

# Intermediate Spanish II

## COURSE DETAILS

**Course Designator and Number: BCLA 1004**

**Number of Credits: 4**

**Language of Instruction: Spanish**

**Contact Hours: 60**

**Instructor: On-Site Faculty**

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

After completing this course, the student will understand extended speech and lectures (TV, movies, newspapers,...). Will be able to communicate with a degree of fluency that will let students interact with locals with spontaneity. The information presented will be precise when talking in a field of interest and quite clear when writing or speaking in other range of subjects.

## Course Objectives

By the end of this level students will be able to:

- Understand complex speeches and read reports about contemporary problems as well as literary prose.
- Take an active part in discussion in familiar contexts and present information of other fields of interest.
- Write clear, detailed text on a wide range of topics related to my interests. Write essays and reports in support or against a particular point of view.

## Methodology

Our faculty methodological approach consists on the Communicative Method. The communicative approach is based on the idea that learning language successfully comes

through having to communicate real meaning. When learners are involved in real communication, their natural strategies for language acquisition will be used, and this will allow them to learn to use the language.

Classroom activities guided by the communicative approach are characterized by trying to produce meaningful and real communication, at all levels. As a result, there may be more emphasis on skills than systems, lessons are more learner-centered, and there may be use of authentic materials. Also, will be provided:

- A variety of activities that address students' different learning styles
- A balance between developing receptive and productive skills that maximizes student interaction
- Precise grammar explanations based on context and meaning
- A wide variety of listening tasks
- Focus on vocabulary and idiomatic expressions

## **Course Prerequisites**

Students must have successfully completed third-semester college level Spanish or the equivalent prior to taking this course.

## **Required Readings/Materials**

- Aula 4 Internacional, Editorial Difusión, Jaime Corpas, Agustín Garmendia, Nuria Sánchez, Carmen Soriano ISBN: 9788415640103

# Grading

## Grading Rubric

| <b>Letter grade</b> | <b>Score or percentage</b> | <b>Description</b>   |
|---------------------|----------------------------|--|
| A                   | 93–100                     | Achievement that is outstanding relative to the level necessary to meet course requirements.   |
| A-                  | 90–92                      | Achievement that is significantly above the level necessary to meet course requirements.   |
| B+                  | 87–89                      |  |
| B                   | 83–86                      |  |
| B-                  | 80–82                      | Achievement that meets the course requirements in every respect.   |
| C+                  | 77–79                      |  |
| C                   | 73–76                      |  |
| C-                  | 70–72                      | Achievement that is worthy of credit even though it fails to meet fully the course requirements.   |
| D+                  | 67–69                      |  |
| D                   | 60–66                      |  |
| F                   | 0–59                       | Represents failure (or no credit) and signifies that the work was either (1) completed but at a level of achievement that is not worthy of credit or (2) was not completed and there was no agreement between the instructor and the student that the student would be awarded an I. |

## Summary of How Grades Are Weighted

| Assignments       | Percentage of grade |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| Participation     | 15%                 |
| Quizzes           | 10%                 |
| Compositions      | 20%                 |
| Oral presentation | 15%                 |
| Midterm exam      | 20%                 |
| Final exam        | 20%                 |
| Overall grade     | 100%                |

### Assessment Details

#### Participation

All students will be expected to participate actively in all class activities and discussions, talking only in Spanish, and arriving with all assignments done and ready to discuss them. A participation grade based on the quantity and quality of participation showed during each class period and demonstration of a positive attitude will be assigned regularly to each student. It will be evaluated according to rubric "Attendance and Participation."

#### Quizzes

In order to monitor the learning process of the vocabulary and grammar studied, regularly there will be quizzes (they will involve different skills: talking, reading, writing).

#### Compositions

Three compositions will be assigned over the course of this course. All written assignments must be typed and double-spaced, in font Arial 12 with 1-inch margins, with correct punctuation in Spanish. Any late written assignments will be accepted with a penalty (-5 points per day late actual days, weekends included, not class days). The compositions will be evaluated according to rubric for evaluating "Compositions."

#### Oral presentation

Students will have to do an Oral Presentation in class and in Spanish. Each student will be allotted 4-5 minutes for the presentation. The presentation will be evaluated according to rubric for evaluating "Oral Presentation" (attached to this syllabus).

### **Exams**

There will be 2 exams. One at the middle of the semester and one at the end.

# COURSE CONTENT

## Unit 1

- Course presentation
- Meeting our classmates
- Talking about habits
- Describing our language background
- Irregular verbs in Spanish: ser, estar, ir tener, decir
- Verb: Me cuesta + infinitive

## Unit 2

- Describing routine
- Talking about motivations
- Give solutions
- Verbs: Tener que + infinitive
- Sentirse + adjectives

## Unit 3

- Relate past events
- Learn about other's life and some historical events
- Preterito Indefinido Time expressions: desde...hasta, hace...años que...

## Unit 4

- Organise a story
- Write a resume
- Time expressions: hace 10 años, después, ayer...

## Unit 5

- Express likes and preferences
- Describe a house
- Verb: Preferir
- Vocabulary: houses

## Unit 6

- Describing places (furniture)
- Comparing
- Vocabulary: furniture

- Verbs: ser, estar

## Unit 7

- Meeting people
- Ask and give permission
- Verbs: prestar, dar, pasar
- Formal and informal greetings

## Unit 8

- Describing scenarios
- Give excuses
- Verb tense: Condicional

## Unit 9

- Making plans
- Leisure activities
- Vocabulary: travel and hobbies

## Unit 10

- Talking about past experiences
- Expressing intentions
- Structure: Querer/ pensar + infinitive
- Verb tense: Preterito Perfecto

## Unit 11

- Describing places
- Field activity
- Vocabulary: leisure

## Unit 12

- Midterm

## Unit 13

- Talking about food (likes, habits,...)
- Vocabulary: food and ingredients

## Unit 14

- How to cook a recipe
- Verb tense: impersonal tenses (se corta... se fríe,...)

## Unit 15

- Commenting about experiences
- Vocabulary: Places of interest
- Verb tenses: Preterito Indefinido/Perfecto

## Unit 16

- Express the need of something
- Verb: Condicional (Me gustaría+ infinitive)

## Unit 17

- Describe pains and symptoms
- Vocabulary: Parts of the body, diseases
- Verb: doler

## Unit 18

- Giving solutions to health issues
- Verb tense: Imperativo afirmativo

## Unit 19

- Talking about habits and customs in the past
- Verb Tense: Imperfecto

## Unit 20

- Some important historical events in the history
- Vocabulary: past expressions

## Unit 21

- Telling stories from the past
- Verb tenses: Indefinido/ Imperfecto • Historical events



## Unit 22

- How to sequence stories in the past
- Past expressions

## Unit 23

- Oral presentation

## Unit 24

- Final exam

# POLICIES

## Attendance Policy

Students are expected to be on time and attend all classes while abroad. Many instructors assess both attendance and participation when assigning a final course grade. Attendance alone does not guarantee a positive participation grade; the student should be prepared for class and engage in class discussion. See the on-site syllabus for specific class requirements.

## University of Minnesota Policies & Procedures

Academic integrity is essential to a positive teaching and learning environment. All students enrolled in University courses are expected to complete coursework responsibilities with fairness and honesty. Failure to do so by seeking unfair advantage over others or misrepresenting someone else's work as your own can result in disciplinary action. The University Student Conduct Code defines scholastic dishonesty as follows:

### Scholastic Dishonesty

Scholastic dishonesty means plagiarizing; cheating on assignments or examinations; engaging in unauthorized collaboration on academic work; taking, acquiring, or using test materials without faculty permission; submitting false or incomplete records of academic achievement; acting alone or in cooperation with another to falsify records or to obtain dishonestly grades, honors, awards, or professional endorsement; altering forging, or misusing a University academic record; or fabricating or falsifying data, research procedures, or data analysis.

Within this course, a student responsible for scholastic dishonesty can be assigned a penalty up to and including an "F" or "N" for the course. If you have any questions regarding the expectations for a specific assignment or exam, ask.

### **Student Conduct**

The University of Minnesota has specific policies concerning student conduct. This information can be found on the Learning Abroad Center website.