### Course description

This course consists of a two-week intensive language course in which students analyze different aspects of the most common language structures at an intermediate level in order to achieve a solid foundation. It is intended to be a good starting point before regular classes begin. Students develop cultural skills for real, everyday life situations in Spain. Several activities take place in the local community, where students discover some of the most important sites in the city while they learn and practice the grammar structures and vocabulary previously learnt in class.

### Learning Objectives

- Understand the main points of clear standard input on familiar matters regularly encountered, either in work, study or entertainment.
- Deal with most situations likely to arise while traveling in an area where the language is spoken.
- Produce simple coherent texts on topics which are familiar or of personal interest for the students.
- Describe experiences and events, wishes and ambitions and briefly give reasons and explanations for opinions and plans.

### Course Prerequisites

None.

### Methods of Instruction

The communicative approach will encourage students to be able to operate in real situations you will be immersed every day, becoming social. The integration of the four skills (listening, reading, writing and speaking) will allow the student to use outside the classroom the knowledge acquired.
Assessment and Final Grade

1. Midterm exam  20%
2. Final exam      30%
3. Writing assignments  40%
4. Class participation  10%

Course Requirements

Midterm exam
The exam will last a maximum of two hours and consist of five parts: listening / audiovisual, grammar, reading comprehension, writing and speaking. Each of the parts will contribute 20% of the final exam.

Final exam
The exam will last a maximum of two hours and consist of five parts: listening / audiovisual, grammar, reading comprehension, writing and speaking. Each of the parts will contribute 20% of the final exam.

Writing assignments
These essays will be based on the four fieldtrips that will take place during the Intensive cycle. Each of the assignments will consist of a 200-word essay. These fieldtrips are mandatory since they are necessary in order to complete the essays and are part of the contact hours of the class. More information will be provided when necessary.

Class Participation
Active participation and attendance are essential and will be a fundamental part of the final grade.

CIEE ACADEMIC POLICIES

Papers and assignments submission
According to CIEE Alicante academic norms all assignments, paper, readings, etc. must be turned in on the due date. Late submissions of coursework/assignments during the course of the term of study are not accepted.

If an exception is granted by the Academic Director, the new deadline for the assignment will be set for the next earliest possible date for the student for reasonably submit the assignment.

Course Attendance
Regular class attendance is required throughout the program. Students must notify (via e-mail with a copy to the Resident Director or Program Coordinator) their instructor beforehand if they will miss class for any reason. Students are responsible for any materials covered in class during their absence. Students who miss class for medical reasons must inform the professor and the RD or PC and provide appropriate documentation.
For CIEE courses, excessively tardy (over 15 minutes late) students will be marked absent (student will be reminded of the policy). Attendance policies also apply to any required co-curricular class excursion or events, etc. Students who miss class for personal travel will be marked as absent and unexcused.

An absence in a CIEE course will be only considered excused if:
1. A doctor’s note is provided. The UA medical center does not generally provide class absence notes. In the case a doctor’s absence note is extremely necessary, students will need to go to the Vithas International Hospital to be examined.
2. A CIEE staff member verifies that the student was too ill to attend class
3. Evidence is provided of a family emergency

Persistent absenteeism (students exceeding 10% of the total course hours missed, or violations of the attendance policy in more than one class) will lead to a written warning from the RD, notification to the home school, and/or dismissal from the program in addition to reductions in class grade(s).
1. Since each CIEE Alicante course is 45 hours, 10% of the total course hours are 4.5 hours.
2. Students who miss more than 4.5 hours of class without justification will see their final grade reduced by -5%. For instance, students achieving a grade of 89.00 out of 100 points and missing more than 4.5 hours of class will see their grade reduced from 89.00 (B+) to 84.00 (B).

Students with unexcused absences exceeding 20% of the total course hours will fail the course. Written warnings and home school notifications will happen well before the absenteeism causes the student to fail the course so that the student has an opportunity for corrective actions.

Likewise, if any CIEE group organized activity/informational session (e.g. Intercultural development sessions) is scheduled during class hours, attendance to this activity or session is also mandatory for all students enrolled in courses that meet during that block of time. Not attending these CIEE group organized activities/sessions during regular class hours will result in an absence.

**Plagiarism**

Cheating and plagiarism in any course assignment may result in failing the course or being expelled from the program. Students are expected to adhere to the US American and norms.

Important principles:
1. Final examinations, quizzes and other tests must be done without assistance from other person, without looking at or otherwise consulting the work of another person, and without access to notes, books, or other pertinent information (unless the professor has explicitly announced that a particular test is to be taken on an “open book” basis).
2. The same written paper may not be submitted in more than one course.
3. Any use of the work of another person must be documented in any written papers, oral presentations, or other assignments carried out in connection with the course

**Add/Drop**
The add/drop period last for 1 week after the start of the courses. After the end of the add/drop period, the student’s registration is considered final, and no course(s) may be changed or deleted from the student’s CIEE Academic Record.

Withdrawal from a course
Students are required to register in 5 courses during their studies at CIEE Alicante. Each CIEE course is worth 3 credits (45 contact hours) and each Universidad de Alicante course is worth 4 credits (60 hours - unless the course has more than 60 hours of instruction). If exceptional circumstances warrant, the student may request permission from the Center Director to withdraw from a course. However, a student participating in a semester program is not allowed to drop below 12 US semester credits.

Weekly Schedule

**Week 1**

1.1 Readings: Corpas, J., Garmendia, A., Soriano, C.
Unit 1: *Volver a empezar*
Talk about habits in present tense
Tell past events

1.2 Readings: Corpas, J., Garmendia, A., Soriano, C.
Talk about the beginning and end of a given action
Identify an action at a certain time
**Assignment 1: Discovering downtown**

1.3 Readings: Corpas, J., Garmendia, A., Soriano, C.
Unit 2: *Antes y ahora*
Talk about habits, customs, and circumstances in past tense

1.4 Readings: Corpas, J., Garmendia, A., Soriano, C.
Identify situations in past and present tense
Argue and debate
**Assignment 2: Santa Bárbara Castle fieldtrip**

1.5 Midterm

**Week 2**

2.1 Readings: Corpas, J., Garmendia, A., Soriano, C.
Unit 3: *Prohibido prohibir*
Express obligations

2.2 Readings: Corpas, J., Garmendia, A., Soriano, C.
Express impersonality
Talk about routines
Assignment 3: Old District fieldtrip

2.3 Readings: Corpas, J., Garmendia, A., Soriano, C.
Unit 4: Busque y compare
Recommend and give advice

2.4 Readings: Corpas, J., Garmendia, A., Soriano, C.
Give directions
Describe an advertisement
Assignment 4: Central Market fieldtrip

2.5 Final Exam

Course materials

Readings

Online resources
“Campus Difusión.” Difusión, 26 Feb. 2018, campus.difusion.com