CIEE Buenos Aires, Argentina

Course title: Spanish Language - Beginning II  
Course code: SPAN 1002 BAAR  
Programs offering course: Buenos Aires Open Campus Block  
Open Campus Track: Language, Literature, and Culture  
Language of instruction: Spanish  
U.S. semester credits: 3.00  
Contact hours: 60.00  
Term: Spring Block II 2021

Course Description
This course is designed for students with one to two semesters of college-level Spanish, or the equivalent as determined by a placement test. This course uses a communicative approach, focusing on what students can do with the language as much as on what they know about the language. By the end of this course, students understand the principal points of clear texts and writings in standard language; know how to describe in the past and to exchange information about daily routines, experiences, likes and interests. The linguistic elements and vocabulary that are taught prepare students to talk about frequent topics and deal with daily situations. Students should be able to understand a simple face-to-face conversation about practical issues and familiar subjects.

Learning Objectives
By completing this course, students will:

- Apply concepts learnt in class in oral conversation productions in class and with native speakers.
- Understand pertinent vocabulary, grammar structures and correct speeches to write simple but well-constructed texts on a familiar topic of general or personal interest.
- Analyze events in the present and the past.
- Understand how to give an opinion on familiar topics of general or personal interest using the correct structures in Spanish.

Course Prerequisites
This course is designed for students with two semesters of college-level Spanish, or the equivalent as determined by a placement test.

Methods of Instruction
Students will do their learning both inside and outside the classroom. The goal is to create a real and engaging learning environment that caters for their linguistic needs throughout the course. On each individual task, students will learn and practice the grammatical structures needed to accomplish the task, as well as the vocabulary and relevant information about the context (cultural awareness). In the classroom, an emphasis will be placed on communication over grammar, but students will also have access to extra material to practice on their own or do as homework to consolidate key grammar points and basic language structures.

The structure of each week is as follows:

- The tasks will be organized by weekly topics, so that each session of a week is related to the others.
- At the end of each week, students will have to do a written and oral presentation and a mini test with a focus on the grammatical/lexical content covered over the week.
- Students will be provided with daily extra material as homework to reinforce the grammatical and lexical aspects seen in the classroom.
- Each of the presentations and tests will count for the final grade.

Assessment and Final Grade

1. Daily Homework                  15%  
2. Oral Presentations and Written Weekly Projects  25%  
3. Weekly Tests                   20%  
4. Final test (Oral and written)  20%
Course Requirements

Daily Homework

Students will be given written homework daily to reinforce the grammatical and lexical topics covered in the classroom and will be checked by the instructor in class every day. When homework must be turned in, no extension can be granted. Failing to complete their daily homework will result in a lower final grade for the course.

Oral Presentations and Written Weekly Projects

Each week students complete a short-written project, which they will present to the class through an oral presentation at the end of the respective week. Both the delivery of the presentation and the written project will be assessed. Failing to complete their oral and written weekly projects will result in a lower final grade for the course.

Weekly Tests

At the end of each week, students will have to sit a mini-test where they will be assessed on the grammatical and lexical content of the week. Each of the weekly assessment will count for the final grade.

Final test (Oral and written)

The Final test that will take place in the last week of the course covers the four skills of language learning: speaking, listening, reading, writing. It will consist on an video project with an oral component for students to present in the last day of classes. Students will also sit for a final exam covering all the topics seen throughout the course.

Participation

Participation is valued as meaningful contribution in the digital and tangible classroom, utilizing the resources and materials presented to students as part of the course. Meaningful contribution requires students to be prepared in advance of each class session and to have regular attendance. Students must clearly demonstrate they have engaged with the materials as directed, for example, through classroom discussions, online discussion boards, peer-to-peer feedback (after presentations), interaction with guest speakers, and attentiveness on co-curricular and outside-of-classroom activities.

Each student is expected to actively participate in class, and thereby help ensure the effective functioning of the course as well as his/her individual learning progress. Participation and the investment of an appropriate amount of time in the preparation of each session will be considered in the determination of final grades.

Attendance

Regular class attendance is required throughout the program, and all absences will result in a lower participation grade for any affected CIEE course. Due to the intensive schedules for Open Campus and Short Term programs, absences that constitute more than 10% of the total course will result in a written warning.

Students who transfer from one CIEE class to another during the add/drop period will not be considered absent from the first session(s) of their new class, provided they were marked present for the first session(s) of their original class. Otherwise, the absence(s) from the original class carry over to the new class and count against the grade in that class.

For CIEE classes, excessively tardy (over 15 minutes late) students must be marked absent.

Attendance policies also apply to any required co-curricular class excursion or event, as well as to any required field placement. Students may not miss placement/work hours at an internship or service learning site unless approved in advance by the Academic Director and placement supervisor. All students must complete all of the requisite 100 minimum work hours on site at the internship or service learning placement to be eligible for academic credit.

Students who miss class for personal travel, including unforeseen delays that arise as a result of personal travel, will be marked as absent. No make-up or re-sit opportunity will be provided.
Attendance policies also apply to any required class excursion, with the exception that some class excursions cannot accommodate any tardiness, and students risk being marked as absent if they fail to be present at the appointed time.

Absences for classes will lead to the following penalties:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage of Total Course Hours Missed</th>
<th>Minimum Penalty</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Up to 10%</td>
<td>Participation graded as per class requirements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 – 20%</td>
<td>Participation graded as per class requirements; 3% grade penalty &amp; written warning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More than 20%</td>
<td>Automatic course failure, and possible expulsion</td>
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</tbody>
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N.B. Course schedule is subject to change due to study tours, excursions, or local holidays. Final schedules will be included in the final syllabus provided to students on site.

**Weekly Schedule**

**Week 1**

Class: 1.1 Intro to the Class and Creating a Personal Profile.

Students will be presented the syllabus of the course. Students will engage in an activity to explore previous knowledge. Students will voice their expectations and discuss their motivation to study the language. The instructor will discuss the methods of instruction and his/her expectations to be. The topic of register will be covered, providing examples of formal and informal interactions.

Reference material: CIEE Buenos Aires Material & Booklet CIEE Beginning Spanish 2: Ficha 1; Parte 1.

Class: 1.2 Presentation of the Scope of the Course and Instruction.

This session will focus on methods of getting to know people, giving and asking for personal information. Organize a contact list.

Students will learn different Spanish greetings and what is appropriate in which context. The students will work with descriptions of the general school environment: classroom, classmates and their weekly schedule.

Due: Daily homework.

Reference material: CIEE Buenos Aires Material & Booklet CIEE Beginning Spanish 2: Ficha 1; Parte 2.

Class: 1.3 Families in the world

In this class they will learn how to describe their family (physical and personality traits) and talk about the relationship they have with them. They will also learn how to express topics in regard to cities, neighborhoods and houses. The present tense of regular verbs.

Due: Daily homework.
Class: 1.4 Holiday options

Student will learn about different places to vacation within the country and in Latin America and learn about the weather in different locations. You will learn about clothing and colors and likes and dislikes.

Due: Daily homework.

Reference material: CIEE Buenos Aires Material & Booklet CIEE Beginning Spanish 2: Ficha 1; Parte 3.

Week 2

Class: 2.1 Spare time in Argentina

Students will make a survey on the most popular hobbies in the class. They will find out which are the most popular activities to do in Buenos Aires and give their opinion. Describe a sports event. Students will also learn and share their knowledge about local sports and football culture in Argentina.

Due: Daily homework.


Class: 2.2 What’s the score?

Students will find out about sports events in Buenos Aires in that given week. They will exchange information about an event and make appointments to attend. On the process of organizing the attendance to the event, they will express wishes and show agreement and disagreement. The students will plan for a hypothetical upcoming weekend holiday trip and talk about the best way to prepare for it.

Due: Daily homework.


Class: 2.3 Sports in the media.

Media news of Argentine football teams will be addressed, and current issues of local sports will be exposed. Students will watch local sports media footage as an example to later create their own hypothetical sports program.

Due: Daily homework.


Class: 2.4 Sports fans.

Students will create a slideshow to compare and discuss the differences in sports and outdoors activities in Argentina and the States. They will share their experience at a sports event focusing on people’s attitudes and behaviors in public venues. Students will do revision and test 1.

Due: Oral Presentation and Written Weekly Project: “Life in Buenos Aires 1: Socializing” & Weekly Test 1

Week 3

Class: 3.1 Food Preferences

Students will talk about the food they like and dislike and will discuss their eating habits. They also justify their decision regarding their food choices.
Due: Daily homework.


Class: 3.2 Food and Celebrations

Students will get familiarized with the Argentine gastronomy and will learn about common ingredients and meals. They will make an ethnographic interview to research typical food of party days and celebrations in Argentina and in the States. Opinion about healthy and unhealthy foods and ingredients. As for grammar, stem-changing irregular verbs will be reviewed.

Due: Daily homework.


Class: 3.3 Restaurant Behavior

Students will learn how to order food at a restaurant using courtesy formulas. They will practice how to complain politely at a bar/restaurant.

Due: Daily homework.


Class: 3.4 Let’s cook Argentine dishes.

Students will prepare their own typical Argentine dishes to share with the class and they will explain how they had prepared them. They will talk about the ingredients they used and the usual situations those dishes are eaten. Subsequently, there will be a review session for Test 2, before students take the test.


Week 4

Class: 4.1 What’s on?

Students will get familiarized with the cultural scene in Buenos Aires and they will learn some vocabulary/expressions related to cinema, theatre and performing arts. They will make plans to attend a cultural event in Buenos Aires. They will give and follow directions about how to get there practicing formal and informal commands.

Due: Daily homework.


Class: 4.2 What did you do during the weekend?

Students will describe their experience in the Buenos Aires cultural scene reviewing the use of past tenses. They will also write a short story based on the Argentinian film Herencia by Paula Hernández.

Due: Daily homework.


Class: 4.3 Argentine tunes

Students will research and learn about famous musicians in Buenos Aires. They will categorize and compare different kinds of music. They will also discuss Argentine songs and musicians’ biographies.
Class: 4.4 My favorite artist

Students will present their favorite local artist (musician, painter, actor, etc). They will talk about their work and their live and the impact they have on the local cultural scene.

Students will do revision and test 3.


Week 5

Class: 5.1 Best moments in Buenos Aires

Students will share information and interview their partners about their stay in Buenos Aires (eg. Places they have visited, food, best moments, etc) (Revision: time expressions, preterit and imperfect, linking words). They will make a list with the top 5 moments and justify why they had chosen them. They will share their impressions with the rest of the class.

Due: Daily homework.


Class: 5.2 Travel and changes

Students will create a comic strip/ short story about an unexpected experience in Buenos Aires and will share it with the class. They will be asked to reflect upon the ways their stay in Buenos Aires have changed them.

Due: Daily homework.

Reference material: CIEE Buenos Aires Material & Booklet CIEE Beginning Spanish 2: Ficha 5 – Parte 2

Class: 5.3 Discovering new places

Students will tell about their trips (in Argentina or elsewhere) and will talk about the impact of travelling on them. They will share information about different locations around the area and their most important traits (economy, culture, traditions, etc)

Due: Daily homework.


Class: 5.4 Our experiences in Argentina

Student will present their digital travel diaries including texts and images. Students will do revision and test 4.


Week 6

Class: 6.1 Last call

Students will create a bucket list of things they still want to do before leaving Buenos Aires and share it with the group; they will justify their opinions. (Future tense, justifications ‘porque’...
Class: 6.2 I would like to....

Student will make a personal statement about their life. (Voy a/quiero infinitivo/me gustaría +infinitive).

Due: Daily homework.


Class: 6.3 Our world in the future

Students will make hypothesis about environmental and social issues in the future. They will discuss Argentina current social and environmental situation. They will explore different topics in media and commercials. They will sit for a mock exam and make corrections as a form of revision for the final test.

Class: 6.4 From now on

Student will present a short film or another visual project linking their past experiences and their hypothetical future after their stay in Buenos Aires. Students will do revision and final test.

Due: Final test (Oral and Written)

Course Materials

Readings

Specially done material by CIEE Buenos Aires staff based on the following bibliography:


Online Resources


<http://www.educ.ar>


<http://www.turismo.buenosaires.gob.ar/es/agrupador-noticias/recorridos-turisticos>
