SP 201 SPANISH LANGUAGE & CULTURES: NOVICE ABROAD III
IES Abroad Barcelona

DESCRIPTION: At the end of this 4-credit course students will be able to:

- Express themselves in a variety of contexts
- Relate different pieces of information
- Establish cause and consequence
- Converse with ease in limited formal and informal situations

Research has demonstrated that study abroad can enhance every aspect of language ability. One of the most important general findings of this research is, however, that study abroad is most beneficial for the development of abilities related to social interaction. Students who go abroad can learn to do things with words, such as requesting, apologizing, or offering compliments, and they may also learn to interpret situations calling on such speech acts in ways that local people do... In short, and logically, study abroad has been shown to enhance the aspects of communicative competence that are most difficult to foster in classroom settings (IES Abroad MAP for Language and Intercultural Communication, p. 6).

This course includes a strong virtual guided element. Students will use Moodle to acquire knowledge and skills ahead of face-to-face participative classroom hours. In this way classroom contact hours can be used to maximize language production and linguistic interaction.

CREDITS: 4 credits

CONTACT HOURS: 60 hours

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION: Language instructors will use the target language (Spanish) in the classroom even at the lower levels, though occasionally instructors will use the native language of the students to explain any ambiguous concepts.

PREREQUISITES: Completion of IES Abroad’s SP102 Novice Abroad II outcomes in the MAP for Language & Intercultural Communication, determined by placement test.

METHOD OF PRESENTATION:
- Class time is devoted predominantly to speaking and practicing Spanish. Classroom activities are devoted to speaking Spanish and reading and discussing real-life Spanish material. By applying a communicative student-centered methodology, the students will be asked to learn about the language through assignments and on-site activities, such as field studies. Students are expected to take initiative and engage with the community.
- Every unit will have special assignments addressing the topics studied in class to fulfill a better understanding of the target culture. When needed, the student will complete tasks using information and communication technology that will lead students to develop and improve their language and cultural skills in and out of the classroom. Also, students will be compelled to analyze critically customs and differences between American and Spanish culture. Homework will be daily assigned so that the students can systematize, practice, and clarify doubts.
- Each week students will be asked to complete a guided virtual component on Moodle. Completion of this virtual activity is obligatory and forms a vital part of the course content.

REQUIRED WORK AND FORM OF ASSESSMENT:
Various elements will be considered when determining the final grade. The instructor will explain in detail the content, criteria and specific requirements for all assessment categories, but the basic breakdown is as follows below.

1. Midterm: 10%;
2. Final Exam: 20%;
3. Oral Exams (2 exams): 10%;
4. Quizzes (listening, speaking, reading, writing, intercultural communication): 15%;
5. Video/Oral presentation: 10%;
6. Compositions: 15%;
7. Field studies: 10%;
8. Class participation: 10%.

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF FORM OF ASSESSMENT:**
The evaluation criteria for each type of activity are explained to students at the beginning of the course and students receive an assessment sheet for each oral/written task, (oral presentations and written assignment have a specific rubric /or a check list depend on evaluated assignment). In the evaluation sheets that students receive the teacher writes a personalized comment on their performance and progress in oral communication.

Students receive individual assessment sheet for the following activities: written-expression, (compositions); oral group presentations, (field studies); oral-class activities, (role-plays activities) and final oral presentation.

**Midterm & Final exams:**
The midterm and the final have the same structure. As in class we ask the students to use different skills, we want to assess them in all those skills too. Each exam will consist in: 1. Listening 2. Grammar and vocabulary 3. Reading and 4. Writing.

**Quizzes:**
The tests are designed to establish the progress that students are making towards meeting the course learning objectives listed above. They are comprised of questions and exercises that test the abilities in different areas of language competency. There will be in between two and four quizzes during the semester.

**Video / Oral presentation:**
Oral assessment will be carried out regularly in class, but there will be two specific activities which intend to assess the improvement and development of communicative skills. These activities give an opportunity to practice the oral skills and to demonstrate the level of spoken Spanish you have achieved at the end of the term.

Video: consists in a group or individual project about a given topic previously approved by the professor; for example: «This is what Spaniards mean by “paseo” ».

Oral Presentation: students will work individually to develop a final oral activity about a subject related to both their experience in Barcelona and the topic of their video. The teacher will give information about the rules of the presentation and the dates (rubric, vocabulary suggestions, and required contents).

**Compositions:**
During the semester students will have to submit two essays in two different drafts (250-350 words in length). Students will be given a hand-out on which there will have the guidelines to each individual assignment. The composition topics will also require interaction with Spanish speakers in the form of an interview or informal conversation and/or onsite research to a local destination of interest. The work will be evaluated based on accuracy of expression, integration of new vocabulary and creative content.

**Course Related Trips:**
Students will participate in three activities outside class where they will interact with Spanish speakers. The learning objective in these activities is to get them to interact with locals and test their language skills in a real environment. Also, these activities intend to get the students to get in contact with local traditions and special holidays which are representative in the local culture.

Students will have to fulfill different tasks for every Course Related Trip:
1. Pre activity (individual research about the topic: reading, on-line search, interviews, etc.)
2. Field Activity (consists in the gathering of data and/or information about the current topic).
3. Final Activity: Students will have to produce an oral or written text with the conclusions about the previous activities.

Depending on the semester (spring, summer, or fall), the offer of Course Related Excursions may vary according to seasonal celebrations and traditions:

- Spring: Santa Eulàlia, Sant Antoni, Sant Jordi.
- Summer: Sant Joan.
• Fall: La Mercè, La Diada, La castanyada, Mercat de Santa Eulàlia.

Also, there are other Course Related Trips not linked to seasonal celebrations:
El fútbol en España.
Mi barrio en Barcelona.
El Mecat dels Encants.
Visitas a Museos (MIBA, MACBA, CCCB)
(Students will be informed beforehand of the specific day, time, and outcome-related activity).

Class Participation:
When determining the class participation grades, traditional criteria such as preparation, completed homework before class, interactive group work and active, meaningful participation are all considered. Attendance and punctuality are expected and do not count positively towards the participation grade. However, laxity in these areas will have a negative effect on your grade.

The instructor will also be evaluating you in several behavioural areas across the course. Students will have access to Participation Rubric on Moodle:
• Preparation: Bring regularly to class the required materials (textbook, workbook, pen, paper, etc.)
• Complete homework and other assigned materials before class. Be ready to start when class begins.
• Language: Make a consistent effort to speak Spanish during class, regardless of accuracy.
• Group Work: Participate collaboratively in groups and in pairs.
• Attitude: Demonstrate a positive and supportive attitude to instructor and classmates.
• Focus: Give full attention to class activities (cellphones off, laptop for notes only, etc.)

LEARNING OUTCOMES:
By the end of the course, students will be able to achieve the outcomes for the Novice Abroad level as defined by the MAP for Language and Intercultural Communication. The key learning outcomes from the MAP are summarized below:

I. Intercultural Communication
   A. Students will be able to meet simple everyday needs using verbal and non-verbal communication, and they will be able to use compensatory strategies when they do not know the word or expression (paraphrasing, repetition, talking around the point, body language etc.).
   B. Students can recognize some appropriate and inappropriate expressions and behaviors in the host language.
   C. Students will be able to distinguish between simple representations of formality and informality in the language.
   D. Students will identify some differences between cultural stereotypes and generalizations between the home culture and the host culture.
   E. Students will start to make informed comparisons between their host culture and the home culture.

II. Listening
   A. Students will be able to understand simple statements, requests, descriptions, and questions in specific cultural context relevant to them (hosts’ interactions, Center interactions, studying, shopping, transportation, meals).
   B. Students will be able to use context to understand the gist of some spoken language they overhear, including the media, conversations between others, and announcements.

III. Speaking
   A. Students will be able to use simple phrases appropriately in everyday situations with increasing accuracy (home, the IES Abroad Center, and the community).
   B. Students will be able to express simple needs by asking questions, and get what they need in uncomplicated, everyday situations.

IV. Reading
   A. Students will be able to identify and understand simple sentences and deduce meaning from context if it is relevant to their studies.
   B. Students will be able to interpret main ideas in short passages and news headlines if they are relevant to them.
V. Writing
A. Students will be able to write short texts about concrete topics, such as themselves, their families, their friends, their likes, dislikes, plans, experiences, and their daily routines.
B. Students will be able to send simple emails, text messages, and fill out some simple forms.
C. Students will be able to write with increased accuracy, although using some native language structures.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:
Attendance is mandatory for all IES Abroad classes, including course-related excursions. Any exams, tests, presentations, or other work missed due to student absences can only be rescheduled in cases of documented medical or family emergencies. If a student misses more than three classes in any course 3 percentage points will be deducted from the final grade for every additional absence. Seven absences in any course will result in a failing grade.

CONTENT:

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<th>Week</th>
<th>Content</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Corresponding Learning Outcome(s)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Week 3 Unit 3</td>
<td>1. Functional: Describing your house, comparing, expressing likes and dislikes. 2. Grammatical: más...que, menos...que, tan... como. 3. Vocabulary: Prepositions, furniture, parts of the house, comparative adjectives. 4. Culture: Comparing USA/Spain (houses, life...)</td>
<td>Planning and presenting your ideal house. Comparing cities with small villages.</td>
<td>I.D,I.E,II.A,III.A,III.B., IV.A, V.A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 5 Unit 9</td>
<td>1. Functional: Talking about usual (¿common instead of “usual”?) actions and habits in the past. Locating events in the past and/or the present.</td>
<td>Interviewing a person in the class about his/her past experiences.</td>
<td>I.A.,I.E,II.A,II.B,III.A,II.B,IV.B, V.A</td>
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| Week 6 | Unit 10 | 1. Functional: Personal anecdotes.  
3. Vocabulary: Time markers for the past.  
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<td><strong>Composition 2</strong></td>
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| Week 7 | Unit 10 | 1. Functional: Talking about events.  
3. Vocabulary: Time markers for the past.  
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<td><strong>Midterm</strong></td>
<td>I.A, I.B, II.B, III.A, III.B., IV.B, V. B</td>
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| Week 8 | Unit 6 | 1. Functional: Expressing likes & dislikes about food & habits, buying food, explaining a recipe.  
2. Grammatical: *Se + impersonal*, direct object pronouns.  
3. Vocabulary: Food, cooking techniques, food containers, weight, and measurements.  
4. Culture: Spanish food habits and typical Spanish meals. |
|---|---|---|
| **Planning a menu. Writing a recipe.**  
  **Oral presentation about a family meal in the USA.** | **Composition 3** | I.A., I.E, II.A, II.B, III.A, I I.B, IV.B., V.A. |

| Week 9 | Unit 8 | 1. Functional: Describing illnesses.  
2. Grammatical: Verbs *doler* and *tener dolor de + nombre*; *tener + nombre*.  
3. Vocabulary: Parts of the body, health conditions, natural remedies.  
|---|---|---|

| Week 10 | Unit 8 | 1. Functional: Giving advice about illness and problems.  
2. Grammatical: Advice expressions: *deberías + infinitivo*; *tener que+ infinitivo*. Ser/Estar. *Imperativo*.  
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<td><strong>Composition 4</strong></td>
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<td>I.A., I.E, I.D., II.A, II.B, II I.A, III.B, IV.B., V.A.</td>
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| Week 11 | Reader/Handout | 1. Functional: talking about future events.  
3. Vocabulary: Important events in a person’s life.  
4. Culture: Coming back home. |
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<td><strong>Course-Related Trip 2</strong></td>
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<td>I.A., I.E, II.A, II.B, III.A, I I.B, IV.B., V.A.</td>
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| Week 12 | 1. Functional: Review  
2. Grammatical: Review  
3. Vocabulary: Review  
|---|---|---|
| **Oral presentations**  
  **Oral exam 2**  
  **Final exam** | | |
REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS:

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Grammar book (LG):
Dictionary: