



# Pronunciación y Conversación Inicial

## DESCRIPTION

This course introduces the student to basic notions of Spanish pronunciation and conversation. We will also learn to identify specific sounds to improve the pronunciation and intonation in Spanish through phonological study and reflection while developing communicative skills and working on interpersonal communication in Spanish.

## CREDITS

6 ECTS

## CONTACT HOURS

60 hours

## PREREQUISITES

This course is for students of Spanish as a second language with no previous experience or little experience with the language. If you have questions about which course to take at ILCE, contact your instructor/ advisor immediately.

## GOALS

The three main goals of this course are the following:

- (1) To develop the ability to pronounce Spanish sounds and communicate in Spanish
- (2) To study texts and audios to acquire a deeper understanding of Spanish pronunciation and intonation
- (3) To study the sound inventory of Spanish from a perspective that combines theory and practice.

## PEDAGOGICAL APPROXIMATION

Spanish pronunciation and conversation focuses on the development of oral communicative abilities in Spanish through an interactive activity-based approach and active learner participation. Students are expected to engage in interactive small and large-group activities.

## SPANISH: THE LANGUAGE OF OUR CLASS

The class will be taught in Spanish so that students receive as much input as possible in the language. The course has a communicative approach and students are expected to participate in class and communicate in Spanish. If a student has questions that they would like to clarify in English, they can also talk to the instructor in English after class or during office hours.

## ASSESSMENT

Assessment and testing procedures will be representative of the type of language instruction offered through classroom activities. Students will be evaluated based on their achievement of the program, which will be measured through the following components:

Components	Percentage
Participation in class and ILCE activities	10%
Homework	15%
Final project	30%
Video assignments	20%
Achievements 1	10%
Achievements 2	15%
TOTAL	100%

### **Participation in class and ILCE activities (10%)**

Each student will self-assess their participation twice per semester (see the rubric attached at the end of the syllabus). The instructor reserves the right to raise or lower each student's self-assessed participation grade if they feel that it does not adequately reflect the student's participation level. The participation grade involves a number of variables, including, but not limited to the following:

- The use of Spanish in the classroom:
  - Greeting people and taking the lead in using Spanish
  - Using Spanish during class with the instructor and in small groups, when asking and answering questions related or not related to the material at hand, and when engaged in casual conversation with classmates or the instructor.
- Students' willingness to participate in all class activities:
  - Avoiding the use of cell phones, laptops or electronic devices for purposes not related to the class.
- Students' cooperation during groupwork and pairwork
- Students' respect and attitude toward the instructor, class, peers, and invited guests (if there were any).

#### **PARTICIPATION IN ILCE ACTIVITIES:**

Your participation grade will also be based on participating in activities organized by the Spanish Club. You have to participate in an ILCE activity at least once every two weeks. If a student is unable to attend ILCE activities due to an overlap in their schedule, they must let the instructor know at the beginning of the semester so that they can look for alternative ways to assess the student's participation.

\*\*Follow our Instagram and join the WhatsApp group to know more about the activities organized by the Spanish Club.

### **Homework (15%)**

Students are responsible for completing all assignments and submitting them to ADI by the due date. No late work will be accepted. For that reason, students should plan ahead of time and ask the instructor in advance if they do not understand what they need to do for homework. Note that the daily homework is not in the calendar below, but it will be available on the ADI website during the semester.

### **Achievements 1 (10%)**

Achievements 1 documents each student's competence and their understanding of course contents learnt up to that point. It is a learning activity where students put into practice the abilities they have acquired in the

language. The format of the activities reflect the type of homework and activities that students completed in the course. It is mandatory to complete it the day established by the instructor.

### **Achievements 2 (15%)**

Achievements 2 documents each student's performance in the different competences developed in the course. The dynamics of Achievements 2 reflect the type of homework and activities that students completed in class. It is mandatory to complete it the day established in the course calendar. It is a learning activity where students show their communicative and interpretative skills in Spanish. It is mandatory to complete it the day established by the instructor.

### **Video assignments (20%)**

First of all, students will be required to watch video tutorials about the articulation of the sounds of Spanish, reflect on them, and complete different handouts and practice activities. At the end of the semester, they will create their own video tutorial based on the final project. The instructor will provide further instructions during the semester and there will be workshops in class to develop this project.

### **Final project (30%)**

Students will analyze their own pronunciation and intonation during the semester. They will record themselves reading sentences and a paragraph in Spanish at different moments during the semester and this will allow them to monitor changes in their pronunciation. In their final project students will need to evaluate if their pronunciation changed or not, by referring to specific phonemes and allophones. They will also need to reflect on the aspects of the Spanish pronunciation that were easier/ more challenging to acquire and they will need to compare the sounds of their first or second language to those in Spanish to explore this in more detail.

## **ATTENDANCE POLICY**

Because of the communicative nature of this course, you need to attend class every day. Absences with no official documentation will result in the deduction of one percentage point from your final grade (of 100 total points). Any student with more than 8 unexcused absences will automatically fail the course. Absences need to be excused either before the student is absent or one classroom day after being absent. Late arrivals or early departures from class will also be counted as absences (3 occurrences = 1 absence). It is the student's responsibility to notify their instructor ahead of time of any absences and to contact their classmates to know what they missed in class and the homework that was assigned.

**To receive credit for missed assignments** (*achievements, homework, compositions, etc.*) students need to bring official documentation and submit them as well as letting their instructor know.

### **ADDITIONAL GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES**

**Cell Phone, Laptop Tablets, or any electronic device in the Classroom:** Please be courteous and **turn off your cell phone before the start of each class.** We also request that you *do not use* a laptop computer during class without expressly being invited to do so by your Instructor (e.g., during a Writing Workshop). Your full attention needs to be committed to communicating in Spanish with your teacher and classmates during each class.

**Academic Integrity:** Plagiarism, cheating, submitting work of another person or work previously used without informing the instructor, tampering with the academic work of others and other forms of

academic dishonesty may lead to lowered course grades, failure of the course or more severe measures, depending on judgments of the gravity of the individual case.

**Code of Student Conduct:** Student behavior or speech that disrupts the instructional setting or is clearly disrespectful of the instructor or fellow students will not be tolerated. Disruptive conduct may include but is not limited to: 1. Rude or disrespectful behavior; 2. Unwarranted interruptions; 3. Failure to adhere to instructor’s directions; 4. Vulgar or obscene language, slurs, or other forms of intimidation; 5. Physically or verbally abusive behavior. Student behavior that is inappropriate will result in disenrollment from the course.

**Extra Credit:** No additional extra credit will be given under any circumstances.

### COURSE CALENDAR

This schedule is subject to change. Any necessary change will be announced ahead of time.

Sessions	In-class Activities	Important Dates
# 1	Introduction and course syllabus  <u>Tema 1.</u> Mi llegada a Pamplona  -Conversation: learning how to introduce ourselves in Spanish  -The alphabet	
# 2	-The alphabet  -Orthography (silent letters, <ü>)  -Intonation: providing information vs. asking for information	Video 1: orthography
# 3	-Syllables	Submit audio recordings for the project: Part 1
# 4	-Types of words depending on where the stress falls in the word	
# 5	-The International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA)	
# 6	-Vowels: /a, e, i, o, u/	Video 2: videos related to vowels
# 7	<u>Tema 2.</u> Gustos y emociones  -Conversation	

	-Intonation and emotions	
# 8	-What happens when we talk? -Consonants	
# 9	-Review of consonants	Submit audio recordings for the project: Part 2
# 10	-/p, t, k/	Video 3: /p, t, k/ and no aspiration
# 11	-Voiced stops and their approximant allophones: /b, d, g/	
# 12	-Fricatives -Affricate	
# 13	Achievements 1/ Logros 1 (Part I)	Achievements 1/ Logros 1 (Part I)
# 14	Achievements 1/ Logros 1 (Part II)	Achievements 1/ Logros 1 (Part II)
# 15	<u>Tema 3</u> : Mi entorno y el medioambiente -The environment: vocabulary -Conversation: environmental problems. -Fricatives -Rothics	Video 4: /x/ Video 5: /r/
# 16	-Speech analysis	Bring laptop to class  -Submit audio recordings for the project: Part 3
# 17	-Writing workshop and guidance for the final project	Bring laptop to class
# 18	-The interdental fricative /θ/	Submit Version 1 of the final project: written report  Video 6: /θ/
# 19	-Nasal consonants	
# 20	-Accents	Submit Final version of the project: written report

# 21	-Video script workshop	Bring laptop to class
# 22	-Video editing workshop	Bring laptop to class
# 23	-Dialectology -Review	Submit video tutorial
# 24	Achievements 2/ Logros 2 (Part I)	Achievements 2/ Logros 2 (Part I)
# 25	Achievements 2/ Logros 2 (Part II)	Achievements 2/ Logros 2 (Part II)

## **COURSE MATERIALS**

### **Course Website**

*The professor will provide all the required materials through ADI.*

Aula Virtual ADI (Blackboard). It is essential that students check ADI daily.