

EARTH EDUCATION INTERNATIONAL
Intermediate Spanish (Español para Intermedios)
Universidad de San José credit: BEE 128; Español y Laboratorio Pedagógico II
Spring 2016

DRAFT

Course Overview

Instructor	Rita Cárdenas
Meeting Time	Tue & Thurs, 8:30-11:45am
Field Trips	Alajuela (27 Feb) & San Ramón (TBA)
E-mail	rita@aprenda-espanol.com
Phones	(506) 2487-43-60, 8385-25-85
Office hours	Por cita previa / by appointment

Course Description

An intensive intermediate Spanish course for students who have recently completed at least one semester of college-level Spanish. Emphasis is on review of vocabulary and sentence structure, as well as oral practice in everyday life while living in Costa Rica. Prerequisite: One semester of college Spanish, instructor approval required. Three units.

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. Demonstrate 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 based-upon practical experience living in Costa Rica. Accordingly, students will be evaluated on the following:

1. Attendance & Participation (Asistencia y Participación). In order to achieve stated course objectives, attendance and active participation is essential. Evaluation will thus consist of two parts: A) Attendance (your physical presence), which will make-up five percent of your final grade, and B) Active participation (quantity & quality of verbal interaction) which will account for another ten percent. Please note that showing up late for class or an activity on multiple occasions is considered equivalent to missing an entire class period. *Total Value: 15%. Late Policy: Not applicable (no make-up's for missed classes).*

2. Homework (Tareas). Five (5) written homework assignments will be assigned during the course, each with a value of two percent of your final grade. *Total Value: 10%. Late Policy: 10% deduction per day late.*

3. Quizzes (Exámenes Cortos). As an effective means of improving the students' grammar and vocabulary structure, three (3) quizzes will be given during the course. Each will have a value of five percent of your final grade. *Total Value: 15%. Late Policy: Not applicable (no make-up's for missed classes).*

4. Oral Presentations (Presentaciones Orales). There will be four (4) oral presentations with a value of five percent of your final grade each. The instructor will provide the topics, or the students may choose them. The presentation should be in Spanish, 5 minutes in length, and make use of some form of audiovisual aid. *Total Value: 20%. Late Policy: Not applicable (no make-up's for missed classes).*

5. Written Exams (Exámenes Escritos). There will be two (2) written exams during the course, a mid-term and a final, each worth twenty percent of your final grade. *Total Value: 40%. Late Policy: Not applicable (no make-up's for missed classes).*

Course Evaluation

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

95-100% = 4.0 (A)	73-76.9% = 2.0 (C)
90-94.9% = 3.7 (A-)	70-72.9% = 1.7 (C-)
87-89.9% = 3.3 (B+)	67-69.9% = 1.3 (D+)
83-86.9% = 3.0 (B)	63-66.9% = 1.0 (D)
80-82.9% = 2.7 (B-)	60-62.9% = 0.7 (D-)
77-79.9% = 2.3 (C+)	0-59.9% = 0.0 (F)

Course Policies

Course Methodology. The goal of this course is to complement the immersion experience of studying and living with a homestay family in Costa Rica. Accordingly, students are expected to achieve a minimum level of proficiency in communication and social skills. This can only be accomplished through your active participation both in and out of class. The language interaction in the classroom is Spanish. From Day 1 ONLY SPANISH will be used by the instructor and students alike. Thus, you should preview the vocabulary and grammar presentation in the book BEFORE coming to class.

Attendance. 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. Students will be held responsible for knowing the class schedule and making alternative arrangements ahead of time for any missed assignments. For further detail regarding participation, see 'course requirements' above.

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.

Appropriate Behavior. The following guidelines for appropriate behavior will apply to this course, and the program:

- Cell phones** may NOT be used during scheduled class time, whether we are in a formal classroom or in the field.
- Laptops, tablets, or similar devices** are to be used ONLY for taking notes, not for connecting to the internet for any other purpose. If this policy is disrespected, WiFi service at the university may be discontinued for all.

- c) **Email** is the official means of communication throughout the program. As such, all students will be responsible for checking email at least once daily. Thus, please be sure we have the best email address for you during your time in Costa Rica, as not receiving/reviewing emails is no excuse for not knowing appropriate information. Accordingly, all communications with professors related to academics shall be via email (or phone, if during regular working hours). Texting is not an appropriate means for questions about course assignments.
- d) **Homework questions** that are within 24 hours prior to the due date are subject to a non-response. Though students often choose to complete assignments the night before it is due, questions that may arise at that point do not constitute an urgent situation for the professor. In particular, texting or calling at the last minute--particularly outside of working hours--is not appropriate, nor a substitute for advanced planning.
- e) **All other policies** identified on the program web site, and presented at the beginning of the program, also apply to this course: <http://www.earthedintl.org/Policies.htm>.

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

- III. The Preterit tense
 - a) -Er and -ir verbs with stems ending in a vowel
 - b) Irregular verbs in the preterit

- IV. The Imperfect tense
 - a) Formation of the imperfect
 - b) Basic uses of the imperfect

- V. The Imperfect and the Preterit: differences
 - a) Direct Pronouns
 - b) The formation and uses of the direct pronouns

- VI. Perfect Tenses
 - a) The formation of the present perfect
 - b) The past perfect
 - c) The future perfect
 - d) The conditional perfect

- VII. 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

- VIII. Subjunctive Impersonal Clauses
 - a) Present subjunctive
 - b) Imperfect subjunctive
 - c) Present perfect

Tentative Course Schedule

Week 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review - The present tense - The preterit tense - Tarea #1 - Field trip: Alajuela
Week 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Quiz #1 - Reflexive verbs - Tarea #2 - The imperative of reflexive verbs - <u>Oral Presentations #1</u>
Week 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Uses of imperfect - Quiz #2 - Uses of Imperfect vs. preterit - Direct pronouns
Week 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tarea #3 - Future & conditional - Present subjunctive - <u>Oral Presentations #2</u>
Week 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Examen Parcial (mid-term)</i> - Present perfect tenses - Imperfect subjunctive - Tarea #4
Week 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Quiz #3 - Future & conditional tenses - <u>Oral Presentations #3</u> - Indirect pronouns
Week 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Present perfect - Reflexive verbs & perfect tenses - The subjunctive tense: Review - Tarea #5
Week 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Examen Final</i> - <u>Oral Presentations #4</u> - 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.