



SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES

COURSE: Beginning Spanish I SPN 1000C
CREDIT: 3

1. DESCRIPTION

This is the first Spanish course in a sequential series conducted in Spanish. The study involves basic language skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing.

1.1 *Prerequisite: There is no prerequisite; it is assumed the student has no previous knowledge of Spanish.*

2. LINK TO UNIVERSITY MISSION OUTCOMES & TO PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES

The content of Spanish 1000 directly contributes to the attainment of the *literacy, preparedness for career and global understanding & multicultural perspectives* outcomes of the General Education learning objectives.

3. EXPECTED COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of the course, the student will be in a position to:

- Read any given text in Spanish with Spanish pronunciation and intonation
- Understand simple Spanish texts
- Engage in a simple dialogue with an interlocutor in Spanish, making use of the present and past tense and a variety of synonyms and antonyms
- Compose simple texts in Spanish
- Translate simple texts from Spanish to English and vice-versa
- Demonstrate an acceptable knowledge of the Spanish culture and that of other Spanish speaking countries

4. CONTENT & CLASS SCHEDULE

Introductory background on the history of the Spanish language as spoken in Spain and Spanish-speaking countries. Besides, the reasons for study and its importance will be presented along cultural lines.

- The Spanish alphabet.
- Common expressions: greetings, farewells, dialogues.
- Gender of nouns and their plurals.
- Definite and indefinite articles.
- Adjectives (descriptive/demonstrative).
- Pronouns (personal).
- Possessive forms/possessive adjectives.
- Adverbs.
- Prepositions and contractive forms.
- Regular and irregular verbs ending in –ar/-er /ir (present indicative mood)
- Negative forms.
- Interrogative forms.
- Verbs *ser/estar* –present.
- Irregular verbs; stem-changing verbs.
- *Hacer* constructions.
- Introduction to the culture and customs of Spain
- Vocabulary (numbers, time, colours, the body, months, days, etc).
- Reading comprehension, listening comprehension
- Antonyms/synonyms
- Preterit tense and uses –Regular and irregular

4.1 Week One

Brief introduction on the Spanish language: where spoken in the world; importance of studying the language, e.g. for further studies; for travel; future employment, etc.

The Spanish alphabet and pronunciation

The Spanish noun: gender and number

The definite and indefinite article: gender and number

Greetings: Buenos días/Buenas tardes/noches; ¡Hola!, etc.

Introduction: ¿Cómo te llamas? ¿Dónde vives? ¿Qué estudias?

Some useful expressions: thank you; please, etc.

List of classified vocabulary

Dialogue using the expressions learnt.

4.2 Week Two

Numbers (cardinal and ordinals) 1-1 million

Days of the week; months of the year; seasons of the year

The Spanish adjective: gender and number

Forms of address: familiar and formal

Subject personal pronouns

4.3 Week Three

The Spanish verb: general introduction; tense; mood; aspect
The present indicative of –ar, -er and –ir regular verbs
List of vocabulary consisting of nouns, adjectives and –ar, -er and –ir regular verbs
Interrogatives: ¿Qué? ¿Cuál? ¿Quién? ¿Cuánto? ¿Cuándo? etc.
Expressions of time: ¿Qué hora es? ¿A qué hora...? Date
Spanish culture and some customs

4.4 Week Four

Irregular –ar, -er and –ir verbs
Descriptive adjectives: grande, pequeño/a; ¿Cómo es?
Demonstrative adjectives: este estos; esta estas; ese esos, etc. Aquel, aquella aquello...
Possessive adjectives: mi(s), tu(s), su(s), etc. ¿De quién es?
List of –ar, -er and –ir irregular verbs

4.5 Week Five

Stem changing verbs
Prepositions
Adverbs
Practice on how to ask and give directions to given places
Hacer constructions
List of vocabulary consisting of nouns, adjectives and adverbs.

4.6 Week six

Negation
Gustar constructions
Idiomatic uses of *tener*
The verb *doler* and uses of *dolor* (tener dolor de)
Body vocabulary and use
Revision

4.7 Week Seven: Mid-term Examination

Family members and home vocabulary
Dialogue using the above
Practice on the use of the verbs *conocer* and *saber*; *escuchar* and *oír*; *mirar* and *ver*, ...

4.8 Week Eight

Exam review
Revision of the verbs *ser* and *estar* and their uses
Spanish culture and customs
Preterit tense: regular –ar verbs
Reading comprehension

4.9 **Week Nine**

Preterit tense: regular –er and -ir verbs
Reading comprehension
Spanish culture and some customs
Begin vocabulary-synonyms
Introduce oral presentations

4.10 **Week Ten**

Preterit tense irregular verbs
Vocabulary-synonyms II
Reading comprehension
Spanish culture and some customs

4.11 **Week Eleven**

Vocabulary II, Antonyms I
Reading comprehension
Spanish culture and some customs

4.12 **Week Twelve**

Reading comprehension
Vocabulary-Antonyms II
Revision on the preterit

4.13 **Week Thirteen**

Reading comprehension
The verb *ir* to express future
Revision

4.14 **Week Fourteen**

Final Examination

5. **TEACHING APPROACHES**

A lecture-discussion format will be used; students will take part in group work, read texts and listen to tapes/CD-ROMs in class, etc.

Students are encouraged to participate actively in class. Speaking a language is a skill, and it is enhanced by practice. The errors you will make are part of the learning process; they should not hold you back. Enjoy the adventure!

6. **KEY INSTITUTIONAL ACADEMIC POLICIES**

- Plagiarism and any other form of cheating will not be tolerated (Ref. USIU Catalogue)
- A total of 7 absences automatically results in a 'F' grade irrespective of whether at the end of the semester the total points are 60 or above.
- Punctuality to class should be observed. Students should remain in class till the end of the lesson.

7. COURSE TEXT & OTHER READINGS

Jaime Corpás, Eva García, Agustín Garmendia, *Aula Internacional 1*, Editorial Difusión, Barcelona 2005; Accompanying CD-Rom.

A Spanish – English dictionary

8. COURSE EVALUATION

Attendance and participation	5 %
Assignments & Quizzes	15 %
Quiz	10 %
Dialogue/Group Work	10 %
Oral presentation	10 %
Mid-Semester Exam	20 %
Final Exam	30%
Total	100%

9. USIU GRADING SYSTEM

A	90 – 100	C	70 – 73
A-	87 - 89	C-	67 – 69
B+	84 - 86	D+	64 - 66
B	80 - 83	D	62 - 63
B-	77 - 79	D-	60 - 61
C+	74 - 76	F	0 – 59