



CIEE Barcelona, Spain

Course name:	Advanced Spanish Grammar, Composition and Conversation
Course number:	SPAN 3002 BASP
Programs offering course:	Barcelona Liberal Arts
Language of instruction:	Spanish
U.S. Semester Credits:	3
Contact Hours:	45
Term:	Spring 2020

Course Description

This is an advanced Spanish language course corresponding to levels **B1-B2** of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) and **Advanced Low** of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL). Its aim is to help independent users of the language become proficient users.

Advanced Spanish for the Academic Discourse is a course for students who need to improve their language skills to be able to take classes in Spanish in a local institution, to read literature, take tests, write papers and do oral presentations in Spanish. It is an instrumental language course that focuses specifically on the academic use of Spanish.

Learning Objectives

The goal of the course is the development of writing and speaking abilities in Spanish in an advanced level. In particular, by the end of the course the student is expected to reach the following goals:

- **Listening:** be able to understand extended speech and lectures and follow even complex lines of argument provided the topic is reasonably familiar, most TV news and current affairs programs, and films in standard dialect.
- **Reading:** be able to read articles and reports concerned with contemporary problems in which the writers adopt particular attitudes or viewpoints.
- **Spoken interaction:** be able to interact with a degree of fluency and spontaneity that makes regular interaction with native speakers quite possible and take an active part in discussion in familiar contexts, accounting for and sustaining his or her views.
- **Spoken production:** be able to present clear, detailed descriptions on a wide range of subjects related to his/her field of interest, and explain a viewpoint on a topical issue giving the advantages and disadvantages of various options.
- **Writing:** be able to write clear, detailed text on a wide range of subjects related to his/her interests, an essay or report, passing on information or giving reasons in support of or against a particular point of view, and letters highlighting the personal significance of events and experiences. At the end of the course, students will have the necessary tools to construct a brief academic text (exam, comment, class activity) with these characteristics: planned, correct, adequate and effective.



Course Prerequisites

4 semesters of college-level Spanish (or equivalent).

Methods of Instruction

This course is taught following the method of communicative language teaching, and is focused on text understanding and production, either oral or written. The course consists of three thematic units: description, narration, and exposition. Each unit comprehends four sessions, approximately. The classes combine:

- Understanding and analyzing oral or written examples of language.
- Introduction, explanation and grammar content practice.
- Production of oral and written texts.

Language exchange

Students taking this course must attend a language exchange activity, where a group of CIEE students and local students meet for two hours of informal conversation.

Assessment and Final Grade

The assessment is based in the following aspects: class participation, two written compositions, oral presentation and two exams:

1. Midterm exam:	25%
2. Final exam:	25%
3. Oral tasks:	20%
4. Written compositions:	20%
5. Class participation:	10%

Course Requirements

Midterm and final Exams

The midterm and final exams are cumulative; that is to say that they consist of all the materials studied up to that point. Each exam will likely contain all of the following components: a) Reading comprehension, b) Writing, c) Grammar and d) Vocabulary.

Oral tasks

On designated dates during the semester the student will have to present two oral tasks:

- Personal presentation: This is an individual, out-of-class assessment. Students will prepare a personal presentation according to certain topics. The presentation should last about 5



minutes, and will be recorded and sent to the professor. The assessment will consider linguistic competence (lexical competence, grammatical competence, phonological competence), sociolinguistic competence and also pragmatic competences (coherence and cohesion, thematic development, turn-taking, fluency).

- Oral presentation/ interaction: This is a group assessment. On designated dates during the course the students will have to present a topic related to a specific theme that will be assigned to him/her by the instructor. The topic will be cinema, so each presentation needs to be structured as a movie review. Each presentation should last up to 10 minutes. Students will be asked to supplement their presentations with Power Point. Each presentation will be followed by a short question and answer session.

Written compositions

Compositions will be written on topics related to course materials. Students will write three compositions. The composition will be a narrative text, descriptive text and argumentative text. The final written compositions grade will be the average of the three marks.

Each written task will be graded on the following four parameters: (i) content, (ii) adequacy, (iii) punctuation, (iv) grammar, (v) vocabulary and (vi) style. There will be a first draft which professor will return to the student indicating, where possible, linguistic errors, which must be revised and turned in again to be reviewed. The final grade will be the average between the first draft and the final version. Both versions are mandatory in order to obtain a final grade.

Late assignments will be marked down 5% after the first day and 1% every day afterwards. No coursework will be accepted after the last day of class.

Correcting code

All compositions, exams, exercises will be corrected with the following correcting code:

a = *acento* (accent mark)

c = *concordancia* (agreement)

o = *ortografía* (spelling)

t = *tiempo verbal* (verb tense)

f = *forma* (incorrect form: adjective instead of noun, etc.)

s = *sujeto* (verb conjugated for the incorrect subject)

v = *vocabulario* (vocabulary)

x = *falta algo* (something is missing)

s/e = *ser y estar*

pas = *pretérito/imperfecto*

pp = *preposiciones*

m = *modo, indicativo-subjuntivo* (mood, indicative-subjunctive)

Plagiarism

Any copy or reproduction of a text that is not yours is considered plagiarism. You can't use any



kind of translation device or website such as **spanishdict.com** to write your compositions, only dictionaries such as **wordreference.com**. **It is not allowed to have your compositions proof read by a native speaker.** In case your professor detects you have used translation websites or native speakers to write or proof read your composition, **you will get a 0.**

Class Participation

Participation in class will be evaluated as follows:

- A** - Active and effective volunteering and oral participation in class, individual, with groups and with partners. **NO ENGLISH.**
- B** - Some volunteering in class, effective and active work with partners. **NO ENGLISH.**
- C** - Few responses in class but effective and active works with partners.
- D** - Concentrating on material presented, ineffective work with partners.
- E** - Almost no speaking or involvement in class activities

CIEE Barcelona Attendance Policy

Students are expected to attend all scheduled class sessions on time and be prepared for the day's class activities. CIEE does not distinguish between justified or unjustified absences, whether due to sickness, personal emergency, inevitable transportation delay and/or other impediments. You are considered responsible of managing your own absences. Please keep in mind that exams, paper submission dates, presentations and any other course work deadlines cannot be changed.

No academic penalty will be applied if students miss up to 3 class sessions. If students miss up to 5 class sessions, students' final course grade will drop 5 points out of 100 on the CIEE grade scale for each additional absence beyond 3 (for example a 95 will become a 90 if they reach the 4th absence, and an 85 if they reach the 5th absence). **Students will automatically fail the course if they miss more than 20% of total class hours (i.e. if they exceed 5 absences).**

For students who miss up to 20% of the total course hours due to extenuating circumstances, the Academic Director may allow for exceptions to the local attendance policy based on documentation such as proof of bereavement, religious observances, hospitalization etc.

Students arriving more than 10 minutes late to the class will be considered absent for a day.

Weekly Schedule:

Week 1	Orientation Week
1.1	Introduction to class (syllabus and course content)
1.2	Field trip: Market
Week 2	Unit 1. The Spanish culture
2.1	Requests. Useful vocabulary: restaurant, city, etc.

	Course materials: Corpas et al. 2013. Unit 7 VVAA. 2005. Units 18, 19.
2.2	The form “vosotros” and treatment methods in Spanish Devices to excuse, Imperative tense and pronouns Course materials: Corpas et al. 2013. Unit 2
Week 3	Unit 2. The description of present events (I)
3.1	Verbal periphrases: dejar de, empezar a... Course materials: Corpas et al. 2013. Unit 1
3.2	Verbal periphrases: dejar de, empezar a... Course materials: Corpas et al. 2013. Unit 1
Week 4	Unit 2. The description of present events (II)
4.1	Placing events in a time line Course materials. VVAA. 2007. Unit 4
4.2	Duration structures (desde, desde hace, hace...que). Course materials. VVAA. 2007. Unit 4
Week 5	Unit 2. The description of past events (III)
5.1	Talking about past experiences Pretérito Perfecto de indicativo. Morphology and uses. Course Materials: Corpas et al. 2014. Unit 3
5.2	Combination of past tenses: perfecto/indefinido. Due term: Written task 1 (Narrative text) Course Materials: VVAA. 2008. Unit 1 VVAA. 2005. Unit 26
Week 6	Unit 2. The description of past events (IV)
6.1	Combination of past tenses: perfecto/indefinido/pluscuamperfecto Course Materials: Corpas et al. 2014. Unit 3
6.2	Combination of past tenses: imperfecto/indefinido The modern short story Due term: Oral task 1 (Presentation) Course Materials: Corpas et al. 2014. Unit 3 VVAA. 2008. Unit 3
Week 7	Mid-term exams
7.1	Written mid-term exam
7.2	Debate-Oral mid-term exam

Week 8	Unit 3. The future (I)
8.1	Talking about a future event or situation. Use and form of futuro imperfecto simple Course materials: VVAA. 2005. Unit 28
8.2	To express conditions Course materials: VVAA. 2005. Unit 28
Week 9	Unit 3. The future (II)
9.1	Conditional structures: si + presente de indicativo, futuro Course materials: Corpas et al. 2013. Unit 8
9.2	Conditional structures: si + presente de indicativo, futuro Due term: Written task 2 (Narrative text) Course materials: Corpas et al. 2013. Unit 8
Week 10	Unit 4. The description (I)
10.1	Ser/estar/haber. Directional verbs. Course materials: VVAA. 2008. Unit 2 Corpas et al. 2014. Unit 5
10.2	Prepositions of position and movement. Adjectives and nouns which come from of adjectives Course materials: VVAA. 2008. Unit 2 Corpas et al. 2014. Unit 5
Week 11	Unit 5. The cinema and the opinion (I)
11.1	Giving an opinion and talking about the cinema. Course materials: VVAA. 2008. Unit 6
11.2	Structures to describe films Course materials: VVAA. 2008. Unit 6 VVAA. 2005. Unit 32
Week 12	Unit 5. The cinema and the opinion (II)
12.1	Giving an opinion about facts and situations Course materials: VVAA. 2005. Unit 33
12.2	Indicative and subjunctive in hypothesis and opinions. Discourse connectors. Due term: Written task 3 (Narrative text) Course materials: VVAA. 2005. Unit 33
Week 13	Unit 6. Giving advise



- 13.1 Linguistic structures to advise: indicative, subjunctive
Course materials: VVAA. 2005. Unit 33
Instructions for oral final presentation
- 13.2 Linguistic structures to advise: subjunctive, infinitive and conditional
Course materials: VVAA. 2005. Unit 33
- Week 14 Oral presentations.**
- 14.1 Oral final presentation
- 14.2 Exam review
- Week 15 Final Exam**
- 15.1 Written final exam

Readings

The professor will provide students with the materials needed for the course. These materials are taken from the following Spanish textbooks:

- CORPAS, Jaime, et al. Aula 4. Curso de español. Barcelona: Editorial Difusión, 2013
- CORPAS, Jaime, et al. Aula 4. Curso de español. Barcelona: Editorial Difusión, 2014
- VVAA. Abanico. Curso Avanzado de Español Lengua Extranjera. Barcelona: Editorial Difusión, 2007
- VVAA. Destino Erasmus 2. Curso de español. Barcelona: SGEL y Publicaciones Universidad de Barcelona, 2008
- VVAA. Gente 2. Curso de español. Barcelona: Editorial. Difusión, 2004
- VVAA. Gramática básica del estudiante de español. Barcelona: Editorial Difusión, 2005