

Spanish level 1

How long does the course last?

3 x 10 week terms with 10 classes per term. Lessons take place once a week and last 1.5 hours each. This gives a total of 45 hours tuition.

Who is the course for?

The course is aimed at a wide range of students with a general interest in Spanish. No prior knowledge of Spanish is required as the course is for complete beginners.

What are the objectives of the course?

To acquire basic language skills and to achieve the equivalent of A1 level of the CEFR, entry level of the NQF or Breakthrough level of the Asset Languages qualification.

By the end of the course you will:

- be able to communicate in very basic everyday-life situations, including greetings, introducing yourself and others, talking about daily and spare time activities, likes and dislikes, telling the time and date, making simple purchases, etc.
- be able to understand very simple oral and written texts and ascertain specific information on simple topics
- have developed an insight into Spanish-speaking life, culture and society

How is the course taught?

- A communicative approach is used. All four skills (speaking, reading, listening and writing) are practised, with the main emphasis on speaking.
- Students engage in interactive language activities, participating in group and pair work according to a syllabus based on systematic grammatical progression.
- Students will also be offered guidance in self-study and set optional homework tasks.

What course can I do next?

After completing all 3 terms of level 1, students should be able to join a level 2 class. Students who have only completed one or two terms of level 1 should join a False Beginners' class.

Course outline

Term 1

Topics

Greetings and introductions

Personal information: nationality, occupation, address, age, marital status

Formal and informal ways of addressing people

Alphabet, numbers, instructions in class

Countries and nationalities

Family

Describing people

Discover Spain & Latin America: the Spanish Language in the world, the population of Latin America, the family in the Spanish-speaking world

Functions

Greeting and introducing people
Asking for and giving personal information
Using formal and informal modes of address
Talking about the family
Describing people

Grammar

Number and gender
Articles: definite and indefinite
Demonstrative pronouns
Personal pronouns
Uses of *Hay*
Interrogative pronouns
Adjective agreement
Present Tense: regular and irregular verbs
Ser and estar: some uses
Quantifiers

Term 2

Topics

Common everyday objects
Money and numbers
Shopping
Town & City
House and furniture
Likes and dislikes
Sports and Leisure
The time, days of the week & months
The weather
Public timetables
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Functions

Making simple purchases
Describing towns
Describing your city/town
Describing your house/flat
Expressing likes and dislikes
Talking about sports and free time activities
Asking and giving information about opening times of public places

Grammar

Articles
Demonstrative pronouns
Prepositions of place
Ser and estar: more uses
Hay
Verb: *gustar*
Object pronouns

Term 3

Topics

Daily routine and weekends

Leisure activities/ Activities and things that you can /cannot do

The work, transport and timetabling

Simple past tense

Discover Spain & Latin America: free-time activities in the Spanish-speaking world, travelling in Peru, famous Latin-American people

Functions

Talking about daily routines

Talking about weekend activities

Talking about your work / studies, how you get to work and what you like the most about it

Talking about activities that you are good at

Describing what you did yesterday/last weekend

Grammar

Present Tense: irregular verbs

Reflexive Verbs

Prepositions

Adverbs of frequency

Verb + Infinitive

Preterite tense

Learning resources

Textbook and exercise book:

- ELE Actual A1, Libro del Alumno + Cuaderno de Ejercicios by Virgilio Borobio, published by SM

Students are expected to purchase their own textbook. An exercise book may also be recommended. The teacher will supply additional material, both tailor-made and taken from other sources (textbooks, newspapers, and new media).

Recommended additional material:

- Spanish Grammar by Conrad J. Schmitt, published by McGraw-Hill
- English Grammar for Students of Spanish: The Study Guide for Those Learning Spanish, by Emily Spinelli, published by The Olivia and Hill Press
- Bilingual online dictionary: www.dictionary.cambridge.org

For a list of bookshops where you may be able to purchase text books please see our web page:

www.kcl.ac.uk/artshums/depts/mlc/about/facilities/shops.aspx

Online language learning resources:

<http://www.kcl.ac.uk/artshums/depts/mlc/lrc/language-resources/spanish.aspx>

Independent Study

Research indicates that successful language learners revise new material and review their progress on a regular basis. The Language Resources Centre (LRC), situated in room K-1.072 in level minus one of the Strand Campus, houses a wide collection of learning material including text and grammar books, magazines and newspapers, CDs, DVDs, satellite television and self-access e-learning language programmes.

For details on LRC opening times, please see our website:

<http://www.kcl.ac.uk/artshums/depts/mlc/lrc/index.aspx>

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