CIEE Havana, Cuba

Course name: Spanish Language - Beginning I
Course number: SPAN 1001 HACS
Instructional language: Spanish
U.S. semester credits: 3
Contact hours: 45
Term: Spring 2020

Course Description
The course "Spanish Language - Beginning I" is intended as an introductory language engagement course for students with no prior instruction in Spanish. The course aims to provide a basic linguistic vocabulary to achieve elementary communication and includes representative cultural elements of Cuba.

At the end of this course the students will be able to use some simple grammatical structures and, in general, be able to pronounce in a clear and comprehensible way. Students will be able to communicate when carrying out daily tasks, understand phrases and expressions of common use, and describe aspects of their own past as well as issues related to their immediate needs.

Learning Objectives
By completing this course, students will be able to:
• Recognize the lexical and functional categories of Spanish, as well as their positions in sentence structures.
• Learn the phonetic system of Spanish and the peculiarities of the Cuban variant.
• Acquire understanding of the various tenses of the Spanish language in simple terms.
• Begin building a working Spanish vocabulary.
• Communicate with the vocabulary and the appropriate linguistic structures in different speech contexts.
• Learn to confidently listen, read, write, and interpret short dialogues and texts.
• Recognize the most representative sociocultural aspects of ours and their culture through language acquisition.
• Develop cognitive, communicative, and sociocultural competence.

Communicative objectives
• Say hello and say goodbye to friends, classmates, family members and strangers.
• Introduce different people of formal and informal
• Express the proper name and ask for the name of others
• Express the numbers in Spanish
• Ask and express nationalities
• Ask and express professions
• Express days of the week, months and seasons
- Express the date
- Recognize and name the colors
- Describe and compare people
- Express and ask the age
- Orient yourself in the street and in the house
- Describe and compare places, houses and different objects

**Course Prerequisites**
This course has no prerequisites

**Methods of Instruction**
Classes will be framed in both practical and theoretical sessions divided into four pedagogical units. Students will perform activities that include the four macro skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing. Using the four macro skills, class exercises will aim to develop communicative independence. Students will carry out, with their teachers, field trips to different historical and cultural sites and diversify their vocabulary using documentaries and film showings that will be integrated into group and individual class activities.

**Assessment and Final Grade**

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**Course Requirements**

**Daily Homework**
Students will be given written homework daily to practice the grammatical contents and the vocabulary lessons. The tasks are to be submitted at the end of each week.

**Weekly field trip presentations**
Each week students will conduct a short ten-minute presentation about weekly field trips to places of cultural interest. Analysis about site visits offers students the ability to practice their language skills through the process of cultural immersion.

**Quizzes**
Students must attend classes and actively participate. Performance in classes will be evaluated alongside quizzes that will take place throughout the semester. These will be conducted independently or in groups and may be both oral or written. Quizzes will base themselves on class content as well as fieldtrips.

**Mid-term evaluation**
The mid-term evaluation will be performed as a written exam in class and private oral discussion in accordance with the teacher’s assessment of the student’s needs and language acquisition levels. The midterm will assess oral and writing Spanish language acquisition.

**Final evaluation**
At the end of the course students will complete a written final exam in class in which the contents studied throughout the semester will be included. The written test will cover a variety of question models: comprehension, grammar, and writing. In addition, there will be individual private oral examinations in which students must demonstrate mastery of the language skills and topics learned in the course.

**Participation**
Participation, active engagement, and regular attendance to class are required throughout the program. Students must notify their instructor, beforehand, if possible, if they will miss class for any reason. Students are responsible for any materials covered in class in their absence. Students who miss class for medical reasons must inform the instructor and the Havana Center Director and provide appropriate documentation as noted below. A make-up opportunity will be provided to the extent as is feasible.

Due to the intensive nature of the schedule, all unexcused absences will result in a lower final grade for the course. Each unexcused absence will cause 3 percentage points to be dropped from the final grade. For example, a student with an 88% final grade (B+) and 1 unexcused absence will see it reduced to 85% (B).

CIEE program minimum class attendance standards are as outlined below:

- Excessively tardy (over 15 minutes late) students will be marked absent.
- Students who miss class for personal travel will be marked as absent and unexcused. No make-up opportunity will be provided.
- An absence will only be considered excused if:
  - A doctor’s note is provided.
  - A CIEE staff member verifies that the student was too ill to attend class.
  - Evidence is provided of a family emergency.
- Attendance policies also apply to any required co-curricular class excursion or fieldtrip.
- Persistent absenteeism (students approaching 20% or more of total course hours missed, or violations of the attendance policies in more than one class) will result in a written warning from the CIEE Center Director, notification to the student’s home school, and/or dismissal from the program in addition to a reduction in class grade(s).

Late submission of a paper (summary critique or final essay) will cause an immediate deduction of 5% in the grade, and an additional 1% per day afterwards.

Plagiarism will not be tolerated and may result in immediate failure of the course.
Weekly Schedule
Note: Schedule is subject to change.

Week 1

Students will perform activities that include the four macro skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing

Class 1.1. Students will perform classification exams. These will be oral and written and will be related to the level of each student. Class groups will be formed based on evaluation results.

Class 1.2. Students will review their classification exams with the professor. The teacher will provide the reference material: EnseñArte: Spanish for Foreigners. Level A1

Class 1.3. Students and teacher will give and ask for personal information. They will express their expectations about the course and preceding Spanish studies.

The distribution of the units and the routes are expressed below.

Unit 1: Oh! Havana, Oh! Havana ...

Week 2

Class 2.1: The course will cover informal greetings and farewells among friends, classmates, relatives and strangers and personal pronouns of subjects (yo, tú/usted, él/ella, nosotros, ustedes, ellos/ellas).

Class 2.2: The students will practice typical vocabulary used for greetings.

Class 2.3: The class will review the Spanish alphabet, pronunciation, and spelling
The gender of the names. Also the verb SER and complementary forms (te, lo-la, los-las). The students will practice the alphabet and say his name.

Due: Daily homework


Week 3

Students will perform activities that include the four macro skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing
Class 3.1: The course will cover the numbers in Spanish. The numbering in Spanish through the numerals. The gender of numbers. Students will conduct repetition exercises with the numbers and complete the exercises in the reference material.

Class 3.2: Field trip to the historical cultural complex Morro - Cabaña

Class 3.3: The course will cover the days of the week, months, seasons of the year Interrogative pronouns CÓMO, CUÁL, QUIÉN. Students will practice concepts through dialogue exercises.

**Quiz #1**
**Due:** Weekly field trip presentations
**Due:** Daily homework


**Week 4**

Students will perform activities that include the four macro skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing

Class 4.1: The course will present how to ask yes/no questions, students will practice creating questions and answers. The course will introduce the reflexive pronouns me, te, se, nos, se and the verb LLAMARSE.

Class 4.2: Field trip to the historical UNESCO heritage site of Old Havana

Class 4.3: The professor will present the conjunctions Y (E), O (U), NI, and the diphthong and hiatus in Spanish. Students will practice through the syllable division and spelling.

**Due:** Weekly field trip presentations
**Due:** Daily homework


**Unit 2: "I'm Cuban"**

**Week 5**

Students will perform activities that include the four macro skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing

Class 5.1: The students practice through dialogue and exercises the expression of the nationalities and different male and female professions.
Class 5.2: Field trip to the Cemetery of Colón.

Class 5.3: Through some dialogues and exercises students will practice typical vocabulary that are used to express joy, sadness and coincidence.

**Quiz #2**
Due: Weekly field trip presentations
Due: Daily homework


**Week 6**

Class 6.1: Reference of usual activities. Students will describe common and usually activities and ask a partner about daily activities. Student will learn expression of possession and the adverbs TAMBIÉN and TAMPOCO. Students will do exercises to use the adverbs and possessive expression.

Class 6.2: Field trip to the Birth house of José Martí

Class 6.3: Students will practice using possessive pronouns before the noun: mi-s, tu-s, su-s, nuestro/a / as, su-s.

**Due: Weekly field trip presentations**
**Due: Daily homework**


**Week 7**

Class 7.1: Instruction of the verb DEDICARSE and the interrogatives (of) DÓNDE, CUÁL. Students will practice the position adverbs.

Class 7.2: Field trip to Revolution Square and Martí Memorial

Class 7.3: The professor will present the present tense of indicative mode. Students will learn to recognize the Spanish conjugation at the 1st, 2nd and 3rd group of regular verbs.

**Quiz #3**
**Due: Weekly field trip presentations**
**Due: Daily homework**

Week 8

Midterm evaluations will be carried out according to the teacher's assessment of the group's needs. They will be done orally and written.

8.1. Oral Presentation of all students.
8.2. Written test for all students.
8.3. Revision of written test.

Unit 3: The Alfonso family

Week 9

Class 9.1: In this class students will learn how to describe and compare people’s physical and personality traits with permanent and transitory adjectives.

Class 9.2: Field trip to the Museum of the Revolution

Class 9.3: Students will practice writing and discussing the descriptions of people with the permanent and transitory adjectives.

Due: Weekly field trip presentations
Due: Daily homework


Week 10

Class 9.1: In this class students will learn how to describe family members from their family tree and the expressions of age.

9.2: Field trip to the Ernest Hemingway’s Finca Vigía.

9.3: Students will learn to express actions in the past.

Due: Weekly field trip presentations
Due: Daily homework


Week 11

Class 11.1: The professor will present the adjective. Its different degrees (positive, comparative and superlative). The students use the verb TENER, SER y ESTAR to describe.
Class 11.2: Field trip to the Fine Arts Museum.

Class 11.3: Students will learn how to express the past tense of indicative regular verbs.

**Quiz #4**
*Due: Weekly field trip presentations*
*Due: Daily homework*

**Unit 4: "Afternoon at home"**

**Week 12**

Class 12.1: Students will learn how to articulate the description and comparison of places and houses as well as different objects that can be found inside the house.

Class 12.2: Field trip to the Alley of Hamel.

Class 12.3: Students will learn how to describe and define colors and how to define locations in space.

*Due: Weekly field trip presentations*
*Due: Daily homework*


**Week 13**

Class 13.1: The professor will present the impersonal verb HABER and the demonstrative pronouns. Students will practice through question and answer exercises.

Class 13.2: Field trip to El Ajiaco (includes cooking class).

Class 13.3: Students will learn how to use the positive and negative formal and informal Imperative mode.

**Quiz #5**
*Due: Weekly field trip presentations*
*Due: Daily homework*


**Week 14**

Class 14.1: The professor will present adverbs of place: AQUÍ, AHÍ, ALLÍ, ALLÁ.
Class 14.2: the professor will present the prepositions HASTA (action term), DESDE (time and place), ENTRE, A (place and time), EN (place) and in the verbs VENIR (de) + noun, IR (a) + noun and IR a + infinitive to express the future. Students will practice through dialogue.

Class 14.3: Students will learn how to express the indicative future tense and consolidate course content.

Due: Daily homework

Week 15

Final written and oral exams.

15.1. Oral Presentation of all students.
15.2. Written test for all students.
15.3. Revision of written test and public the final note.

Course Materials
de la Fuente Guinart, Ilain. MsC. and Diaz Chales, Ivonnes Inés, MsC. (et. al.).
EnseñArte: Spanish for Foreigners. Level A 1