



Instituto Universitario
de Investigación en
Estudios Norteamericanos
“Benjamin Franklin”

INTERMEDIATE SPANISH

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The aim of this course is for the student to achieve a full linguistic competence in Spanish through the development of the four basic skills: oral and written expression and oral and written comprehension. The learning process is divided in two: on the one hand, through explanations and practical activities within the classroom, that gives the students the necessary elements to understand the contents of the course. On the other hand, by assigning tasks to keep their assimilation strategies and their language reproduction active. However, the course emphasizes the importance of the development of their oral interaction with practical activities and games within the classroom.

OBJECTIVES

The course is focused on the students and based on competences. The course's objective will be the development of the following competences:

Competence 1	To develop a textual and critical capacity by analyzing grammatical and intercultural content.
Competence 2	To actively participate in the activities and exercises.
Competence 3	To show a tolerant and respectful behavior towards other's opinions.
Competence 4	To socialize efficiently with all the participants of the activities.
Competence 5	To elaborate works related to the contents seen in class.

Specific competences:

- 1) **Grammatical competence:** It will be developed through the grammatical contents seen in class.

- 2) **Pragmatic and intercultural competence:** Through different activities, students will be sensitive with aspects related to the Spanish culture and will establish an intercultural comparative framework with their source culture. The aim is to stimulate the students' linguistic training by giving them the right tools and a cultural foundation so that they can communicate effectively in Spanish. Behaviors and specific linguistic uses from the Spanish culture will be analyzed.
- 3) **Communicate competence:** It will be developed through oral activities linked to the understanding of written texts beyond clause boundaries, taking into account the relationship between language, society and its real application in real contexts of the Spanish culture.

METHODOLOGY

This course will be taught using the communicative approach of language teaching. The professor will try to build and establish the knowledge of Spanish through theoretical and practical sessions based on interaction. The professor will mostly rely on the class manual and will provide additional materials. Moreover, s/he will use PowerPoint presentations, worksheets, games, songs, audios, videos or Internet apps.

- **Work in groups:** To make the students learn from their peers. The students will work in small groups with the purpose of comparing the contents and results of the activities suggested by the professor.
- **Autonomous work:** To enhance the self-learning ability of the students. The students will carry out individual assignments every day and they will obtain an overall grade by the end of the course.
- **Activities:** To complete student's training in a real life context. Students must participate in in-class activities. These activities will be supplemented by other not mandatory cultural activities outside the classroom, such as visits to museums, cities and Historical and Artistic Heritage of Spain (Museo del Prado and Museo Reina Sofía, Toledo, Segovia and El Escorial).

The aim of this methodology is to give the students the opportunity to practice both the theoretical content, and improve the attitude and skills of the students, so that they can develop the aforementioned competences.

PREPARATION

Students must prepare and complete the tasks for each class as indicated in the schedule so that the class runs smoothly.

Homework is very important because it will allow the students to anticipate the class. This task is fundamental as it will enhance their ability to follow the pace of the class, by facilitating the comprehension of what has been learned

EVALUATION

The evaluation procedures that will be used will attempt to combine different elements in order to make sure that all the students can develop their skills. Ongoing student work will be the main criterion of the evaluation. Consequently, the overall assessment will be based on students' participation in the theoretical and practical sessions; exercises, projects and written tests; the preparation of oral presentations and participation in the activities of the course. The percentage of the grade that will be assigned to each of the evaluation criteria will be distributed as follows:

1. Class participation Participation must be active.	10%
2. Assignments (Homework) Students must submit the projects assigned by the professor.	20%
3. Final presentation Students must deliver an oral presentation about aspects related to the Spanish culture.	30%
4. Midterm exam There will be a midterm exam in the middle of the course to assess the learning progress of the students.	20%
5. Final exam There will be a final exam to assess the development of the competences mentioned above.	20%

- **Class participation (10%):** Participation must be active, that is to say, the student should not only ask questions but also make comments and participate actively in the discussions expressing his/her own ideas. In addition, the student must deliver in class the exercises provided by the professor. The professor will assess the student's work on a daily basis.
- **Assignments (Homework) (20%):** The student must do the exercises at home and they will be assessed by the professor on a daily basis.
- **Final presentation (30%):** The student must deliver an oral presentation about a topic related to the Spanish culture. In the first week of the course, the professor will provide all the information.
- **Midterm exam (20%):** The exam will cover the topics studied in class by that time so that the professor can assess the acquisition of all the competences. The exam will include

exercises, such as an oral comprehension (audio), a reading comprehension (small text) and written expression (write a text).

- **Final exam (20%):** The exam will cover all the topics studied in class so that the professor can assess the acquisition of all the competences. The exam will include the same parts of the midterm exam.

For any attempt of copying or of plagiarism in the exam, the student will fail the course (grade 0) and he/she will not have the right to any kind of remedial exams.

ATTENDANCE

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.

CLASS PROGRAM	
TOPIC	ASSIGNMENTS
Presentation of the course. Explanation of the syllabus.	Buy the class manual
Unit 1: El español y tú (I). Regular and Irregular Present Tense.	Assignments
Unit 1: El español y tú (II). Reflexive verbs <i>costar</i> y <i>sentirse</i>	Assignments
Unit 1: El español y tú (III). <i>Para / porque.</i> <i>Desde / desde hace / hace... que</i>	Assignments
Unit 2: Una vida de película (I). Form and uses of Past Tense.	Assignments
Unit 2: Una vida de película (II). <i>Empezar a +</i> infinitive. <i>Ir / irse</i>	Assignments
Unit 2: Una vida de película (III). Time Markers in Past Tense. Prepositions: <i>desde, durante y</i> <i>hasta</i>	Assignments

Unit 3: Yo soy así (I). Irregular Present Tenses.	Assignments
Unit 3: Yo soy así (II). Demonstrative .	Assignments
Unit 3: Yo soy así (III). <i>El / la / los / las + de + noun. El / la / los / las + que + verb</i>	Assignments
Unit 4: Hogar, dulce hogar (I). Comparative. Prepositions: <i>sin, con, debajo, encima, detrás, delante</i> , etc.	Assignments
MIDTERM EXAM	
Unit 4: Hogar, dulce hogar (II). Possessive.	Assignments
Unit 4: Hogar, dulce hogar (III). Uses of <i>ser</i> and <i>estar</i> . Verbs <i>gustar, encantar</i> and <i>preferir</i>	Assignments
Unit 5: ¿Cómo va todo? (I). The gerund (regular and irregular forms)	Assignments
Unit 5: ¿Cómo va todo? (II). <i>Estar</i> + gerund	Assignments
Unit 5: ¿Cómo va todo? (III). Comparative. Prepositions: <i>sin, con, debajo, encima, detrás, delante</i> , etc.	Assignments
Unit 6: Guía del ocio (I). Past Tense.	Assignments
Unit 6: Guía del ocio (II). <i>Ya / todavía no. Ir a + infinitive</i>	Assignments
Unit 6: Guía del ocio (III). <i>Querer / pensar + infinitive</i>	Assignments
Unit 7: No como carne (I). DO Personal Pronouns.	Assignments
Unit 7: No como carne (II). Impersonal forms with <i>se</i>	Assignments
Unit 7: No como carne (III). Some uses of <i>ser</i> and <i>estar</i> . <i>Y, pero, además</i>	Assignments

Unit 8: Nos gustó mucho (I). Uses of Past Tense and Past Simple	Assignments
Unit 8: Nos gustó mucho (II). <i>Me / te / le / nos / os / les gustaría</i> + infinitive.	Assignments
Unit 8: Nos gustó mucho (III). Exclamative Clauses. Review.	Assignments
Review for the exam and doubts	Assignments
FINAL EXAM	

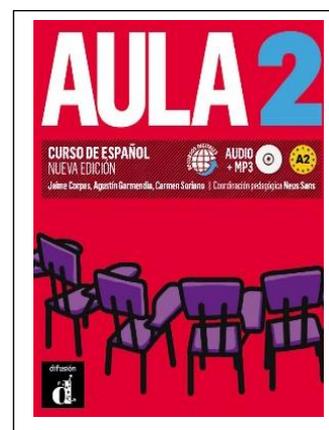
NOTE: This syllabus is subject to change. The final syllabus will be given to students on the first day of class.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

*Textbook:

AULA 2, CURSO DE ESPAÑOL (NUEVA EDICIÓN).

Editorial Difusión



ADDITIONAL BIBLIOGRAPHY

Diccionario: *Diccionario de español para extranjeros.* Universidad de Alcalá. Editorial Vox.

WEBGRAPHY

- Gramática de la lengua española

<http://marcoele.com/gramatica/gramatica-a/>

<http://marcoele.com/gramatica/gramatica-b/>

- Diccionario de la lengua española

<http://www.rae.es/recursos/diccionarios/drae>

- Ejercicios de gramática:

<http://www.indiana.edu/~call/ejercicios.html>

- Ejercicios de español para extranjeros: gramática, vocabulario, comprensión lectora/ auditiva

<http://www.ver-taal.com/>

ONLY SPEAK SPANISH

In class we are going to speak only in Spanish. The use of English in the classroom would prevent the total immersion of the student in the process of learning Spanish. Moreover, it is important to emphasize that in order to understand and enjoy the class we will ask for an additional effort of terminological adaptation with the sole aim of helping you get used to the specific jargon of the professional field.