

Learning Spanish – Level 1

Offered to: All UG Programmes

Course Category: Minor

Schedule of Offering: Semester I/III/V

Course sub-category: Skill Development

Course Credit Structure: 3

Course Code: LL

- **Lecture: 3**
- **Tutorial: 0**
- **Practical: 0**

Contact Hours per week: 3

Instructor: Saurabh Singanapalli

Stream: Literature and Linguistics

Maximum Intake: 30

1. Introduction

Spanish is one of the most widely spoken languages in the world. In terms of number of countries/geographical regions that identify as Spanish-speaking, it is probably the second most widely spoken after English. It is the second language of many countries, including the United States of America. Even in Europe, its continent of origin, it stands out: it reflects the diversity and brightness of the Iberian peninsula, a land of sunshine and good cheer. It is also relatively simple in its construction: much more intuitive grammatically than English, and not as difficult to pronounce as French. Spanish song and dance, art and music, have all captured the imagination of the world, over the centuries.

Apart from this, the advantages of learning Spanish are the same as that of learning any new language, especially from a land very far away from our own: it expands our horizons, and introduces us to a new culture, to a new way of thought, to a new and different way of looking at things. It tells us how people live in other parts of the world, and allows us to understand each other better.

2. Course Objectives

This course aims to provide learners with basic listening, speaking, reading and writing skills in Spanish.

3. Course Outcomes

At the end of this course, students will be able to:

- 1) Carry out a number of regular spoken communicative functions of day-to-day life in Spanish

- 2) Understand, and participate in, basic non-technical discussions and conversations in Spanish on general day-to-day topics*
- 3) Read and understand basic texts in Spanish, on general topics*

(*'general topics' refer to self, family, friends, weather, health, shopping, sports, transport, travel, clothes, and house and class-related discussions, among others)

4. Pre-requisites

There are no prerequisites. Students must be willing to actively participate in all tasks and activities in class, and must also do all assignments, graded or non-graded, diligently.

5. Readings

Primary Texts:

1. C de Andrés Martínez, C., Bruce, E. A., & Cook, C. (2004). *Camino Al Español*. Cambridge University Press.

Recommended Reading:

1. Franco, F. and Sandberg, K.C. (1998). *Spanish for Reading: A Self-Instructional Course*. Barron's.

6. Module-wise topics

Module 1: Getting Started (8 hours) (Text 1, Units 1-4)

- What's your name?
- Family and friends
- House and Home
- Where is...?

Module 2: What are you doing? (8 sessions) (Text 1, Units 5-8)

- What do you want?
- Travelling
- Directions
- Forming basic sentences and questions

Module 3: Do you like this? (8 sessions) (Text 1, Units 9-12)

- Opinions
- What are your plans?
- What would you like to have?
- Basic Spanish verbs

Module 4: Once upon a time (8 sessions) (Text 1, Units 13-16)

- When I was a child...
- What did you do yesterday?
- What happened?
- Basic Spanish grammar

Module 5: If only... (8 sessions) (Text 1, Units 17-20)

- Speculating and imagining
- When summer comes...
- What would you do?
- Some idioms and phrases in Spanish

Module 6: Hasta la Vista (5 sessions)

- Reviewing important phrases
- Reviewing other vocabulary
- Reviewing important verbs
- Reviewing other grammar

7. Pedagogy

The teaching in this course will be through a combination of lectures, classroom discussions, and interactive games and language exercises. The instructor will also focus on the sociocultural aspects of the language, drawing attention to various facets of Spanish and Latin American culture, and highlighting the significance of Spanish language and literature in the world. Classes will not just be limited to the space within the classroom – plenty of outdoor tasks and activities will be used.

8. Evaluation Pattern

- Weekly Quizzes (10) (10%)
- Monthly Assignments (2) (20%)
 - *1st Assignment: Modules 1 and 2*
 - *2nd Assignment: Module 4*
- Monthly Class presentations (3) (30%)
 - *1st Presentation: Modules 1 and 2*
 - *2nd Presentation: Module 3*
 - *3rd Presentation: Module 5*
- End-semester exam (Oral+Written) (40%)

Appendix 1: Special Notes on Pedagogy when this course runs fully online

In online mode, this course is planned as a combination of live sessions, recorded classes, and interactive class presentations and discussion. A language cannot be learnt without practice, and hence it is important for all registered students to participate in all assigned activities, whether they are in live sessions, as a part of recorded sessions, or in assignments.

- Recorded sessions will cover theoretical and conceptual portions.
- Live classes will be fully devoted to practice, especially for speaking and listening. Attendance for these is critical.
- Assignments will seek to assess the student's grasp of the language through functional tasks, especially those focused on reading and writing.

REQUIREMENTS

In order to join and fully benefit from this course online:

- Students must have access to a reasonably good internet connection, which allows them to successfully participate in class discussions, and answer the instructor when required to speak.
- Being able to participate via both audio and video is important for this course. If your network connection does not allow you to do this, you might want to consider taking up this course later, when it is offered physically on campus.