

Spanish Program Course Descriptions

The objectives of each class will be accomplished partly through teacher explanation and lecture, but more often through practice in pairs and small groups, *Intercambio* activities, with a focus on fluency over accuracy. The teacher will act as a facilitator, providing information and activities that, over time, give students the opportunity to acquire the language successfully. We currently offer 12 levels of Spanish:

- Levels 1 and 2 - Beginning Levels
- Levels 3 and 4 - High Beginning
- Levels 5 and 6 - Low Intermediate
- Levels 7 and 8 - High Intermediate
- Levels 9 and 10 - Low Advanced
- Levels 11, 12 and Conversation Class - High Advanced

Level 1

Topic: Meeting each other

At the end of the course, students should be able to do the following in Spanish:

greet each other appropriately; use appropriate phrases for interaction with other students and the teacher in the classroom, use classroom-related vocabulary; understand basic grammatical concepts such as adjective agreement, verb conjugation, gender of nouns, and formal and informal address; find and give information related to names and numbers; express basic emotions; read and write simple sentences introducing oneself; use strategies for learning new words; know basic information about Latino countries, populations, history; recognize English/Spanish cognates

Level 2

Topic: Getting to know each other

At the end of the course, students should be able to do the following in Spanish:

do personal interviews; talk about likes and dislikes; describe daily activities; describe family members and relationships; discuss frequency of activities; ask and answer all types of basic questions on a variety of subjects; express physical and emotional conditions; read and write simple paragraphs about family; know and express basic information on a particular Latin American country; discuss routine activities using present tense verb conjugations; organize one's personal language learning process

Level 3

Topic: Travel

At the end of the course, students should be able to do the following in Spanish:

describe vacation plans; converse with a travel agent to make vacation plans; express times/dates; read schedules; use large numbers; converse with a hotel receptionist; understand and use the grammatical concepts of stem-changing verbs and past participles as adjectives; talk about some aspects of Mexican culture; preview a lesson to assist in language learning process

Level 4

Topic: Family

At the end of the course, students should be able to do the following in Spanish:

discuss one's extended family; describe people physically and personally; describe homes; describe family members and relationships; express location of objects; talk about daily routines in the home; understand and use the grammatical concepts of descriptive, possessive and demonstrative adjectives, irregular first person verb conjugations, affirmative/negative expressions and present progressive; read and write about family members and cultural differences related to family relationships; know and express basic information about Venezuela; discuss routine activities using present tense verb conjugations; manage one's personal learning process.

Level 5

Topic: Food

At the end of the course, students should be able to do the following in Spanish:

use vocabulary related to food; interact successfully with a waiter in a restaurant; interact successfully in a market; read food related advertisements; discuss basic ideas on health and nutrition; talk about daily routines in the home; understand and use the grammatical concepts of direct objects, indirect objects with *gustar* and stem-changing verbs; read and write about cultural differences and customs related to food; use command verb forms to make requests and demands; use comparatives and superlatives to compare people or things; know and express basic information about Peru; review prior lessons to raise current language level

Level 6

Topic: Student Life

At the end of the course, students should be able to do the following in Spanish:

talk about classes; discuss daily activities and schedules; talk about daily activities in the home; use reflexive pronouns to talk about daily routines; read and write about educational systems in different countries; understand and use the grammatical concepts of prepositional pronouns and the construction *se le*; use the simple past tense to talk about past events; use verbs similar to *gustar* to express opinions; use alternative phrases to communicate ideas; know and express basic information about Argentina; recognize opinions and how they are supported

Level 7

Topic: Tourism

At the end of the course, students should be able to do the following in Spanish:

describe various places in detail; communicate successfully in a bank, post office and pharmacy; ask for and give directions and instructions; understand and use the grammatical concepts of irregular first person present verb conjugation and the present subjunctive; use the future verb tense to talk about future plans and events; use the passive and impersonal verb structure to express generalizations; read description of tourist attractions; read and write about recommendations for tourists; read advertisements for medical services; discuss medical problems and remedies with a doctor; know and express basic information about Ecuador; use a bilingual dictionary effectively

Level 8

Topic: Having Fun

At the end of the course, students should be able to do the following in Spanish:

give and receive invitations, talk about what one did for fun in the past; talk about seasons, climate and weather conditions; understand and use the grammatical concepts of simple past vs. imperfect past tenses and *por* vs. *para*; discuss holidays and celebrations in different countries; use the imperfect tense to talk about reoccurring events in the past; tell and express interest in a story; read and write about pastimes in different countries; read and write about famous people of the past; discuss medical problems and remedies with a doctor; know and express basic information about Costa Rica; paraphrase and summarize information

Level 9

Topic: Shopping

At the end of the course, students should be able to do the following in Spanish:

communicate effectively in a clothing or electronics store; describe clothes, colors, designs; use ordinal numbers; understand and use the grammatical concepts of verbs similar to *gustar*, direct and indirect objects and different uses of pronouns; compare cultural aspects of shopping; converse about general shopping habits; communicate effectively in a market; bargain; read and write about ways people dress in different countries; use the conditional verb tense to talk about possibilities; know and express basic information about Bolivia; decode complex sentences

Level 10

Topic: Everyday life

At the end of the course, students should be able to do the following in Spanish:

talk about ups and downs of everyday life; give advice and express opinions; talk about good news and special events; understand and use the grammatical concepts of present, irregular and stem-changing verbs in the subjunctive and types of clauses; read about age differences in relationships; read and write about stress in different countries; know and express basic information about Chile; recognize word families

Level 11

Topic: Work

At the end of the course, students should be able to do the following in Spanish:

talk about work and various occupations; discuss employment related plans; express timing and duration of events; read job advertisements and fill out job applications; use present perfect to talk about job and other experiences; use past perfect to talk about past events; use *hacer* for time expressions; participate in a job interview; understand and use the grammatical concepts of present, irregular and stem-changing verbs in the subjunctive and types of clauses; ask for and express opinions about jobs; read and write about employment in different countries; know and express basic information about Hispanics in the U.S.; recognize word families

Level 12

Topic: Spain

At the end of the course, students should be able to do the following in Spanish:

Understand literature about study-abroad programs; give advice and express opinions; talk about good news, special events; understand and use the grammatical concept of imperfect subjunctive

This course consists primarily of review of the vocabulary and grammatical structures of the previous courses, including:

all verb tenses	impersonal expressions
verbal phrases	numbers and order
asking and answering questions	introductions and courtesy phrases
negation	all types of adjectives, comparatives and superlatives
making and receiving invitations	<i>gustar</i> and similar verbs
making orders and requests	reflexive verbs
expressing emotion	telling a story
vocabulary related to home/family/pastimes/time and schedules/daily routines/classroom/travel	

Advanced Conversation Class

The class is open to students who have either completed level nine of the LAA's Spanish program, or have the equivalent level of Spanish as determined by an oral placement test. The class will consist of the instructor introducing a topic in various ways, reviewing related vocabulary and grammar, and leading the class in a discussion of the topic. The purpose of the class is to give students the opportunity to practice the Spanish skills they have acquired in order to maintain and improve their speaking and listening fluency.

Intercambio

Once a week, each Spanish class meets with its sister English class for an Intercambio. This involves doing one activity completely in Spanish and one activity completely in English. The intercambio provides a unique opportunity for students to practice and reinforce their newly acquired language skills with native speakers of the target language.