Spanish Intensive Course

INTERMEDIATE LEVEL COURSE PROGRAM



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1.INTRODUCTION

We welcome you to the Spanish intensive online course, Intermediate 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 to have an 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 competences:

- Listening:
 - At the end of the course, students will be able to understand conversations and speeches in Spanish of moderate length in both formal and informal situations.
 - Improve the ability to identify specific information in dialogues and monologues.
 - Develop the ability to understand different accents and speaking styles in Spanish.
 - Learn to infer the meaning of unknown words from context.
 - Practice taking notes during extended listening, such as lectures and presentations.
- Speaking:
 - By the end of the course, students will be able to express themselves fluently and clearly in conversations and presentations in Spanish, addressing a variety of topics.
 - Encourage active participation in conversational activities in class and online.
 - Develop the ability to narrate anecdotes and describe personal experiences in detail.
 - Practice expressing opinions, arguments and points of view in structured discussions.
 - Improve pronunciation and intonation, working on correcting common errors.
- Reading:
 - At the end of the course, students will be able to comprehend Spanish texts of different genres and levels of complexity, such as articles, stories, and essays.
 - Teach reading strategies to identify key information, infer meanings, and understand the purpose of the text.
 - Expand Spanish vocabulary through contextual reading.
 - Practice interpreting literary and non-literary texts.
 - Develop the ability to summarize and comment on texts read.
- Writing:
 - At the end of the course, students will be able to write coherent and well-structured texts in Spanish, addressing different purposes and written genres.
 - Teach grammatical and syntactical conventions for effective writing in Spanish.
 - Practice writing e-mails, short essays, formal and informal letters, among others.
 - Develop the ability to argue and present ideas in a clear and persuasive manner.
 - Encourage revision and editing of own texts to improve the quality of writing.

3. CONTENTS

- Understand dialogues and monologues.
- Learn essential vocabulary for personal descriptions, places and activities.
- Practice everyday conversations: greetings, introductions and descriptions.
- Learn regular and irregular verbs in the present and past tense.
- Learn vocabulary related to daily life and culture.
- Write informal emails and text messages.
- Use common idiomatic expressions.
- Participate in structured discussions and debates.
- Express opinions, argue and debate on current issues.
- Write short essays on specific topics.
- Use connectors and complex structures.



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 protagonist 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 1rst 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

- Reference manuals:
 - "Aula Internacional 2" de Jaime Corpas, Agustín Garmendia, Carmen Soriano and Neus Sans. Difusión, 2013.
 - "Prisma B1" by Equipo Prisma. Edinumen, 2018.
 - "Vente" by Neus Sans and María José Martínez. Difusión, 2013.
- Skills:
 - "Enseñar español como segunda lengua" from "The Routledge Handbook of Spanish Language Teaching: metodologías, contextos y recursos para la enseñanza del español L2", Oxon, New York, Routledge, 2019, 702 pages. ISBN 978-1-138-18290-5. by Javier Muñoz-Basols, Elisa Gironzetti and Manel Lacorte.
 - "Metodología de la Enseñanza del Español como Lengua Extranjera" by Isabel Santos Gargallo and Susana Pastor Cesteros. Arco Libros, 2022.
- Vocabulary:
 - "Vocabulario en uso. Nivel intermedio" by Michael McCarthy and Felicity O'Dell. Editorial Cambridge University Press, 2009.
- Grammar:
 - "Gramática de uso del español: Teoría y práctica" by Luis Aragones, Ramón Palencia. Editorial Edelsa, 2019.
- Phonetics and Pronunciation:
 - "Manual de pronunciación española" by Cristina de la Mota and Pilar Prieto. Editorial Ariel, 2019.
- Internet resources:
 - Online platforms:
 - Duolingo (https://es.duolingo.com/)
 - Memrise (<u>https://www.memrise.com/es/</u>)
 - Quizlet (<u>https://quizlet.com/es/</u>)
 - Babbel (<u>https://www.babbel.com/</u>)
 - Educational websites
 - Instituto Cervantes (<u>https://cervantes.org/</u>)
 - Español Extra (<u>https://www.espanolextra.com</u>)