CIEE Alicante, Spain

Course title: Intensive Spanish Language - Intermediate I
Course code: SPAN 2501 ALSP
Programs offering course: Alicante LC
Language of instruction: Spanish
U.S. semester credits: 3
Contact hours: 45
Term: Fall 2020

Course Description

In this course, students develop skills in Spanish while also learning about cultural norms and Spanish lifestyle. An introduction to the basic rules of pronunciation and grammatical structures forms the core of the course. Fieldwork and practice with the home stay family are key components of the course and boost language learning. Emphasis will be placed on all language skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing. In addition to learning the Spanish language, you will also acquire some knowledge about some of the history, culture and norms of Spain.

Learning Objectives

By completing this course, students will:

- Ask questions / make statements involving familiar material. You will be able to create short conversations on everyday topics using new learned vocabulary.
- Comprehend sentence-length utterances on everyday topics.
- Read short and simple materials for practical information in predictable contexts. You will also understand longer articles for general ideas.
- Write messages, postcards, take down simple messages. You will be able to create statements, questions & paragraphs about everyday topics.
- Understand some culturally relevant aspects of Spain.

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 on a daily basis.

Assessment and Final Grade

1. Midterm Exam 20%
2. Final Exam 30%
3. Writing Assignments 40%
4. Class Participation 10%

TOTAL 100%

Course Requirements

Midterm Exam

There will be a test at the end of the first week of classes. It includes five sections, each worth 20% of the total grade: grammar, reading comprehension, written expression, listening comprehension, and oral expression. The midterm includes all the material seen in Aula 2, units 1-2.

Final Exam

There will be a test at the end of the second weeks of class. Both the midterm and the final exam share the same format. It includes all the materials seen in both weeks: Aula 2, units 1-4.

Writing Assignments

Students will complete four written assignments based on the four mandatory fieldtrips that will take place during the Intensive cycle. These assignments will be submitted in Canvas. No paper assignments will be accepted. More information is available in Canvas.

Class Participation
Active participation and attendance are essential. The participation grade will depend on the frequency and quality of the student’s contributions in class and his/her ability to respectfully listen to other people’s thoughts. More information is available in Canvas.

**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 days).
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% (9 hours = 3 days) 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) and each Universidad de Alicante course is worth 4 credits (60h - unless the course has more than 60h of instruction). 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.

Papers and assignments submission

According to CIEE Alicante academic norms all assignments, paper, readings, etc. must be turned in on the due date. Late submissions of coursework/assignments during the course of the term of study are not accepted.

If an exception is granted by the Academic Director, the new deadline for the assignment will be set for the next earliest possible date for the student for reasonably submit the assignment.

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: Corpas, J., Garmendia, A., Soriano

Unit 1: El español y tú

Talk about habits and difficulties

Talk about duration

Class 1.2
Readings: Corpas, J., Garmendia, A., Soriano

To make recommendations

Describe feelings

Ask and answer about motivations

Assignment 1: Discovering downtown

Class 1.3

Readings: Corpas, J., Garmendia, A., Soriano

Unit 2: Una vida de película

Tell past events

Class 1.4

Readings: Corpas, J., Garmendia, A., Soriano

Talk about beginning and end of an action

Assignment 2: Santa Bárbara Castle fieldtrip

Class 1.5

Midterm

Week 2

Class 2.1

Readings: Corpas, J., Garmendia, A., Soriano

Unit 3: Yo soy así

Identify and describe people physically
Talk about resemblance between people

Class 2.2

Readings: Corpas, J., Garmendia, A., Soriano

Unit 4: Hogar, dulce hogar

Express likes and preferences

Describe a house

Assignment 3: Old District fieldtrip

Class 2.3

Readings: Corpas, J., Garmendia, A., Soriano

Compare

Express coincidence

Class 2.4

Readings: Corpas, J., Garmendia, A., Soriano

Locate objects in space

Describe objects

Assignment 4: Central Market fieldtrip

Class 2.5

Final Exam

Course Materials
Readings


Online Resources

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