
**SP342 Speaking Skills Workshop
Emerging Independent Abroad
IES Abroad Salamanca Syllabus**

DESCRIPTION: This is an approach to the understanding and production of specific and relevant spoken registers in different situational environments. Therefore, the aim is clear: to develop students' speaking in order to help them meet their main needs in the immersion environment, and to broaden their oral skills by adapting them to the following contexts related to family, academics and business. They will also acquire certain strategies to facilitate the communicative purpose.

CONTACT HOURS: 15 hours

CREDITS: 1

OFFICE HOURS: Wednesdays from 10:15 am to 11:15 am in the Faculty Room.

PREREQUISITES: Students must have passed the MAP *Novice Abroad* level. Students must be able to adapt their communication style within the group and work as part of a team, as well as understand the importance of making mistakes as a learning tool and an element of encouragement.

METHOD OF PRESENTATION: Taking advantage of students' language immersion experience, this workshop focuses on their real communication needs, through access to real communication situations both inside and outside the classroom, with the different areas of communicative expression as the backbone. Therefore, working in groups or in pairs is encouraged in order to give students the opportunity to practice and try out the language in a real context. The methodology will be diverse and will be applied with attention to **analytical and contrastive procedures**, which lead to a greater reflection of contents, processes and techniques. In other words, it is a workshop with a pronounced **pragmatic functionality** that seeks to improve oral expression through the analysis, comparison, correction and elaboration of oral discourses.

Most of the materials (presentations, texts, videos, images, etc.) used in class will be available to students on the IES Moodle platform (<https://moodle.iesabroad.org>).

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

As a member of our academic community, students are expected to be present and on time to class every day. Attending class has an impact on learning and academic success. For this reason, attendance is required for all IES Abroad Salamanca classes, including course-related trips and activities. Each student will be allowed a certain number of unexcused absences for each course which will depend on the type of course (see chart below). For each unexcused absence beyond these there will be a reduction of one third of a letter grade in the final grade (i.e., A to an A-). Students who are late to class on a regular basis may also receive a reduction in their final grade. Any exams, tests, presentations, or other work missed due to student absences can only be rescheduled if the absence is excused by the academic staff. Absences will only be excused for documented medical issues, family emergencies, specific religious observances or other extenuating circumstances. Students need to request approval for excused absences within ONE WEEK of the absence by sending all documentation to the Academic Coordinator (mtabarez@iesabroad.org). No approvals will be granted after the one-week deadline.

Maximum number of unexcused absences: 1 class.

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION: Spanish

LEARNING OUTCOMES: By the end of the course, students following the directions of the IES Abroad Language MAP will be able to:

- Initiate simple conversations with native speakers using phrases and expressions appropriate to the communication situation.
- Talk about things or people in the immediate environment, being able to provide a certain number of details.
- Hold conversations on previously studied topics.

GRADE:

- **Course participation (10 %)**

The assessment process will be continuous and, in addition to the academic performance of the students, they will also be assessed on their active, participative and responsible attitude in the classroom. Likewise, during class, analysis and discursive production exercises will be set, which will be important when determining the final grade.

- **Oral presentations (20 %)**

Oral presentations will consist of a presentation of a topic (or excerpt) individually. The presentation will include an introduction, main body and conclusion. Furthermore, it is essential that the presentation allows for some feedback, i.e., the audience must answer the questions of the student presenter and, afterwards, the student must clarify their doubts. The presentation will be video recorded so that the instructor can offer more in-depth feedback.

In addition to the weekly presentations, there will be another individual and mandatory presentation in which students will summarize their experience of the semester. The theme for the presentation is a reflection on the host culture (misunderstandings, anecdotes, holidays...). Students must explain their choice of topic and outline their work, give a short presentation between 5 and 10 minutes long, which will be recorded outside the classroom, and then be shown in class where a group analysis of the presentation will be carried out. The presentation will be assessed at the time it is shown in class, with the addition of a rubric that will be given to the student beforehand.

- **Oral exams (30 %)**

Throughout the course there will be two exams or assessments: one midterm and one final. Each exam will consist of an oral presentation of some kind of speech previously analyzed in class. The date and time established for each exam cannot be modified.

- *Midterm exam: Halfway through the course -----15%*
- *Final exam: At the end of the course -----15%*
(The final exam will include all the material covered during the course.)

- **Course-Related Trips/Activities (10 %)**

Course-Related Trip/Activity 1 will consist of attending a talk given by a specialist in the field of orality, be it because their work requires it (radio announcer, poet) or because they are a scholar of the subject. We will also try to make sure that the speaker is someone from a foreign country in order to enrich and share the vision of the students. Students must actively participate in the activity as follows:

- Pre-activity: Research the speaker and *brainstorm* possible "Activity" questions.
- Activity: Attend the talk and contribute with at least one question during the question-and-answer session.
- Post-activity: Large group discussion on the speaker's implementation of the aspects covered in class (e.g. discourse structure, non-verbal communication, etc.).

Course-Related Trip/Activity 2 will consist of a radio show in which students will narrate their personal experiences during their stay abroad in the city.

- Pre-activity: Each student will script their participation in the radio show according to the proposed length and the previously agreed upon topic.
- Activity: Production and recording of the radio show.
- Post-activity: In-class listening and analysis of the radio show.

• **Required readings (10 %)**

Throughout the semester, mandatory and introductory readings will be analyzed. The assessment of these readings will be carried out through reading guides reviewed in class.

• **Practical exercises (20 %)**

Although these exercises will not be set on a regular basis, some weeks students will carry out assignments outside the classroom that will serve to introduce theoretical issues that will be discussed in the following session or to consolidate knowledge already covered. All this will be done through the viewing of debates, interviews, lectures, etc., all of which will come from YouTube.

CONTENTS:

Week	Content	Assignments
1	Tirando - Ice-breaker - Presentations. - Difficult sounds...	- Communicative activity: "La fiesta". - Communicative activity: "El teléfono".
2	Tío, paso de ese rollo - Informal conversations.	- Communicative activity: "Corto contigo en San Valentín...". - Reading <i>Mejore su discurso oral</i> (pp. 11-13)
3	Quiero hablar de... - Talking about the past	- Communicative activity: "Rienda suelta a la imaginación".
4	Entrevistamos a... - Colloquial Spanish - Discourse markers (<i>bueno, pues...</i>).	- Communicative activity: "Qué pasa con los <i>guiris</i>?".
5	Nos vemos hablando español COURSE-RELATED TRIP/ACTIVITY 1: Visit from Tony Gray	
6	¡Nosotros podemos! Midterm Oral Exam	
7	Creo que sería el idóneo	- Communicative activity: "Nos mimetizamos entre los españoles".

	- Positive and negative face. - Decision making.	
8	Situaciones incómodas COURSE-RELATED TRIP/ACTIVITY 2: ¡Nos vamos a la radio!	
9	Elemental, mi querido Watson - Language mechanisms.	- Reading <i>El discurso académico oral</i> (pp. 271- 287). - Communicative activity: "El Gordo".
10	Hablo sin bailar - Extralinguistic elements: proxemics, kinesics. - If clauses	- Reading: <i>La oralización</i> (pp. 47-59)
11	Aplicando todo lo aprendido - Collective analysis and correction.	- Review of all the contents covered in order to raise any doubts in the following session. - Communicative activity: "El lunes de aguas".
12	Repasando Preparation for the final exam	
13	Y esto se acabó Final oral exam	

REQUIRED READINGS:

Alcoba, S. (coord.) (1999) *La oralización*. Barcelona: Ariel, pp. 47-59.

Cortés, L. and J.L. Muño (2012) *Mejorore su discurso oral*. Almería: Editorial Universidad de Almería, pp. 11-20.

Vázquez, G. (coord.) (2001) *El discurso académico oral*. Madrid: Edinumen, pp. 271-299.

Recommended readings:

Álvarez, M. (1993) *Tipo de escrito: expositivo y argumentativo*. Madrid: Arco Libros.

Briz, A. (2008) *Saber hablar*. Madrid: Aguilar.

Castelló, M. (coord.) (2007) *Escribir y comunicarse en contextos científicos y académicos. Conocimiento y estrategias*. Barcelona: Graó.

Cortés, L. (1991) *Sobre conectores, expletivos y muletillas en el español hablado*. Málaga: Ágora.

Cortés, L. (2011) *El español que hablamos: malos usos y buenas soluciones*. Almería: Editorial Universidad de Almería.

Cortés, L. and A. Bañón (1997a) *Comentario lingüístico de textos orales: Teoría y práctica (La tertulia)*. Madrid: Arco Libros.

Cortés, L. and A. Bañón (1997b) *Comentario lingüístico de textos orales: El debate y la entrevista*. Madrid: Arco Libros.
Gallardo Paúls, B. (1998) *Comentario de textos conversacionales. De la teoría al comentario*. Madrid: Arco Libros.
Nardone, G. and A. Salvini (2006) *El diálogo estratégico. Comunicar persuadiendo: técnicas para conseguir el cambio*. Barcelona: RBA.
Reardon, K. (1991) *La persuasión en la comunicación*. Barcelona: Paidós.
VV.AA. (1997) *Hablar y escuchar*. Barcelona: Octaedro.

Online resources:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6VNU0ZP8I4A>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fEceXoeKmhc>