, the student must submit to the professor the Excel sheet with his 15 hours signed by the doctor-tutor and reflect on his internship in class.

The total percentage of this section is 15%.

## EVALUATION

The evaluation of this course is as follows:

PARTICIPATION	5 %
ACTIVITIES	5 %
EXAM	30 %
WRITTEN PAPER	15 %
ORAL PRESENTATION	15 %
HOSPITAL INTERSHIPS	15 %
INTERNSHIP REPORT	15 %

## ATTENDANCE

Class attendance is MANDATORY. If the student is absent for more than the allowed limit (one class absence in the summer program and two absences in the fall and spring programs), the final grade will reflect a decrease of 10 points for each non-attendance that has not been excused by a doctor's certificate or by your Program Director. It is the individual responsibility of the student to make up any missed content about the subject taught in class the day the student was absent.

## STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Students with special needs should contact Antonio Fernández: [antonio.fernandezm@uah.es](mailto:antonio.fernandezm@uah.es) Instituto Franklin-UAH can accommodate these students who show through a medical note or a note from their academic advisor that require help in order to fulfill the program.

## USE OF TECHNOLOGY IN CLASS

Technology in the classroom is essential today. However, if used inappropriately, it can be detrimental to student learning. For example, checking email, chatting with other users, surfing the web for purposes other than class content, etc... The misuse of these tools can also distract other classmates, so it is only

allowed to take notes on the computer and rely on the Internet for the proper resolution of the exercises proposed in class (look up the meaning of an unknown word, etc.). For any other use, permission must be requested from the teacher.

## USE OF BLACKBOARD

Initially, the entire course will be developed through a face-to-face teaching model and it will not be necessary to use the virtual classroom. In the event that health conditions require the interruption of face-to-face teaching, the course content will be followed through the Blackboard virtual classroom.

## CLASS SHCEDULE

	CLASS SCHEDULE	ASSIGMENTS
	Presentation of the course. Reading of the program.	Individual presentation of the students (oral level test) Purchase the dossier in reprographics
	The human body I: the outside of the human body	Exercises on the outside of the human body
	The Human Body II: Organs, Systems and Apparatuses	Exercises on the inside of the human body: organs, systems and apparatuses.
	The Spanish health system. Public and private hospitals: -Waiting lists. -Privatization of public hospitals in the Community of Madrid.	Reflect on the differences between the Spanish health care system and that of the United States. Reading comprehension exercises of different current affairs texts in relation to the differences between the two systems and debate about them.
	The health card and access to public health care: primary care	Exercises on health card data identification and how to make an appointment in primary care
	Primary care: -Symptoms and remedies -Common diseases	Exercises on identification of common symptoms and diseases Translation of doctor-patient interaction texts
	Pharmacy in Spain: -Prescriptions -Distribution and consumption of medicines -Prospectus	Exercises on identification of prescriptions and information contained therein, identification and consumption of medicines.
	Specialized care:	Exercises on understanding specialized

	-Hospital emergencies -Waiting lists and specialized care -Medical specialties	care in Spain. Exercises to identify the different medical specialties and the parts of the body or diseases they deal with.
	Visit to the hospital	Pick-up of the gown and card that students will use during their internships
	Cultural differences in patient-physician interaction	Reading and comprehension exercises on cultural differences in relation to the concept of health-illness. Reading and comprehension exercises on the culture of Latino patients in relation to health.
Internships at the hospital		
	Submission of written work	The student must submit the final paper
	Oral presentation	

**Note:**

Hospital internships may be suspended due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The hospital reserves the right to change the date based on its scheduling needs or possible administrative eventualities.

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## **WE SPEAK ONLY IN SPANISH**

In the class we will only speak in Spanish. The use of English in the class would prevent the total immersion of the student in the Spanish learning process. In addition, it is important to emphasize that in order to understand and enjoy the class we ask you to make an additional effort to adapt the terminology with the sole purpose of familiarizing yourself with the characteristic languages of the subject. For a better understanding of the class we recommend a high level of Spanish.