CIEE Alicante, Spain

Course title: Spanish Language - Intermediate I
Course code: SPAN 2001 ALSP
Programs offering course: Alicante LC
Language of instruction: Spanish
U.S. semester credits: 3
Contact hours: 45
Term: Fall 2020

Course Description

This course will review all basic linguistic functions (describing, discussing likes and dislikes, narrating in the past and present, reacting and recommending, comparing, etc.) encountered in beginning Spanish via intensive practice in the four basic skills of communication: speaking, listening, reading, and writing. Students will hone their skills in employing the present indicative, the present progressive, reflexive and object pronouns, the preterite and imperfect moods. All functions, vocabulary, and grammar will be practiced in relevant, familiar contexts, which will be further supplemented by cultural readings, visuals, and presentations. The course will focus on the specific grammar aspects to improve the student’s writing-reading skills. All contents will be approached from a communicative perspective. This perspective will assume and value active participation of the students in the class at all times.

Learning Objectives

By completing this course, students will:

- Understand sentences and expressions related to his experience
- Write about himself, his family, interesting places, etc.
- Write simple personal letters: thanking or requesting.
- Describe basic situations in the past
- Read simple texts and information from daily life such as announcements, menus, and schedules.

Course Prerequisites

None
Methods of Instruction

The class will favor a communicative approach so that students can improve all four skills: oral comprehension, reading comprehension, oral production and writing production. A balanced setting of all four skills will provide the student with the necessary tools to improve both in and outside of class. For that purpose, materials have been carefully selected to help the student daily.

Assessment and Final Grade

1. Midterm  
2. Final Exam  
3. Quizzes  
4. Essays  
5. Class Participation

TOTAL 100%

Course Requirements

Midterm

This exam will include not only the grammar concepts seen in class, but also other sections such as listening comprehension, reading comprehension, writing expression and oral expression. Each of the sections will have the same weight on the final grade (20% each).

Final Exam

This exam will be based on all the contents seen in class from the very beginning (also those included in the midterm exam). It will have the same format as the Midterm exam. Each of the sections will have the same weight on the final grade (20% each).

Quizzes

There will be two quizzes along the semester (one before and one after the Midterm) that will cover just the contents seen in class up to the date of the quiz. The format of this quiz will be the same as that of the Midterm, but shorter.
Essays

Essay 1

Each student will write an essay about their trip to Madrid with CIEE following the criteria:

- 200 words
- Include specific information about: places, interesting events/places, what he liked the most/ the least, what he surprised the most.
- Correct use of grammar (past tenses, ser/estar)
- Good organization
- Give 2 recommendations
- Include 5-8 original pictures

Essay 2

Each student will write a sequel of the book “El crimen de la Ñ” that they have read throughout the course following the criteria:

- 350 words
- The sequel takes place in Alicante
- One or two characters of the book
- 10 original pictures
- Correct use of grammar (past tenses, ser/estar)
- Organized
- Include 5-8 original pictures

Class Participation

Attendance

Regular class attendance is required throughout the program. Students must notify (via e-mail with a copy to the Resident Director or Program Coordinator) their instructor beforehand if they will miss class for any reason. Students are responsible for any materials covered in class during their absence. Students who miss class for medical reasons must inform the professor and the RD or PC and provide appropriate documentation.
For CIEE courses, excessively tardy (over 15 minutes late) students will be marked absent (student will be reminded of the policy). Attendance policies also apply to any required co-curricular class excursion or events, etc. Students who miss class for personal travel will be marked as absent and unexcused.

An absence in a CIEE course will be only considered excused if:

1. A doctor’s note is provided. The UA medical center does not generally provide class absence notes. In the case a doctor’s absence note is extremely necessary, students will need to go to the Vithas International Hospital to be examined.
2. A CIEE staff member verifies that the student was too ill to attend class
3. Evidence is provided of a family emergency

Persistent absenteeism (students exceeding 10% of the total course hours missed, or violations of the attendance policy in more than one class) will lead to a written warning from the RD, notification to the home school, and/or dismissal from the program in addition to reductions in class grade(s).

1. Since each CIEE Alicante course is 45 hours, 10% of the total course hours are 4.5 hours.
2. Students who miss more than 4.5 hours of class without justification will see their final grade reduced by -5%. For instance, students achieving a grade of 89.00 out of 100 points and missing more than 4.5 hours of class will see their grade reduced from 89.00 (B+) to 84.00 (B).

Students with unexcused absences exceeding 20% of the total course hours will fail the course. Written warnings and home school notifications will happen well before the absenteeism causes the student to fail the course so that the student has an opportunity for corrective actions.

Likewise, if any CIEE group organized activity/informational session (e.g. Intercultural development sessions) is scheduled during class hours, attendance to this activity or session is also mandatory for all students enrolled in courses that meet during that block of time. Not attending these CIEE group organized activities/sessions during regular class hours will result in an absence.
Plagiarism

Cheating and plagiarism in any course assignment may result in failing the course or being expelled from the program. Students are expected to adhere to the US American and norms.

Important principles:

1. Final examinations, quizzes and other tests must be done without assistance from other person, without looking at or otherwise consulting the work of another person, and without access to notes, books, or other pertinent information (unless the professor has explicitly announced that a particular test is to be taken on an “open book” basis).
2. The same written paper may not be submitted in more than one course.
3. Any use of the work of another person must be documented in any written papers, oral presentations, or other assignments carried out in connection with the course.

Add/Drop

The add/drop period last for 1 week after the start of the courses. After the end of the add/drop period, the student’s registration is considered final, and no course(s) may be changed or deleted from the student’s CIEE Academic Record.

Withdrawal from a course

Students are required to register in 5 courses during their studies at CIEE Alicante. Each CIEE course is worth 3 credits (45 contact hours). If exceptional circumstances warrant, the student may request permission from the Center Director to withdraw from a course. However, a student participating in a semester program is not allowed to drop below 12 US semester credits.

N.B. Course schedule is subject to change due to study tours, excursions, or local holidays. Final schedules will be included in the final syllabus provided to students on site.
Weekly Schedule

Week 1
Class 1.1.

Readings: Aula 1- Unit 9: ¿Sabes conducir?

Present perfect

Saber + infinitive

Poder + infinitive

Class 1.2.

Talk about past experiences

Talk about skills and abilities

Talk about people’s strengths and weaknesses

Week 2
Class 2.1.

Readings: Aula 2 – Unit 1: El español y tú

Regular and irregular present tense

Reflexive verbs

Verbs costar and sentirse

Class 2.2.

para/ porque

desde/ desde hace/ hace…que

Week 3
Class 3.1
Readings: Aula 2 - Unit 2: Una vida de película

Preterite forms

empezar a + infinitive

ir/irse

Class 3.2

Textual past time markers

Prepositions desde, durante y hasta

Week 4
Class 4.1
Readings: Aula 2 - Unit 3: Yo soy así

Irregular presents c>zc

este/aquel, el/la/los/las + de + noun

el/la/los/las + que + verb

Class 4.2

Quiz 1

Week 5
Class 5.1
Readings: Aula 2 - Unit 4: Hogar, dulce hogar

Comparatives
Prepositions

Class 5.2 .

Possessive pronouns

ser and estar

Verbs gustar, encantar and preferir

Essay 1

Week 6
Class 6.1 .

Readings: Aula 2 - Unit 5: ¿Cómo va todo?

Gerund

estar + gerund

Conditional

Week 7
Class 7.1 .

Midterm

Week 8
Class 8.1 .

Readings: Aula 2-Unit 6: Guía del Ocio

Preterite Perfect

Ya/ todavía no

Class 8.2 .
Ir a + infinitive

Querer/pensar + infinitive

Week 9
Class 9.1.

Readings: Aula 2 - Unit 7: No como carne

Café de Lengua

Class 9.2.

DO personal pronouns

Impersonal se

Week 10
Class 10.1.

Readings: Aula 2 - Unit 7: No como carne

Quiz 2

Class 10.2.

More uses of ser and estar

Y, pero, además

Week 11
Class 11.1.

Readings: Aula 2: Unit 8: Nos gustó mucho

Present perfect and preterite

Gustaría + infinitive
Week 12
Class 12.1.

Readings: Aula 2: Unit 8: Nos gustó mucho Exclamative sentences

Essay 2

Class 12.2.

Midterm Review

Week 13
Class 13.1.

Readings: Aula 2 – Unit 9: Estamos muy bien

Verbs ser and estar

Verb dolor

Affirmative imperative

Week 14
Class 14.1.

Review

Week 15
Class 15.1.

Final exam

Course Materials

Readings


Online Resources

“Campus Difusión.” Difusión, 26 Feb. 2018, campus.difusion.com