

Course S-03

SPANISH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE III

(45 contact hours - language of instruction: Spanish)

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Course description

This course is designed for students with a solid foundation in Spanish (four college semesters or equivalent) who would like to deepen their knowledge of the language through the study of the history and culture of Spain that is portrayed in its artistic production (literature, music, audiovisual arts, painting and architecture).

As an integral part of the course, students will participate in out-of-class activities that will foster their interlanguage and intercultural competence. These activities will take place during class time.

After completion of the course, the level acquired by the students will be B2.2/C1.1 (CEFR) or mid/high advanced (ACTFL).

Objectives

This course will enable students to:

- Articulate abstract ideas accurately and confidently.
- Express opinions and defend a point of view in a discussion context.
- Understand different levels of interpretations in texts.
- Analyze literary and artistic works in various contexts (social, political, historical, philosophical, etc.) and with regards to style, period, and the circumstances of composition.
- Increase written and oral proficiency, showing a correct use of complex grammatical constructions and a level of cohesion and organization appropriate to an academic context.
- Develop critical thinking through exposure to diverse cultural contents.
- Understand the nature of stereotypes and how cultural and social aspects are used as identity-based values by different societies.

Methods of Instruction

Classes will follow a communicative approach and will be built on both individual and group tasks that will require the students' active participation at all times.

Grading Criteria

Class participation: 20%

Oral and written assignments: 20%

Midterm Exam: 20%

Final Project Presentation: 20%

Final Exam: 20%

Course Requirements

Class Participation: An active participation in class is essential in this course. Students will be expected to contribute their opinions on the ongoing debates that will be proposed. For their contributions to meet the course requirements, students must complete all the assigned homework before coming to class.

Out-of-class activities: Students are required to complete two activities outside of the classroom during class time.

- **Tour of Neo-Mudéjar Architecture.** Students will take notes of everything they consider relevant about this style. Then they will share their notes and opinions in a group discussion in class.
- **Visit to the Museum of Fine Arts in Seville.** Working in pairs, students will choose to work on a painting from the museum. Then, each pair will have to gather as much information as they can about it. This will serve as basis for an oral presentation where they need to explain the cultural value that the chosen painting portrays with respect to present-day Spain.

Photographic Tour of Seville. This is a third activity outside of the classroom. It is designed to be done in pairs, but unlike the previous two, it is part of the regularly assigned homework, that is, it is to be completed outside of class time. Working in pairs, students will take pictures of buildings, squares, statues, etc. that are historically and/or culturally connected to America. This will serve as basis for an oral presentation.

Assignments: Students will be required to do the assignments listed below.

- **Four readings.** Brief literary pieces by renowned Spanish authors. Individual work to be done before class.
- **Four reading reports.** A two-paragraph written personal reaction to each assigned reading. Individual work to be done before class.
- **Two 15-minute oral presentations.** To be done in pairs. The first presentation is based on the Photographic Tour of Seville. The second presentation is based on the organized visit to the Museum of Fine Arts.

Midterm Exam: Students will take an essay exam about the topics covered in the first part of the course.

Final Project Presentation: Students will present in class a Final Project on a cultural topic.

Final Exam: The Final exam has two components. Students will take an essay exam about the topics covered in the second part of the course and will also take an oral exam about one of the topics of their choosing.

Attendance: Attendance at classes and at guided out-of-class activities is obligatory. One point will be marked off the final grade after the first unjustified absence.

DAILY SCHEDULE

Day 1	Course presentation Cultural content: - Spanish identity cultural markers: impressions and stereotypes through media and advertising marketing. - The legacy of Al-Ándalus and its impact on the Spanish artistic and identity imaginary. Grammar: - The present tense (special uses) - Qué/Cuál - Saber/Conocer - Cognates
Day 2	Cultural content: The literary essay as an interdisciplinary approach - Reading of José María Blanco White's <i>El Alcázar de Sevilla</i> Reading report 1 due Grammar: - The past tense (preterite versus imperfect) - Reflexives - Ser vs. Estar - Comparatives - Punctuation rules
Day 3	Out-of-class activity: Tour of Neo-Mudéjar architecture Grammar: "Gustar"-type verbs - Punctuation rules cont.
Day 4	Cultural content: Introduction to flamenco, its mixture with other music styles and its impact on collective celebrations in Andalusia - Reading of G. A. Bécquer's <i>La Feria de Sevilla</i> Reading report 2 due - Film: Carlos Saura's <i>Flamenco</i> Grammar: - Formal & Informal commands - The subjunctive in complement clauses
Day 5	Cultural content: The culture of slavery in flamenco - Documentary: Miguel Ángel Rosales's <i>Gurumbé Canciones de tu memoria negra</i> (2016) - Film discusión
Day 6	REVIEW MIDTERM EXAM
Day 7	PRESENTATIONS: PHOTOGRAPHIC REPORTS ABOUT SEVILLE AND ITS CONNECTION TO AMERICA
Day 8	Cultural Content: The creation of the myth of Carmen - Reading of Selection from Romantic travellers Reading report 3 due Grammar: - The present subjunctive in relative clauses - The future tense

Day 9	Cultural Content: Introduction to the Baroque and genre painting in Seville Out-of-class activity: Visit to the Museum of Fine Arts in Seville Grammar: • The conditional • Special uses of specific verbs
Day 10	PRESENTATIONS: THE PAINTINGS FROM THE MUSEUM Grammar: • The present subjunctive in adverbial clauses • Conditional clauses
Day 11	Cultural content: The debate about bullfighting: from the avant-garde period to the present • Reading: F. García Lorca's <i>Coloquio con García Lorca (o de las corridas)</i> • Reading: F. García Lorca's <i>Llanto por Ignacio Sánchez Mejías</i> • Reading report 4 due Grammar: • The present perfect (indicative and subjunctive) • Creating coherent discourses: Connectors and linking expressions
Day 12	Cultural content: Film, the avant-garde and anthropological culture in the context of the Spanish Civil War 1. Film: Pablo Berger's <i>Blancanieves</i> 2. Film discusión
Day 13	Review Preparation of Final Projects
Day 14	FINAL PROJECT PRESENTATIONS
Day 15	WRITTEN FINAL EXAM ORAL EXAM

Course Materials

All materials mentioned in the course schedule, including those for language practice, will be provided by the instructor. Some additional linguistic sources for students are:

- <https://dle.rae.es/>
- <https://reglasdeortografia.com/>
- <http://cvc.cervantes.es/aula/lecturas/>
- <http://cvc.cervantes.es/aula/pasatiempos/default.htm>
- <http://cvc.cervantes.es/ensenanza/eje/default.htm>

This syllabus may be subject to minor adjustments to better suit the specific needs of the students, while ensuring that all learning outcomes and assessment criteria are fully met.