

EARTH EDUCATION INTERNATIONAL
Intermediate Spanish / Español para Intermedios
World Languages & Cultures (WLC) 120
Spring / Primavera 2012

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Course Description

An intensive intermediate Spanish course for students who have recently completed at least one-year of college-level Spanish. Emphasis is on vocabulary and sentence structure, as well as oral practice. Prerequisite: One year of college Spanish. Instructor approval required (3 credits).

Course Objectives

At the completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Identify and correct the principal shortcomings of his or her oral and written expression.
2. Express his/herself with increased fluency & grammatical accuracy of oral and written Spanish.
3. Recognize various dialect variants typical of Spanish of Costa Rica.
4. Achieve enhanced integration within Costa Rican/Central American culture through an improved understanding of the language and associated regional cultural idioms.

Course Materials

Required Text:

1. Julio I Andújar & Robert J. Dixon. *Everyday Spanish. Book Two. Intermediate-Advanced, 2nd. Edition.*

Recommended Texts:

1. *Un buen Diccionario Español-Inglés* (Simon & Schuster, Larousse, Oxford, etc.). Por ejemplo: Oxford English Spanish. Oxford University Press ISBN 0-19-280013-2 (Librería Universal ¢1.900/\$10)
2. *Diccionario español Norma*. Editorial Norma (Librería Universal ¢4.500)
3. *Un buen Diccionario de sinónimos y antónimos en Español* (e.g., Larousse, ¢6.500 Librería Universal)

Course Requirements

All classes will consist of a review of homework, lecture, grammar & oral practices. Accordingly, students will be evaluated on the following:

1. Written Composition & Grammar Exercises. After being presented with an explanation of the grammar of the day by the professor, students will partake in composing various in-class written grammar exercises. These will consist of short compositions (1-2 pages), grammar activities, writing dialogs, reading of materials, quizzes, and/or short exams as appropriate. Value: 30% of final grade.
2. Oral Expression & Vocabulary Activities. Oral expression activities of 5-10 minutes each will follow the grammar exercises each day. These activities will provide an opportunity for oral practice of the grammatical subjects learned in class on various topics of interest to the student: Personal activities, current events, politics, culture, etc. The format will be through presentations, dialogs, dramatizations, story-telling, and/or directed thematic conversations as appropriate. Oral activities will also draw upon new vocabulary that students have encountered out of class. In order to facilitate this, each student will

bring a written list of new vocabulary to each class session. Value: 35% of final grade.

3. Quizzes. Three (3) short written quizzes on themes addressed in class will be given during the semester. Each will be approximately 15-20 minutes, and cover materials presented since the previous quiz. Value: 15% of final grade.

4. Final Exam. A comprehensive final exam including all materials covered in the quizzes will be given at the end of the semester. Value: 20% of final grade.

Course Evaluation

Students' final grade for the semester will be based upon the following standardized scale:

93-100% = A	73-76.9% = C
90-92.9% = A-	70-72.9% = C-
87-89.9% = B+	65-69.9% = D+
83-86.9% = B	60-64.9% = D
80-82.9% = B-	<60% = F
77-79.9% = C+	

Course Policies

Absences. In accordance with general program policies, course absences will subject grades to being lowered. Unexcused absences from *class meetings* will subject the final course grade to a reduction of 1% (for 1 days missed), 2% (for 2 days missed), and 5% per day thereafter (for three or more days). Also note that excessive tardiness to class may be counted as missed class. Missed *field study/volunteer work days* will result in a 5% reduction in the final grade (1 day missed), and a 10% reduction per day thereafter (this is also considered class time). This means that if you are late and miss a departure for a field trip, you not only miss the trip, but also the equivalent amount of class time. For SPECIAL circumstances (beyond your control) where you are unable to attend, it is YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO DIRECTLY CONTACT THE INSTRUCTOR PRIOR TO CLASS TIME, regardless of the reason for the absence. Otherwise, all policies previously outlined will be in force and there will be NO make-ups.

Participation. With the exception of illness, participants are expected to attend all program functions, activities, field trips, service-learning activities, guest presentations, etc. There are a variety of reasons for this including receiving academic credit for associated activities, facilitating program dynamics, assisting with personal adjustment issues, and contributing your effort toward group assignments.

Program Policies. Please be advised that all other policies identified on the program web site, and presented at the beginning of the program apply for the duration. See <http://www.earthedintl.org/Policies.htm> for details.

Course Outline (subject to modification to accommodate student needs)

I. Review

- a) The present tense (regular and irregular tenses)
- b) Ser vs. estar (all the uses)
- c) The preterit tense (regular verbs)

II. The Preterit tense

- a) -Er and -ir verbs with stems ending in a vowel
- b) Irregular verbs in the preterit

III. The Imperfect tense

- a) Formation of the imperfect
- b) Basic uses of the imperfect

IV. The Imperfect and the Preterit: differences

- a) Direct Pronouns
- b) The formation and uses of the direct pronouns

V. Reflexive Verbs

- a) Formation and uses of reflexive verbs
- b) The imperative of reflexive verbs

VI. Future & Conditional tenses

- a) Formation and uses of the future
- b) Formation and uses of the conditional
- c) The formation and uses of the indirect pronoun

VII. Perfect Tenses

- a) The formation of the present perfect
- b) The past perfect
- c) The future perfect
- d) The conditional perfect

VIII. Subjunctive Impersonal Clauses

Tentative Course Schedule

Week 1	- Review - Preterit tense
Week 2	- Quiz 1 - <u>Written Composition #1</u> - Imperfect tense
Week 3	- Uses of Imperfect vs. Preterit - Direct pronouns - <u>Oral Expression #1</u>
Week 4	- Reflexive verbs - Future & Conditional - <u>Written Composition #2</u>
Week 5	- Present Perfect tenses - Quiz 2 - Future & Conditional tenses - Indirect pronouns - <u>Oral Expression #2</u>
Week 6	- Quiz 3 - Reflexive verbs & perfect tenses
Week 7	-The subjunctive tense - <u>Written Composition #3</u> - <u>Oral Expression #3</u>
Week 8	- Final exam - Course review & evaluation

Additional Resources

1. Cien Años de Literatura Hispanoamericana: 1898 – 1998. Editorial de la Universidad de Costa Rica.
2. Giebler Simonet, Alf Alexander. A lo tico. Costarriqueñismos y otras vainas. Segunda Edición. San José Costa Rica.
3. Cine para la vida. Primera Edición: abril 1998. Ediciones Octaedro, S.L. Barcelona.
4. Salguero, Miguel, seud. Cantones de Costa Rica. Primera Edición. San José. Editorial Costa Rica, 1991.
5. El Nuevo Sembrador, Edición dirigida y realizada por: La escuela Nueva S. A. Editores.
6. Lengua Española, Compañía Cultural Editora y distribuidora de Textos Americanos, S.A.
7. Libros Escuela Para todos (ICECU) 2005 al 2011
8. Charts, posters, pictures, games, flash cards, lottery, songs, videos and teaching techniques.