

Spanish Intensive Course

ADVANCED LEVEL COURSE
PROGRAM



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1.INTRODUCTION

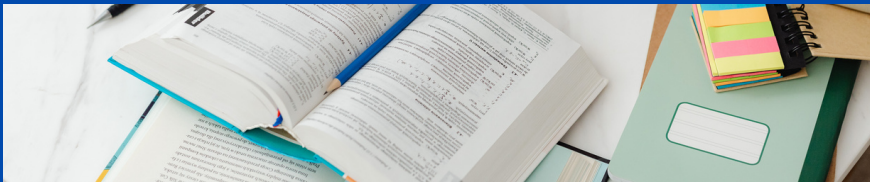
We welcome you to the Spanish intensive online course, Advanced level. In this document, you will find detailed information about the educational approach and the benefits you will gain as you embark on this exciting journey of learning Spanish.

Spanish is a globally relevant language and mastering it will open up numerous opportunities. Our program focuses on fundamental skills, from grammar to oral fluency, to give you a solid foundation in the language.

We have a team of experienced teachers and a variety of interactive resources to help you having a stimulating learning experience. Throughout the course, you will acquire the ability to communicate effectively, interact socially and understand simple texts in Spanish.

Our goal is your success, so we offer personalized follow-up to help you reaching your language goals. We want to provide you with an enriching educational experience tailored to your individual needs.

We hope you will be motivated and excited to embark on this exciting journey of Spanish language discovery.



2. OBJECTIVES

The objectives are organized according to the following four competencies:

- **Listening:**

- Listen to recordings and identify concrete details, such as dates, numbers, names and places.
- Understand and follow informal conversations between native speakers in everyday situations.
- Understand and carry out instructions given orally, such as cooking recipes or travel directions.
- Identify different accents and dialectal variations of Spanish.
- Follow formal speeches, such as conferences or public speeches, and extract relevant information.
- Recognize opinions, arguments and points of view expressed in recordings.
- Understand authentic material such as excerpts from radio programs, podcasts or online interviews.
- Understand Spanish spoken at different speeds and paces.

- **Reading:**

- Locate and extract concrete information from written texts, such as dates, facts, and key details.
- Identify the general structure of a text, including introduction, development, and conclusion.
- Develop skills to infer the meaning of new words through context.
- Summarize and paraphrase paragraphs or entire sections of texts, demonstrating a thorough understanding.
- Identify main and secondary arguments in argumentative texts and evaluate their logic.
- Connect ideas and details presented in different parts of the text to gain an overall understanding.
- Develop skills to analyze and interpret literary texts, such as short stories or novel excerpts.
- Recognize points of view expressed in text and pick up subtle nuances and tones.

- **Speaking:**

- Present themselves fluently, including information about their background, interests and studies.
- Participate in informal debates on current topics, expressing opinions and arguments.
- Narrate anecdotes and personal experiences in a coherent and structured manner.
- Present cultural aspects of a Spanish-speaking country, such as traditions, gastronomy and culture.
- Develop skills to participate in more structured and formal debates, defending their points of view in an argued manner.
- Participate in group discussions on literary, cultural or social topics.
- Simulate interviews in pairs, where one acts as the interviewer and the other as the interviewee.

- **Writing:**

- Write descriptive paragraphs about places, people or objects, using rich and detailed vocabulary.
- Express their opinions and arguments in written form, supporting them with examples and evidence.
- Practice writing consistently by keeping a fictional diary or blog about their imaginary experiences.
- Compose emails in different contexts, adapting their tone and style.
- Develop creativity by writing short stories, poems, or other literary texts in Spanish.
- Write critical reviews of books or movies they have read or seen during the course.
- Practice writing formal letters and academic essays, following appropriate conventions.
- Contribute to online forums or written debates on specific topics, presenting coherent arguments.

3. CONTENTS

- Read and analyze newspaper articles.
- Write descriptive paragraphs about places or people.
- Discuss current topics.
- Understand conversations in different accents and speeds.
- Write reasoned answers to controversial questions.
- Narrate personal anecdotes.
- Use appropriate verb tenses for narration.
- Read, analyze and create short stories.
- Understand formal speeches.
- Write formal letters.
- Use appropriate vocabulary and structures for interviews.



4. PLANNING

Intensive course

Duration:

Dates:

August 28 to September 8, 2023.
45 school hours.

Schedule:

Monday to Friday from 14:00 to 19:00 with a 30-minute break.



Deadline to take the level test for the Intensive Spanish online course: 23 August

Official start date of the Intensive Spanish course (classes): 28 August

Deadline for requesting level changes: 30 August



CLASS TIME PLANNING

The following is an approximate division of a class:

- Introduction and review of the previous class: 10% of the time.
- Presentation of new content and explanation: 15% of the time.
- Oral and written practice in pairs or small groups: 15% of the time.
- Reading comprehension activities: 15% of the time
- Vocabulary expansion and practical exercises: 15% of the time
- Questions and answers, and feedback: 20% of the time
- Closing of the class: 10% of the time
- BREAK TIME: 16:00-16:30 hours

It is important to keep in mind that these percentages are only a suggestion and may vary according to the needs of the students and the learning pace of the class.



5. METHODOLOGY

The methodology of the course is based on a communicative and participative approach, focused on the students as active protagonists of their learning. It seeks to develop the four language skills (listening comprehension, reading comprehension, writing and speaking) in a balanced way and applied to real communication situations through:

- Task-based learning: learning is promoted through the performance of meaningful and contextualized tasks that reflect real-life situations.
- Pair and group work: Collaborative work and interaction among students is encouraged.
- Use of practical materials: Practical materials such as texts, audios, videos and real communication situations are used to develop students' communicative competence.



- Use of ICT (Information and Communication Technologies): Technological tools, such as Google Classroom, are used to enrich the teaching-learning process.
- Formative evaluation and feedback: Continuous and formative evaluation is carried out to monitor students' progress. Regular feedback is provided on their performance and opportunities for improvement are offered.



6. TUTORING

If necessary, students may contact us at escuela@always-idiomas.com and request a tutoring session with their teacher on the following dates and times:

Tutoring	Date	Time
Tutoring 1st week	Thursday, 31 August	18:15 - 19:00
Tutoring 2nd week	Wednesday, 6 September	14:00 - 14:45

7. EVALUATION

a. Continuous

- Class participation: 25% of the grade
 - Evaluation of the level of active participation in class activities, such as questions and answers, interaction with the rest of the students in the group and contributions to discussions.
- Assignments and exercises: 35% of the grade.
 - Evaluation of the completion and quality of the tasks and exercises assigned during the course, such as listening comprehension, reading comprehension, oral expression and written expression activities.
- Vocabulary and grammar activities: 40% of the grade.
 - Evaluation of the knowledge and application of the vocabulary and grammatical structures learned through specific tests.

b. Final

Final Exam: 100% of the grade. Date: 7 September

Comprehensive evaluation of the four language skills (listening comprehension, reading comprehension, oral expression and written expression) and knowledge of vocabulary and grammar acquired during the course.

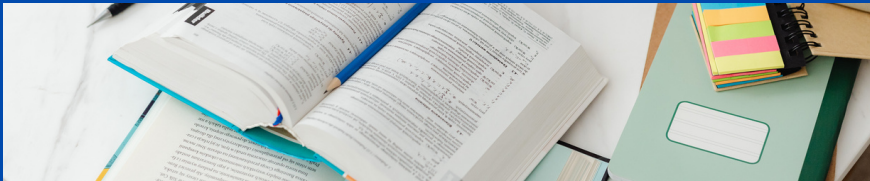
c. Attendance

- Students who meet 85% of attendance:

Will perform the continuous and summative evaluation that we have detailed in section "a" and in which all the sections specified in the programs will be assessed. It will be necessary to pass all the aspects and tasks, as well as all the parts and competences evaluated in the exams in order to pass the course.

- Students who do not reach 85% attendance:

The grade will be obtained by taking the final exam of the contents taught during the course, specified in section "b". In order to pass the course, it will be necessary to take all parts of the exam and pass each of the competencies evaluated in the exam.



8. BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Text books:
 - "Aula Internacional 4" by Jaime Corpas, Agustín Garmendia, Carmen Soriano. Difusión, 2017
 - "Prisma C1/C2 - Ejercicios" by Equipo Prisma. Edinumen, 2014
 - "Nuevo Prisma C1" by Equipo Prisma. Edinumen, 2017
- Grammar:
 - "Spanish Grammar in Context" by Juan Kattán-Ibarra and Angela Howkins. Routledge, 2014
 - "Advanced Spanish Grammar" by Marcial Prado. Wiley, 2008
 - "Gramática de uso del español" by Ramón Palencia and Luis Aragoneses. Edelsa, 2008
- Novels:
 - "Cuentos de la Alhambra" by Washington Irving. Alianza Editorial
 - "El amor en los tiempos del cólera" by Gabriel García Márquez . Vintage Español
 - "Don Quijote de la Mancha" by Miguel de Cervantes
- Internet resources:
 - Online platforms such as Duolingo (<https://es.duolingo.com/>), Memrise (<https://www.memrise.com/es/>), Quizlet (<https://quizlet.com/es>) and BBC Languages (<https://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/index.shtml>)
 - Educational websites such as Instituto Cervantes (<https://cervantes.org/>) and Español Extra (<https://www.espanolextra.com/>)