



## Spanish A1: Communication and Culture I

### DESCRIPTION

Welcome to “Español básico”! This is a Spanish course for beginners which takes place during the semester. Spanish A1 focuses on the development of written and oral communicative abilities in Spanish through an interactive activity-based approach. The course is based on active learner participation. Students are expected to engage in interactive small and large-group activities. The different tasks presented in class will require students to use Spanish in different situations. Assessment is based on both your ability to use the language in written and oral tasks and on your knowledge and understanding of Spanish language and culture.

### CREDITS

6 ECTS

### CONTACT HOURS

60 hours

### PREREQUISITES

This course is for students of Spanish as a second language with no previous experience with the language. If you have doubts about which course to take at ILCE, consult with your instructor/advisor immediately.

### GOALS

The three primary goals of the program are:

- (1) Beginning to develop **oral and written communicative abilities in Spanish**.
- (2) Understanding the rich **cultures** of the Spanish-speaking world through varied texts and cultural artifacts.
- (3) Studying and starting to understand the **Spanish language**, from grammar and orthography to writing with coherence, cohesion, and accuracy.

### PEDAGOGICAL APPROXIMATION

Spanish A1 focuses on the development of written and oral communicative abilities in Spanish through an interactive activity-based approach and active learner participation. Students are expected to engage in interactive small and large-group activities.

### GLOBAL RESPONSIBLE LITERACY AND STUDENTS' LEARNING OUTCOMES

Global responsible literacy is the **ability to participate in sociocultural practices** by creating, presenting, and interpreting ideas through oral and written texts **in Spanish**. It includes critical thinking and social responsibility, appreciation of cultural artifacts and artistic products, and the mastery of new technologies.

In Spanish A1 learners will:

#### WRITTEN AND ORAL COMMUNICATION

- a. Begin to develop communicative abilities in Spanish to attain a basic level of written and oral proficiency so as to allow students to participate effectively in formal and informal conversations concerning a variety of topics: university life, families, hobbies, childhood, food, health, and current events.
- b. Begin to develop a basic level of proficiency to present and explain information in Spanish in front of an audience related to academic and non-academic topics. Introduce basic writing tasks (300-500 words).

## CRITICAL THINKING & SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

- a. Be introduced to basic descriptions, simple narrations, and basic analytical tools to write short compositions. Be introduced to the basic grammar that accompanies each one of these narrative functions.
- b. Begin to develop social responsibility, tolerance, and a nuanced understanding of the diversity and richness of the Spanish-speaking world cultures: from basic geographical knowledge to issues connected to history, politics, current events, and cultural diversity.

## ARTISTIC APPRECIATION & NEW TECHNOLOGIES

- a. Begin to appreciate and understand non-artistic and artistic cultural products written or produced in Spanish. Introduction to the contextualization and analysis of authentic and current newspaper articles, brief literature pieces (short stories and poems), and short and long feature films. Read in Spanish with sufficient accuracy so as to understand the main idea and details and to develop critical thinking analyses in a variety of short genres: brochures, news, fiction.
- b. Begin to work with new technologies and develop digital literacies when studying and learning new languages and cultures. Begin to participate on blogs, discussion board, and virtual collaborations. Learners begin to be partially proficient in defining, accessing, and managing, information in multilingual digital environments. Develop digital projects such as digital stories.

## SPANISH: THE LANGUAGE OF THE CLASSROOM

The class will be conducted in Spanish in order to provide you with maximum exposure to the language. The main focus of classes is on Spanish communication, and we strive for maximum use of the language in the classroom. This means that **your instructor will speak Spanish to you during class, and you will be expected to do the same with your instructor and classmates**. Should you need additional explanations or wish to discuss matters not directly related to course content, your instructor will be happy to speak to you in English before or after class and during office hours.

## ASSESSMENT

Assessment and testing procedures will be representative of the type of language instruction offered through classroom activities. You will be evaluated based on your achievement of the program and course objectives and the following components:

Components	Percentage
Participation in class and ILCE activities	10%
Proyecto <i>Digital Storytelling</i>	20%
Tareas (Homework)	10%
2 Redacciones (Compositions)	20%
2 Escenarios (Scenarios)	15%
Logros 1 (Achievements 1)	10%
Logros 2 (Achievements 2)	15%
TOTAL	100%

### Participation in class and ILCE activities (10%)

Throughout this course, you will “self-assess” your participation (see attached criteria). Your participation involves a number of variables, including, but not limited to the following:

- *Your use of Spanish in the classroom*
  - greeting people and taking leave using Spanish
  - using Spanish during class (i.e. with instructor and in small groups), when asking and responding to questions related (or not related) to the material at hand, and when engaged in casual conversation with classmates or instructor
- *Your willingness to participate in all class activities*
- *Your cooperation during group and pair-work*
- *Your respect and attitude toward your instructor, the class, and toward your peers, including the use of cell phone, laptop, or any electronic device when not invited by your instructor to use it*

Please note: your instructor reserves the right to raise or lower your self-assessed participation grade if he/she feels that it does not adequately reflect your level of participation.

### PARTICIPATION IN ILCE ACTIVITIES

Your participation grade will also be based on participating in activities organized by the Spanish Club (or other cultural activities). You have to participate in an ILCE activity at least once every two weeks.

\*\*Please follow @ilceunav and join ILCE’s CLUB DE ESPAÑOL WhatsApp group for ILCE activities and updates.

### Proyecto: digital storytelling (20%)

You will prepare a digital storytelling project based on a personal story. Through our course, we will work on the idea and symbolisms that will structure your videos. The expectation is that you are creative when developing this project. Digital storytelling combines images (you can only use your own pictures or drawings) and a soundtrack with your own narration. The finalist digital storytelling videos of different levels will be screened in the course closing ceremony. Attendance on that day is mandatory. More details will be provided during the semester.

Check out our Vimeo Channel to see examples of digital storytelling from other ILCE students: <https://vimeo.com/ilceunav>

### Homework (10%)

You will be responsible for completing all assignments by the date due. No late work will be accepted. Make sure you plan ahead of time. If you do not understand what you need to do for homework on any given day, see your instructor right after class. You must self-correct the “*Más ejercicios*” homework.

### 2 compositions (20%)

You will write two compositions in Spanish, and each of them will have two drafts. The first draft of each composition will be written in class. The composition grade will be based on the scores received on the first draft and attendance and participation in in-class Writing Workshops (40 %), final draft (50%), and correction revision (10%) of the final draft of the composition.

**Format:** Double-spaced, with the student's name, the composition title, the draft number, word count and the date on the top of the first page. See model below.

Model:	Katia Smith	1 <sup>st</sup> Draft / Final Version
	Spanish A1	Número de palabras (word count)
	Composition Title	Date: DD/MM/YYYY

## **2 scenarios (15%)**

Scenarios evaluate students' speaking abilities: their capability to interact and improvise, conversation dynamics, accuracy, register, and pronunciation in two oral situations. Scenarios will be completed in pairs, and they will be scheduled in advance. You cannot miss class these days. The topics of the scenarios will be related to the course materials learnt in class. See the attached grading criteria.

## **Achievements 1 (10%)**

Achievements 1 documents each student's competence and understanding of course materials up to that day. It is a way to see that students have learned the necessary skills and are able to put them into practice. The format reflects the type of tasks and activities completed in class.

## **Achievements 2 (15%)**

Achievements 2 documents each student's performance in the different competences developed in the course. The dynamics of Achievements 2 reflect the types of tasks and activities that students completed in class. It is a learning activity where students show their communicative and interpretative skills in Spanish.

## **ATTENDANCE POLICY**

Because of the communicative nature of this course, you need to attend class every day. Absences with no official documentation will result in the deduction of one percentage point from your final grade (of 100 total points). Any student with more than 8 unexcused absences will automatically fail the course. Absences need to be excused either before the student is absent or one classroom day after being absent. Late arrivals or early departures from class will also be counted as absences (3 occurrences = 1 absence). It is the student's responsibility to notify their instructor ahead of time of any absences and to contact their classmates to know what they missed in class and the homework that was assigned.

**To receive credit for missed assignments** (*achievements, homework, compositions, etc.*) students need to bring official documentation and submit them as well as letting their instructor know.

### **ADDITIONAL GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES**

**Cell Phone, Laptop Tablets, or any electronic device in the Classroom:** Please be courteous and **turn off your cell phone before the start of each class.** We also request that you *do not use* a laptop computer during class without expressly being invited to do so by your Instructor (e.g., during a Writing Workshop). Your full attention needs to be committed to communicating in Spanish with your teacher and classmates during each class.

**Academic Integrity:** Plagiarism, cheating, submitting work of another person or work previously used without informing the instructor, tampering with the academic work of others and other forms of academic dishonesty may lead to lowered course grades, failure of the course or more severe measures, depending on judgments of the gravity of the individual case.

**Code of Student Conduct:** Student behavior or speech that disrupts the instructional setting or is clearly disrespectful of the instructor or fellow students will not be tolerated. Disruptive conduct may include but is not limited to: 1. Rude or disrespectful behavior; 2. Unwarranted interruptions; 3. Failure to adhere to instructor's directions; 4. Vulgar or obscene language, slurs, or other forms of intimidation; 5. Physically or verbally abusive behavior. Student behavior that is inappropriate will result in disenrollment from the course.

## COURSE CALENDAR

This schedule is subject to change. Any necessary change will be announced ahead of time.

Sessions	In-class Activities	Important Dates
# 1	Orientation	
# 2	Introducción  Course syllabus  Unidad 1/Nosotros: Conocer a los compañeros de clase	
# 3	Unidad 1/Nosotros: Conocer a los compañeros de clase	
# 4	Unidad 1/Nosotros: Conocer a los compañeros de clase	
# 5	Unidad 1/Nosotros: Conocer a los compañeros de clase  Unidad 2/Quiero aprender español: Decidir qué queremos hacer este curso de español	
# 6	Unidad 2/Quiero aprender español: Decidir qué queremos hacer este curso de español	
# 7	Unidad 2/Quiero aprender español: Decidir qué queremos hacer este curso de español  Unidad 3/¿Dónde está Santiago?: Hacer un curso de conocimientos del mundo hispano	
# 8	Unidad 3/¿Dónde está Santiago?: Hacer un curso de conocimientos del mundo hispano  Writing Workshop – Composition 1	
# 9	Unidad 3/¿Dónde está Santiago?: Hacer un curso de conocimientos del mundo hispano	
# 10	Achievements 1 (Logros 1) (Unidades 1-3)	Logros 1
# 11	Unidad 3/¿Dónde está Santiago?: Hacer un curso de conocimientos del mundo hispano	
# 12	Escenario 1	
# 13	Unidad 4/¿Cuál prefieres?: Hacer la lista de cosas que necesitamos para pasar un fin de semana fuera y comprar en tiendas	Submit final versión of COMPOSITION 1
# 14	Unidad 4/¿Cuál prefieres?: Hacer la lista de cosas que necesitamos para pasar un fin de semana fuera y comprar en tiendas	

# 15	Digital Storytelling  Images and metaphors (working on the story-board)	
# 16	Unidad 4/¿Cuál prefieres?: Hacer la lista de cosas que necesitamos para pasar un fin de semana fuera y comprar en tiendas	
# 17	Digital Storytelling  Literary analysis and creative writing (revising the story-board)	
# 18	Composition 2- Digital storytelling  Oral practice (pronunciation/storytelling in 2 minutes)	First version of COMPOSITION 2- digital storytelling
# 19	Practice scenarios	
# 20	Scenarios 2	
# 21	Viewing of Digital storytelling projects in class (Voting and feedback)	Submit first version digital storytelling
# 22	Viewing of Digital storytelling projects in class (Voting and feedback)	
# 23	Final Version of Digital Storytelling	Submit the Final Version of Digital Storytelling
# 24	Closing Ceremony ILCE	
# 25	Achievements 2 (Logros 2)	Logros 2

## COURSE MATERIALS

### Required text (digital book)

*AULA 1. Curso de español.* Jaime Corpas, Agustín Garmendia, Carmen Soriano. Barcelona: Difusión, 2013

### Additional web resources

[Aula Virtual ADI \(Blackboard\).](#)