



UNIVERSIDAD COMPLUTENSE DE MADRID
UNIVERSIDADES NORTEAMERICANAS REUNIDAS

SUBJECT
SUBJECT TITLE: Spanish for Beginners
QUARTER AND ACADEMIC YEAR:
SCHEDULE: From September 9th to December 20th 3 hours per week, divided into two 1.5-hour classes
PREREQUISITES: This course is designed for students interested in an introduction to Spanish studies.
COMPETENCES- OBJECTIVES (BRIEF DESCRIPTION): This Spanish course focuses on the four basic language skills (reading, writing, listening, and speaking) at the most basic level, with a particular emphasis on critical thinking skills. In this course, students learn introductory Spanish phrases and basic vocabulary as well as practice beginning writing skills and upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to discuss everyday topics such as family, academic courses, pastimes, food, likes and dislikes, weather, daily life situations and similar beginner topics. Courses are conducted in Spanish at a level appropriate for the course. Grading is based on exams, homework, participation, attendance, and final exam.

TEACHER
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TUTORING HOURS: Tuesday and Wednesday, by appointment

COURSE SCHEDULE, TOPICS, LECTURES AND TASKS ASSIGNED
<p>This course of Spanish has the sequence S100-S150. Over four months, basic notions of Spanish are introduced. Classes are in person. The continuous assessment method involves an assessment based on daily tasks covering the four main competencies.</p> <p>I. COURSE SCHEDULE: From September 9th to December 20th 3 hours per week, divided into two 1.5-hour classes</p>

II. TOPICS

II.1. COMMUNICATIVE AND FUNCTIONAL CONTENT:

- **Giving and ask for information**
- **Expressing opinions, attitudes and knowledge**
- **Expressing tastes, desires and feelings**
- **Influencing the interlocutor**
- **Socially interacting**
- **Structuring the speech**

II.2. GRAMMATICAL CONTENT

- **Verb tenses**

Uses of the past: present, imperative, non-personal forms (infinitive, participle).

- **Uses of ser**

Ser-Estar (introduction)

- **Uses of ser**

Ser-Estar (introduction)

- **Noun**

(proper nouns, common nouns, gender, number)

- **Adjectives**

(qualifiers, inflectional gender, number, agreement, position)

- **Article**

(determined, indeterminate, position, syntactic distribution, absence)

- **Demonstratives**

(basic paradigm, syntactic distribution)

- **Possessives**

(unstressed and tonic forms)

- **Quantifiers**

(cardinal numerals)

- **Pronoun**

(subject, absence, order, unstressed and stressed, case distribution)

- **Relatives**

(specifications with connection)

- **Interrogatives**

(basic pronouns, direct question formulation)

- **Adverb**

(ending -mente, elementary adverbs)

III. LECTURES

- Classes will be conducted in Spanish.
- You are required to bring to every class the AULA INTERNACIONAL PLUS 1 book or any other material required by your lecturer.
- The daily class assignments are listed on the course syllabus. You are expected to be thoroughly familiar with the material for each day BEFORE coming to class.
- Since there will be little formal presentation of the grammar in class, students are expected to read each lesson carefully, learn the vocabulary for each chapter, and do the grammar exercises listed in the syllabus as homework before coming to class. The lecturers will be counting on this, and their main job will be to clarify doubts, exceptions, and difficult cases.
- There will be a large amount of homework and preparation each day, so make sure to keep up with all assignments. You will have to spend a minimum of four hours per week to complete the assignments and the requirements for the course.

IV. TASKS

- **Homework**

- Students have to do homework given through UCMClasses.
- Class time will be set aside for discussion of grammatical points, style, or other specific problems that may recur in your written work.

- **Quizzes**

- There will be three 5-15 minute quizzes, generally (but not limited) to test verb forms. Quiz days are marked on the syllabus.

- **Compositions**

- Throughout the semester, you will complete, at least, three writing exercises.

- **Oral Presentations**

There are two types of oral presentations:

- Short dialogues (role-play/Situaciones) that you will prepare and perform in class with a partner
 - One 5-minute oral presentation on a topic related to Spain.
- Instructions and evaluation rubrics will be given.

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK: *AULA INTERNACIONAL 1 PLUS*. Libro del alumno. ISBN: 9788418032189

METHODOLOGY

Students will practice speaking in small groups in class, as well as reading and discussing materials in Spanish and upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to discuss everyday topics such as family, academic courses, pastimes, food, likes and dislikes, weather, daily life situations and similar beginner topics. Grading is based on exams, homework, compositions, participation, attendance, and a final exam.

INSTRUCTOR/STUDENT COMMUNICATION

You can communicate with your instructor:

- via email
- during your instructor's office hours. Your instructor will have two scheduled office hours per week, plus one office hour by appointment. Office hours will be via Google Meet or in person at your instructor's discretion. It is strongly recommended that you take advantage of these opportunities for one-on-one contact. Keep a list of the questions that arise as you study and bring these questions to your instructor for clarification.

SUBJECT OBJECTIVES

Course Goal: By the end of the semester, you will develop functional linguistic competency in reading, listening, speaking, and writing at the beginning level.

Course Objectives: At the end of this course, you:

- will communicate orally at the beginning level in Spanish, applying the appropriate vocabulary and grammatical forms
- will demonstrate the ability to understand spoken Spanish at the beginning

level

- will create written texts in Spanish at the beginning level, applying the appropriate grammar and vocabulary
- will analyze Spanish literary texts at the beginning level
- will demonstrate cultural understanding of the Hispanic world and contrast and compare it with your own culture

EVALUATION AND QUALIFICATION CRITERIA

PARTIAL EXAM: 15 % (*October*)

FINAL EXAM: 15 % (*December*)

WRITTEN WORK OR PRESENTATIONS: 30 %

- Compositions 20 %
- Quizzes 10 %

OTHERS:

- Oral presentations 15 %
- Homework 15 %

CLASS PARTICIPATION: 10 %

EVALUATION CRITERIA FOR CLASS PARTICIPATION

Absences or late arrivals will adversely affect participation grades.

OUTSTANDING = 90-100 (A) The student:

- is well prepared for class, arriving with significant mastery of newly studied material
- uses electronic devices solely for class-related work
- is consistent, enthusiastic about learning, and always has a positive impact on class atmosphere
- participates actively in Spanish in all aspects of classroom activities, including volunteering to answer questions, sharing ideas, and responding to classmates' ideas
- contributes actively during small-group activities; shows leadership and is crucial to getting the given tasks accomplished; listens attentively when others speak
- successfully achieves the objectives of each lesson
- is always on task and uses practice time wisely
- does not revert to use of English to ask questions or after completing group activities; develops ideas in group activities and relates them to other topics or elaborates on topics to maximize use of Spanish if his/her group finishes before others in the class

VERY GOOD = 80-89 (B) The student:

- is well prepared for class, and is often able to actively use new material
- rarely uses electronics for purposes unrelated to the class
- shows a positive attitude toward learning and has a positive impact on class atmosphere
- participates regularly in Spanish including asking questions and initiating conversations with instructor and/or classmates, volunteers, and shares ideas regularly
- contributes positively during small-group activities and is a valued team member; listens when others speak
- makes a concerted effort to achieve the objectives of each lesson
- stays mostly on task and uses practice time wisely
- does not easily revert to use of English in small-group activities or after

finishing assigned tasks

SATISFACTORY = 70-79 (C) The student:

- is somewhat prepared for class, though sometimes not able to apply new material
- sometimes uses electronics for purposes unrelated to the class
- seems somewhat indifferent toward learning or is often distracted during class activities, thus does not positively impact class atmosphere on a regular basis
- shows more passive than active participation; sometimes contributes and is at least aware of what is going on, but mostly just answers instructor's questions when called upon
- sometimes contributes during small-group activities; usually listens when others speak
- makes an effort to achieve lesson objectives, although there is room for improvement
- could stay more focused; and could make better use of practice time
- resorts too easily to English to ask questions of instructor or to converse with classmates after finishing small-group activities

IMPROVEMENT NEEDED = 69 and below (D, F) The student:

- is not well prepared for class, and often is not able to apply new material
- often uses electronics for purposes unrelated to the class
- shows a negative attitude toward learning or is completely inattentive during class activities; is disrespectful to instructor or to classmates; talks out of turn or about unrelated topics; has a negative impact on class atmosphere for any number of reasons
- is a passive participant or a non-participant in class activities; is barely engaged and depends on others to carry the load
- rarely contributes during small-group activities; often does not listen when others speak
- makes little or no effort toward achieving lesson objectives; there is significant room for improvement
- is easily distracted and off-task; often wastes practice time
- lapses into English frequently to ask questions of instructor or to converse with classmates; rarely speaks Spanish

ATTENDANCE: It is mandatory. It is mandatory. From the second absence without justification, a point will be lowered in the Spanish grading system (for example, an 8 will drop to a 7). In the case of the Spanish Cinema class, missing one class will be equivalent to two absences.

Likewise, lateness will also be penalized, more than 15 minutes late will be equivalent to an absence. Excused absences are considered those documented by the appropriate physician or program director.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: Plagiarism, the use of materials not permitted in exams and tests, copying answers from another classmate, falsification or misappropriation of information for assignments, submission of the same assignment or sections of it in more than one course, helping a student who is cheating, etc. The penalty will be left to the discretion of the subject professor and the student's Program Director, in accordance with their campus policies and procedures.

GUIDE AND INDICATIONS FOR WRITTEN WORK

- **Compositions**

- All the first versions will be done in class. A typical entry should be around 200 words.
- You must read the instructions and prepare the assignment before coming to class.
- You will be given 25 to 30 minutes in class to complete your writing exercises. You should draw on a variety of verbs, vocabulary, and constructions that you have learned, and avoid repetitive structures.
- No dictionaries or notes are allowed while you write.
- The first version will be returned with your mistakes marked with symbols. The final version of the compositions will be completed at home on the day assigned on the syllabus and turn in both, the first and the final version of each composition, stapled together and also submit the final version. No make-ups and/or late work will be accepted.
- Both drafts will be assigned a grade; each grade is worth 50% of the final composition grade. The final grade will reflect both the quality of the first draft and the improved second version. If you do not turn in a final version, 10 points will be deducted from the grade of your first version. The first draft will be handwritten in class, the final draft has to be typed, double-spaced on a computer.

MANDATORY BIBLIOGRAPHY AND OTHER RESOURCES

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK: *AULA INTERNACIONAL 1 PLUS*. Libro del alumno. ISBN: 9788418032189