



CIEE Seville, Spain

Course name:	Intensive Pre-Advanced Spanish I
Course number:	SPAN 3503 IBCP
Programs offering course:	Seville International Business and Culture
Language of instruction:	Spanish
U.S. Semester Credits:	3 semester hours/ 4.5 quarter hours
Contact Hours:	45
Term:	Spring 2020

Course Description

The primary objective of the course is to provide students with sufficient grammatical and communicative Spanish language knowledge so that he or she is able to communicate in academic and cultural contexts at the advanced Spanish level. In order to achieve this, students will review previously learned material, as well as reinforce and expand upon grammar, vocabulary, communicative, pragmatic and sociocultural content learned in previous Spanish language courses. The treatment of grammar will be based upon the different situations that the students will face in their regular Spanish language classes during the remainder of the semester. Students will be expected to summarize, narrate, explain, argue, formulate hypotheses, etc. and apply these skills in their daily interactions.

Without forgetting that the course is designed to equip students with a broad grammar base, it is also a priority to expose the student to contexts where communication needs to be clear, coherent and flowing depending upon the situation and / or process of communication in which they find themselves. To do this, classes will be accompanied by various cultural and sociolinguistic out-of-class activities with the goal of putting into practice the skills learned in the classroom. Finally, the exposure to and readings and writings of a wide-range of texts (description, narration, argumentation, etc.) will be used as basic tools for the application and study of grammar content covered in each class.

Learning Objectives

The fundamental objective of this course centers on the students' ability to understand the main ideas of complex texts, whether concrete or abstract, provided they are within the students' field of expertise. Students will work towards achieving fluid and natural communication with native Spanish speakers, thus avoiding forced communication. In addition, this course will enable students to produce texts on different topics, which on one hand should be clear and specific in its content as well as provide sufficient content to enable the student to defend his or her arguments.

Considering functional criteria of the course, the primary objectives are:

- Explain and defend opinions in a debate, giving arguments and providing adequate comments.
- Explain one's point of view on a topic of interest, providing advantages and disadvantages
- Construct a chain of well-reasoned arguments



- Develop arguments offering reasons and rational
- Speculate causes, consequences and hypothetical situations
- Take an active position in a debate within the context
- Converse naturally, fluently and with efficacy. Understanding what one is hearing within a normal situation, including when physical noise is present.
- Beginning a speech, taking turns, knowing how to end a conversation.
- Using well-known phrases and using them in formulating an answer or argument.
- Interacting with native speakers naturally, without the communicative process being forced
- Capacity to detect own errors that could lead to misunderstandings.
- Correcting errors when one is conscious of them
- Observe one's error and make note of them
- Plan what one is going to say and how they are going to say it

Course Prerequisites

Students need to have a GPA of at least 2.9. Students' language level, as evidenced by their result on the Online Language Placement Test, will determine their participation in this or other Intensive Session Language course.

Methods of Instruction

The course methodology will be carried out via the practice of the language, always keeping in mind the need to use correct grammatical forms as well as grammatical precision. The language practicums will utilize real material, trying to always keep in mind the language immersion reality that students are encountering. The student will need to read, listen, write and speak (within their level limits) in Spanish, particularly material that a native speaker might speak about, write about, hear or read.

Different teaching methods will be utilized depending on the grammar, purpose or sociocultural objective of the class material. Class assignment will be pyramidal in nature, with practicums being more controlled in the beginning by the professor and later on more open. Grammar topics will be most utilized via the practicums. Skill sets will be practiced via writing, readings, listening and oral expression, as well as contemplating mediation and interaction in the Spanish language. Sociocultural content will be practiced via homework activities.

Assessment and Final Grade

CIEE classes are not graded on a curve nor is there extra credit work. The final grade will be based upon the following criteria:

1. Participation, presentations, readings	15%
2. 3 Essays	20%
3. Exam 1	25%
4. Exam 2	30%
5. Oral Exam	10%



Participation

Attendance, interest, active participation with the theme and activities covered in class, completion of assignments, preparation of assigned material for each class day. Grammatical exercises. Workbook. Exercises carried out individually by the student

Presentations and Readings

Completion of homework, activities and reading assignments, as well as their preparation.

Essays

Grammatical correctness, suitability to the type of text, lexical variety, spelling competence (coherence and cohesion), textual organization. Production of 3 short compositions with a length of 350 words.

Exams

The first and second exam will have the same structure, consisting of two parts: one section focusing on grammar, with questions similar to those of the workbook, and the other section requiring a written essay. The oral exam will be based on the grammar and vocabulary practiced in class.

Attendance and Class Participation

Attendance Policy

Students are not allowed to miss class for unjustified reasons. For each unexcused absence, the participation portion of the grade will be lowered. Hence, it will be very difficult to receive a 100 in the class. Please keep this in mind. If a student misses class once without a valid excuse (a note from a physician in the event of an illness), then the professor will automatically lower the final grade by 10 points (on a 100-point scale) for each class missed thereafter. Students with 3 or more absences will fail the course.

Students should arrive to class on-time. Arriving more than 15 minutes late for a class will count as an unexcused absence. Please note that an excused absence is one that is accompanied by a doctor's note: signed stamped and dated. Travelling and/or travel delays are not considered valid reasons for missing class.

* Notes from a physician will only be valid and admitted by the Program Manager if the doctor confirms that the visit could not have been arranged at another time, or that the student was too ill to attend class that day.

Academic Honesty

Students are expected to act in accordance with their university and CIEE's standards of conduct concerning plagiarism and academic dishonesty. Use of online translators for work in Spanish will result in an automatic failure.

Weekly Schedule

Week 1

Day 1

Grammar: Present (regular and irregular verbs + special uses). Present continuous. Imperfect. Preterite. Imperfect vs. preterite.



Cultural content, current topics and readings: Spanish culture, differences, stereotypes and impressions

Day 2 **Grammar:** Ser y estar, comparisons, direct and indirect pronouns, reflexive and reciprocal, possessive, demonstratives and relatives, verbs like gustar
Cultural content, current topics and readings: news articles, Blanco-White: El Alcázar, debate: architecture and urban planning

Day 3 **Grammar:** Commands (formal and informal), present subjunctive in complete clauses
Activity: Obvio-Curioso (see Activity 1)
Turn in Essay 1 on the Alcázar

Day 4 **Grammar:** present subjunctive in relative clauses
Cultural content, current topics and readings: El Guernica by Picasso, news articles, introduction to flamenco

Day 5 Review
Exam 1

Week 2

Day 6 **Grammar:** Present subjunctive in adverbial clauses. Future. Conditionals
Cultural content, current topics and readings: news articles
Turn in Essay 2 on flamenco
Oral presentations

Day 7 **Grammar:** Present perfect of the indicative and subjunctive.
Cultural content, current topics and readings: Panini: Discussion with García Lorca.
Debate: maintaining bullfighting: arguments for and against (see Activity 2).
Newspaper articles
Oral presentations

Day 8 **Grammar:** Past perfect indicative and subjunctive.
Turn in Essay 3 on a cultural aspect related to Seville based on individual research by the students
Oral presentations

Day 9 Grammar: Special use of certain verbs.
Group presentation of a sociological report (see Activity 3).

Day 10 Exam 2

Out of Class Activities



Activity #1

Obvio-Curioso

Students will take pictures of items in the city that they consider to be familiar, unfamiliar and incomprehensible to them. Then they will prepare a brief report on those items, which they will present in class. Students should keep in mind the following grammar content: present tense (regular and irregular), imperfect vs preterite, ser and estar, comparisons, object pronouns, reflexive and reciprocal verbs, gustar-verbs.

Activity 2

About Bullfighting

Students will need to gather the necessary information about bullfighting and the perception that locals have on this polemic tradition. Gathered information will be presented in class in the form of a debate. Students should keep in mind the following grammar content: present subjunctive in complete, relative and adverbial clauses, future and conditional

Activity # 3

Sociological Survey

In groups, students will create a questionnaire to survey locals and obtain information on the perceptions that Andalusians have of themselves and of the U.S. (in terms of culture, politics and/or economy). With this information, students will have to write a narrative report that contains personal reflections on a sociological level. The report will be presented in class to contrast the findings and make a comparative analysis on the perception that Americans have of themselves.

Grammar to be used: all the grammar covered in class.

Course Materials

Readings

Conrad J., Smith: Spanish Grammar. MacGraw-Hill.

Dictionaries

In addition to a bilingual dictionary a monolingual dictionary (Spanish-Spanish) is also highly recommended.

The following links may be helpful:

- www.rae.es (dictionary of the Royal Spanish Academy)
- <http://www.wordreference.com/>
- <http://iate.europa.eu> (European dictionary, includes all EU languages. Very accurate in defining different terms and uses thereof)
- www.cvc.cervantes.es (page with different practices on-line, text, ... on the Spanish forums)
- www.zonaele.es (page of great help with grammar, conjugations, irregular. All issues are collected in alphabetical order)



- www.elpais.com
- www.elmundo.es
- www.abc.es
- www.diariodesevilla.es
- www.lavanguardia.es
- Puntoycoma Magazine. Magazine available on loan from professor.