



CIEE Barcelona, Spain

Course title:	Advanced Spanish Grammar, Composition, and Conversation
Course code:	SPAN 3002 BASP
Programs offering course:	Liberal Arts
Language of instruction:	Spanish
U.S. semester credits:	3
Contact hours:	45
Term:	Spring 2020

Course Description

This is an advanced Spanish language course corresponding to levels **B1-B2** of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) and **Advanced Low** of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL). Its aim is to help independent users of the language become proficient users. Advanced Spanish for the Academic Discourse is a course for students who need to improve their language skills to be able to take classes in Spanish in a local institution, to read literature, take tests, write papers and do oral presentations in Spanish. It is an instrumental language course that focuses specifically on the academic use of Spanish.

Learning Objectives

By completing this course, students will:

The goal of the course is the development of writing and speaking abilities in Spanish in an advanced level. In particular, by the end of the course the student is expected to reach the following goals:

- Listening: be able to understand extended speech and lectures and follow even complex lines of argument provided the topic is reasonably familiar, most TV news and current affairs programs, and films in standard dialect.
- Reading: be able to read articles and reports concerned with contemporary problems in which the writers adopt particular attitudes or viewpoints.
- Spoken interaction: be able to interact with a degree of fluency and spontaneity that makes regular interaction with native speakers quite possible and take an active part in discussion in familiar contexts, accounting for and sustaining his or her views.
- Spoken production: be able to present clear, detailed descriptions on a wide range of subjects related to his/her field of interest, and explain a viewpoint on a topical issue giving the advantages and disadvantages of various options.
- Writing: be able to write clear, detailed text on a wide range of subjects related to his/her interests, an essay or report, passing on information or giving reasons in support of or against a particular point of view, and letters highlighting the personal significance of events and experiences. At the end of the course, students will have the necessary tools to construct a brief academic text (exam, comment, class activity) with these characteristics: planned, correct, adequate and effective.

Course Prerequisites

4 semesters of college-level Spanish (or equivalent)

Methods of Instruction



This course is taught following the method of communicative language teaching, and is focused on text understanding and production, either oral or written. The course consists of three thematic units: description, narration, and exposition. Each unit comprehends four sessions, approximately. The classes combine:

- Understanding and analyzing oral or written examples of language.
- Introduction, explanation and grammar content practice.
- Production of oral and written texts.

Language exchange

Students taking this course must attend a language exchange activity, where a group of CIEE students and local students meet for two hours of informal conversation.

Assessment and Final Grade

1.	Midterm Exam	25%
2.	Final Exam	25%
3.	Oral Tasks	20%
4.	Written Compositions	20%
5.	Class Participation	10%
	TOTAL	100%

Course Requirements

Midterm Exam

Final Exam

The midterm and final exams are cumulative; that is to say that they consist of all the materials studied up to that point. Each exam will likely contain all of the following components: a) Reading comprehension, b) Writing, c) Grammar and d) Vocabulary.

Oral Tasks

On designated dates during the semester the student will have to present two oral tasks:

- Personal presentation: This is an individual, out-of-class assessment. Students will prepare a personal presentation according to certain topics. The presentation should last about 5 minutes, and will be recorded and sent to the professor. The assessment will consider linguistic competence (lexical competence, grammatical competence, phonological competence), sociolinguistic competence and also pragmatic competences (coherence and cohesion, thematic development, turn-taking, fluency).
- Oral presentation/ interaction: This is a group assessment. On designated dates during the course the students will have to present a topic related to a specific theme that will be assigned to him/her by the instructor. The topic will be cinema, so each presentation needs to be structured as a movie review. Each presentation should last up to 10 minutes. Students will be asked to supplement their presentations with Power Point. Each presentation will be followed by a short question and answer session.

Written Compositions



Compositions will be written on topics related to course materials. Students will write three compositions. The composition will be a narrative text, descriptive text and argumentative text. The final written compositions grade will be the average of the three marks.

Each written task will be graded on the following four parameters: (i) content, (ii) adequacy, (iii) punctuation, (iv) grammar, (v) vocabulary and (vi) style. There will be a first draft which professor will return to the student indicating, where possible, linguistic errors, which must be revised and turned in again to be reviewed. The final grade will be the average between the first draft and the final version. Both versions are mandatory in order to obtain a final grade.

Late assignments will be marked down 5% after the first day and 1% every day afterwards. No coursework will be accepted after the last day of class.

Correcting code

All compositions, exams, exercises will be corrected with the following correcting code:

a = *acento* (accent mark)

c = *concordancia* (agreement)

o = *ortografía* (spelling)

t = *tiempo verbal* (verb tense)

f= *forma* (incorrect form: adjective instead of noun, etc.)

s = *sujeto* (verb conjugated for the incorrect subject)

v = *vocabulario* (vocabulary)

x = *falta algo* (something is missing)

s/e = *ser y estar*

pas= *pretérito/imperfecto*

pp = *preposiciones*

m = *modo, indicativo-subjuntivo* (mood, indicative-subjunctive)

Plagiarism

Any copy or reproduction of a text that is not yours is considered plagiarism. You can't use any kind of translation device or website such as **spanishdict.com** to write your compositions, only dictionaries such as **wordreference.com**. **It is not allowed to have your compositions proof read by a native speaker.** In case your professor detects you have used translation websites or native speakers to write or proof read your composition, **you will get a 0.**

Class Participation

Participation in class will be evaluated as follows:



A - Active and effective volunteering and oral participation in class, individual, with groups and with partners. **NO ENGLISH.**

B - Some volunteering in class, effective and active work with partners. **NO ENGLISH.**

C - Few responses in class but effective and active works with partners.

D - Concentrating on material presented, ineffective work with partners.

E - Almost no speaking or involvement in class activities

Weekly Schedule

Week 1

Class 1.1 Orientation Week

Introduction to class (syllabus and course content)

Class 1.2 .

Field trip: Market

Week 2

Class 2.1 Unit 1. The Spanish Culture

Requests. Useful vocabulary: restaurant, city, etc.

Course materials: Corpas et al. 2013. Unit 7

VVAA. 2005. Units 18, 19.

Class 2.2 .

The form “vosotros” and treatment methods in Spanish

Devices to excuse, Imperative tense and pronouns

Course materials: Corpas et al. 2013. Unit 2

Week 3

Class 3.1 Unit 2. The Description of Present Events (I)

Verbal periphrases: dejar de, empezar a...

Course materials: Corpas et al. 2013. Unit 1

Class 3.2 .

Verbal periphrases: dejar de, empezar a...

Course materials: Corpas et al. 2013. Unit 1

Week 4

Class 4.1 Unit 2. The Description of Present Events (II)

Placing events in a time line

Course materials. VVAA. 2007. Unit 4

Class 4.2 .

Duration structures (desde, desde hace, hace...que).

Course materials. VVAA. 2007. Unit 4

Week 5

Class 5.1 Unit 2. The Description of Past Events (III)

Talking about past experiences

Pretérito Perfecto de indicativo. Morphology and uses.

Course Materials: Corpas et al. 2014. Unit 3

Class 5.2 .

Combination of past tenses: perfecto/indefinido.

Due term: Written task 1 (Narrative text)

Course Materials: VVAA. 2008. Unit 1

VVAA. 2005. Unit 26

Week 6

Class 6.1 Unit 2. The Description of Past Events (IV)

Combination of past tenses: perfecto/indefinido/pluscuamperfecto

Course Materials: Corpas et al. 2014. Unit 3

Class 6.2 .

Combination of past tenses: imperfecto/indefinido

The modern short story

Due term: Oral task 1 (Presentation)

Course Materials: Corpas et al. 2014. Unit 3

VVAA. 2008. Unit 3

Week 7

Class 7.1 Mid-term Exams

Written mid-term exam

Class 7.2 .

Debate-Oral mid-term exam

Week 8

Class 8.1 Unit 3. The Future (I)

Talking about a future event or situation.

Use and form of futuro imperfecto simple

Course materials: VVAA. 2005. Unit 28

Class 8.2 .

To express conditions

Course materials: VVAA. 2005. Unit 28

Week 9

Class 9.1 Unit 3. The Future (II)

Conditional structures: si + presente de indicativo, futuro

Course materials: Corpas et al. 2013. Unit 8

Class 9.2 .

Conditional structures: si + presente de indicativo, futuro

Due term: Written task 2 (Narrative text)

Course materials: Corpas et al. 2013. Unit 8

Week 10

Class 10.1 Unit 4. The Description (I)

Ser/estar/haber.

Directional verbs.

Course materials: VVAA. 2008. Unit 2

Corpas et al. 2014. Unit 5

Class 10.2 .

Prepositions of position and movement.

Adjectives and nouns which come from of adjectives

Course materials: VVAA. 2008. Unit 2

Corpas et al. 2014. Unit 5

Week 11

Class 11.1 Unit 5. The Cinema and the Opinion (I)

Giving an opinion and talking about the cinema.

Course materials: VVAA. 2008. Unit 6

Class 11.2 .

Structures to describe films

Course materials: VVAA. 2008. Unit 6

VVAA. 2005. Unit 32

Week 12

Class 12.1 Unit 5. The Cinema and the Opinion (II)

Giving an opinion about facts and situations

Course materials: VVAA. 2005. Unit 33

Class 12.2 .

Indicative and subjunctive in hypothesis and opinions.

Discourse connectors.

Due term: Written task 3 (Narrative text)

Course materials: VVAA. 2005. Unit 33

Week 13

Class 13.1 Unit 6. Giving Advice

Linguistic structures to advise: indicative, subjunctive



Course materials: VVAA. 2005. Unit 33

Instructions for oral final presentation

Class 13.2 .

Linguistic structures to advise: subjunctive, infinitive and conditional

Course materials: VVAA. 2005. Unit 33

Week 14

Class 14.1 Oral Presentations

Oral final presentation

Class 14.2 .

Exam review

Week 15

Class 15.1 Final Exam

Written final exam

Course Materials

Readings

The professor will provide students with the materials needed for the course. These materials are taken from the following Spanish textbooks:

CORPAS, Jaime, et al. Aula 4. Curso de español. Barcelona: Editorial Difusión, 2013

CORPAS, Jaime, et al. Aula 4. Curso de español. Barcelona: Editorial Difusión, 2014

VVAA. Abanico. Curso Avanzado de Español Lengua Extranjera. Barcelona: Editorial Difusión, 2007

VVAA. Destino Erasmus 2. Curso de español. Barcelona: SGEL y Publicaciones Universidad de Barcelona, 2008

VVAA. Gente 2. Curso de español. Barcelona: Editorial. Difusión, 2004

VVAA. Gramática básica del estudiante de español. Barcelona: Editorial Difusión, 2005