

Syllabus

1. Course Description

a. Title of a Course: “Spanish Across the Americas: Beginners”

b. Pre-requisites

In order to complete the following course, the students will need to work through each unit and all of its assigned materials. Each student is required to have ready access to a computer and the Internet throughout the duration of the course.

Students should be able to use Windows OS and a Web browser, and conduct research through library databases. Students are not required to have any prior knowledge of Spanish.

c. Course Type: elective

d. Abstract

Spanish is spoken by 575 million people around the world, as a mother tongue or foreign language. More than 80% of all Spanish speakers live across the Americas. This online Spanish course will teach non-native speakers how to deal with simple information and communicate in everyday situations. The course will also explore the culture of four fascinating destinations across the Americas: Mexico, Colombia, Peru and Argentina.

2. Learning Objectives

This course aims at:

- teaching students some basic language and how to express themselves in familiar contexts;
- providing insight into the cultures of Mexico, Colombia, Peru and Argentina.

3. Learning Outcomes

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- Describe in Spanish, in simple terms, their present, their environment and issues related to their immediate needs.
- Perform simple, habitual exchanges in Spanish.
- Interpret frequently used phrases and expressions in Spanish related to familiar contexts.
- Apply a range of basic language structures available to deal with familiar and predictable situations.
- Apply a series of simple grammatical constructions.

4. Course Plan

Unit 1. Introductions.

- Greetings, simple introductions, ways to ask and give personal information.

- Regular and irregular Spanish verbs in present tense.

Unit 2. Descriptions.

- Ways to talk about location, time, dates and prices and to describe people.
- Possessives, demonstratives and quantifiers.

Unit 3. Talking about yourself.

- Ways to talk about one's routine, likes and feelings.

Unit 4. Latin American culture.

- Cultural topics on Mexico, Colombia, Peru and Argentina.

5. Reading List

a. Required

1. Baralo, M., Genis, M., Santana, M. E. (2014). *Espanol lengua extranjera vocabulario: elemental A1-A2*. Anaya. 4 ed.
2. Busquets, L., Bonzi, L. (2004). *Curso intensivo de Espanol para extranjeros*. Verbum. 4ta edicion revisada y ampliada.
3. Mechtaeva, N., Gabaldon, J. G. (2009). *Espanol para principiantes*. Anaya.

b. Optional

1. Abreu, L. (2016). Awareness of Racial Diversity in the Spanish-Speaking World Among L2 Spanish Speakers. *Foreign Language Annals*, 49(1), 180-190. Available from <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/flan.12179>
2. Bateman, B. E. (2002). Promoting openness toward culture learning: Ethnographic interviews for students of Spanish. *The Modern Language Journal*, 86(3), 318-331. Available from <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/1540-4781.00152>
3. Kanigel, R. (2018). Hispanics and Latinos. *The Diversity Style Guide*, 85-107. Available from <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/pdf/10.1002/9781119407256.ch5>
4. Redfield, R. (1929). The Material Culture Of Spanish-Indian Mexico. *American Anthropologist*, 31(4), 602-618. Retrieved from <https://anthrosource.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1525/aa.1929.31.4.02a00030>
5. Taguchi, N., Gomez-Laich, M. P., & Arrufat-Marques, M. J. (2016). Comprehension of indirect meaning in Spanish as a foreign language. *Foreign Language Annals*, 49(4), 677-698. Available from <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/flan.12230>

6. Grading System

The grade is assigned based on the percentage of the students' completion of the course:

10 – 100-96%

9 – 95-91%

8 – 90-86%

7 – 85-80%

6 – 79-70%

5 – 69-65%

4 – 64-60%

3 – 59-55%

2 – 54-55%

1 – 49-0%

7. Guidelines for Knowledge Assessment

In addition to completing all reading and watching sections presented in the course, students are required to present proof of passing progress tests that check their understanding of the material.

8. Methods of Instruction

The course is delivered primarily through lectures with elements of interactive teaching such as discussion.

9. Special Equipment and Software Support (if required)

Computers with OS Microsoft Windows 10 or Microsoft Windows 8.1 Professional RUS or Microsoft Windows 7 Professional RUS or Microsoft Windows XP.

Web browser Google Chrome or Mozilla Firefox.