



Spanish for Beginners

Professor:

Office: edificio 25, planta baja

Email:

Office Hours:

Course Information:

September 2017

Intensive Course

Course Description

Beginner (A1): This course is designed for students with NO PRIOR KNOWLEDGE of Spanish.

Emphasis is on widening practical vocabulary words as well as on the acquisition of basic communication skills for an effective communication in Spanish in different situations. To this effect, the professor will provide suitable material for this level according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages.

Work in groups and in pairs will be the basic tools for this course instruction. Consequently, active participation will be encouraged in order to stimulate interaction and fluency in oral expression.

Course Goals and Methodology

The main goal of the course is that students acquire both basic and practical tools that will help them adapting to Spain more easily, following the recommendations for the A1 level proposed by the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages.

A communicative approach will be used, including in-class activities and homework that will allow observation of the phenomena of language and recognition of grammar rules and communication functions. Reflection on the sociocultural and intercultural aspects will be a crucial part of the course content.

General Course Policies

Absences: our university academic policies consider attendance mandatory and checked daily. If you have an unexcused absence, you will automatically fail the class (no certificate will be issued).

Students are expected to be punctual. Lateness is not accepted. Late arrivals will result in ½ absence. Late arrival over 30 minutes late equals one full absence.

The exams will take place on the announced date, unless the student has a doctor's note to justify the student's absence. In this case, the exam will be administered within a week of the student's recovery and return to class.

Course Requirements and Grading

Final grade will be based on the following criteria:

There will be an exam at the end of the week (35%). Likewise, as this is an intensive course, daily work (20%) and active participation (20%) in class are crucial.

Active participation will be considered when students:

- demonstrate a positive attitude in the process of learning, with no distractions that may affect concentration; for instance, because of an inappropriate usage of cellular phones.
- are punctual. Lateness will result in the lowering of your grade in participation.

• Exam	35%
• Daily work	20%
• Participation	20%
• Composition	25%

Composition: Students must write a composition over the course (25% of the final grade). Students must work individually. This composition will be graded as follows: content and organization (50%); grammar and vocabulary (50%). Deadline: Thursday. Topic/s to be announced in class. Examples:

- Written conversation: Interview with a Spanish person including basic information (name, profession, nationality, personal data, etc.)
- Your daily routine
- Describe your family (physically, personality and habits)

Assignments and deadlines

Most assignments are checked and corrected in each class while other assignments will be delivered to the teacher for correction. Overdue assignments WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED, so please make sure you meet the deadlines. If a student is not in class, the assignment will be delivered by email (before the end of the class).

In case of absence, students will be responsible for contacting a classmate and getting the information given in class for that day (this includes the homework and the teacher's explanations). The student must deliver this assignment in the very next class the student attends.

Academic Dishonesty

Academic integrity is a guiding principle for all academic activity at Pablo de Olavide University. Cheating on exams and plagiarism (which includes copying from the internet) are clear violations of academic honesty. A student is guilty of plagiarism when he or she presents another person's intellectual property as his or her own. The penalty for plagiarism and cheating is a failing grade for the assignment/exam and a failing grade for the course. Avoid plagiarism by citing sources properly (using footnotes or endnotes and a bibliography).

Students with Disabilities

If you have a disability that requires special academic accommodation, please speak to your professor within the first three (3) weeks of the semester in order to discuss any adjustments. It is the student's responsibility to provide the International Center with documentation confirming the disability and the accommodations required (if you have provided this to your study abroad organization, they have most likely informed the International Center already but please confirm).

Behavior Policy

Students are expected to show integrity and act in a professional and respectful manner at all times. A student's attitude in class may influence his/her participation grade. The professor has a right to ask a student to leave the classroom if the student is unruly or appears intoxicated. If a student is asked to leave the classroom, that day will count as an absence regardless of how long the student has been in class.

Class Schedule

This outline is tentative and may be subject to change if circumstances require it. In case the professor includes new topics because of these unforeseen circumstances, those topics will be equally gradable.

First day of class: Course presentation and greetings. Syllabus overview. Ask and give personal information. Basic information about Sevilla.

UNIT 1

Communicative Contents:

- Spelling, providing information (name, surname, email)
- Greetings and farewells
- Basic questions (presentation, profession, origin, studies ...)
- Using numbers in different contexts: money, phone, time, date, address

Grammar Contents:

- Interrogative pronouns (what, who, where, when ...)
- Present simple (regular verbs)

Vocabulary and socio-cultural contents:

- Alphabet
- Cardinal and ordinal numbers
- Countries and nationalities
- Typical names in Spain
- Spanish sounds (g/j, c/que, z/c)

UNIT 2

Communicative Contents:

- Introducing a person (formal and informal)
- Talking about a routine
- Meeting Friends

Grammar Contents:

- Present simple (regular and irregular)
- Reflexive Verbs (in present and with circumlocution)
- *Querer* + infinitive

Vocabulary and socio-cultural content:

- The time
- Commercial hours in Spain
- *Tú* versus *usted*
- Vocabulary for leisure activities
- Declining an invitation
- Body language

UNIT 3

Communicative Contents:

- Talk about your family
- Describe people (physically and their personality)

Grammar Contents:

- *Ser* and *estar*
- Gender and number

Vocabulary and socio-cultural content:

- Family vocabulary
- Parts of the body
- Personality adjectives