

SPAN 102 – ELEMENTARY SPANISH II (4 credits)

Course objectives

The course is principally aimed at the students improving all skills so that they are able to read, write, speak and understand Spanish with as much fluidity as possible. Students will be introduced to the cultures of the contemporary Spanish-speaking world through a variety of activities which will help them progress and practice the basic linguistic skills.

Text

Blanco, José A, Donley, P.R. Vistas. Introducción a la lengua española. 3rd ed. 2008.
---. Cuaderno de actividades y Manual de laboratorio.
---. In-text CD.

Course guidelines

Attendance.

The classroom is the primary environment in which you will be exposed to the Spanish language and students will be obliged to listen and respond to it while in the presence of an instructor who can answer questions immediately, resolve any uncertainties and correct mistakes. A significant part of the class work is based on oral activities which cannot be made up on an individual basis. Students are expected to arrive to class on time.

Excessive absenteeism is unacceptable in a language class where classroom work is an essential component of the course. Students are not expected to miss any classes and all absences must be accounted for by an authorized letter from a doctor. If a student has a disability or medical condition which will prevent him/her from meeting these standards, he/she must speak with the instructor so that special arrangements can be made. More than 2 unexcused absences will lower the grade as follows:

- A student aspiring to an A should not have any absences.
- A student aspiring to an A grade with 3 unexcused absences will get an A-.
- A student aspiring to a B+ with 3 unexcused absences will get a B. And so forth.

Unexcused absences will have a substantial impact on the final grade.

All students are responsible for finding out what assignments have been given (written work, quizzes, etc) if they are absent. **Being absent does not justify coming to class unprepared.** The professor will provide information as to what homework is due only once. If students miss this opportunity, they must ask classmates.

Generally speaking there will be no make ups for exams, compositions or homework. If students miss an exam, they will be expected to provide a valid medical excuse for the absence and must immediately reschedule the exam. Only a severe medical condition or a serious unavoidable emergency might grant an extension or rescheduling. Any such conditions or emergencies must be proved by means of an official medical certificate or police report. No trips, visits from friends or family members will grant an extension.

There will be no rescheduling of Final Exams.

Lab work/ Spanish Club

Lab work is very important as it helps reinforce the course material and gives students an opportunity to hear native Spanish and to review. Some exercises in the Workbook require listening to the audio program from the lab. Students must attend the language lab regularly for a minimum of 1 hour/week. The more contact time there is the more beneficial the program will be. It is advisable for students to complete the lab/Workbook exercises as they correspond to the material studied in class. Students are expected to hand in workbook assignments on the dates indicated on the syllabus. Late workbook assignments will not be accepted.

SPANISH CLUB: Each student is expected to attend at least 3 sessions of the Spanish Club as required. Attendance will be recorded. **FILM CLUB:** Students will be expected to attend at least twice during the semester and write a report on the films they have seen.

Compositions

3 compositions will be required:

Composition 1 (1 page in length)

Composition 2 (1 and a half pages in length)

Composition 3 (2 pages in length)

All students must present a typed outline of their paper one week before the due date. The outline must be approved by the instructor. Compositions without an outline or instructor's approval will not be accepted. Compositions given in late will not be accepted.

Grade distribution

10%	Attendance and Preparation
10%	Daily Participation
10%	Workbook Chapters
25%	Homework (compositions included)
15%	Tests
25%	Final Exam
5%	Oral Presentation

Study recommendations

Coming to class well-prepared and eager to participate individually as well as in groups is the key to success in this course. Students should study daily, do all assignments, keep up with the language lab work and consult with the instructor if they begin to experience difficulty with the material at any time during the semester.

Beyond the classroom

Students are encouraged to make the most of their time in Madrid. Speak to Spanish people as much as possible, watch TV in Spanish (especially the news), go to Spanish movies and plays and attend the regular meetings of the Spanish Club. All this will give the extra practice needed and will help gain fluency. Each student will be required to present an oral report in Spanish about two out of class cultural activities in Madrid.