

Spanish Language Courses

Orientation Course - Intensive Spanish Program 3 U.S. Credits (Required *)

During orientation and prior to the start of the regular semester, UCV-US students participate in an intensive, two-week Spanish language course consisting of four hours of daily, highly personalized language instruction/ practice with professional instructors. This course is designed to prepare students for the semester ahead and daily life in Spain.

Semester Spanish Courses (Required *)

Students are placed into one of the following courses based on the results of a written proficiency exam and oral interview. Students with an advanced level of Spanish may choose Spanish for Business or Spanish for the Health Professions in place of a traditional language course.

* Unless otherwise instructed by home university

1. Beginner I – 3 U.S. Credits

Designed for students with no previous university-level Spanish, Spanish for Beginners I helps students get started with learning Spanish as a foreign language. The aim of this course is to provide students with the tools and motivation to begin their language experience. Students develop basic expressions, colloquial language, numbers, simple conversations and more while also learning about cultural norms and the Spanish lifestyle. An introduction to the basic rules of pronunciation and grammatical structures forms the core of this course.

2. Beginner II – 3 U.S. Credits

Spanish for Beginners II is a course designed for students with a very basic level of Spanish (one semester of university-level Spanish study or equivalent). This course introduces a number of verbal tenses, syntax and grammar structures so that students build a strong and broad foundation for further linguistic development. Students apply these skills to reading and writing a variety of simple texts in Spanish. They are also faced with continuous and progressive listening and oral challenges. Practice with the homestay family is an integral component of the course.

3. Pre-Intermediate – 3 U.S. Credits

Designed for students with two semesters of previous university-level Spanish, this course thoroughly reviews the structure of the language using a variety of topics related to Hispanic culture. Vocabulary development and pronunciation practice are important components of the course as well. The audio-lingual aspect of the language is further developed, and the ability to read with understanding is increased. The primary goal is to help students become more communicative and active with the language as quickly as possible.

4. Intermediate – 3 U.S. Credits

Intermediate Spanish is designed for students who have had three or four semesters of previous university-level Spanish. The course seeks to improve students' speaking, listening, reading and writing skills using a variety of topics related to Hispanic culture. Vocabulary development and pronunciation practice are important components of the course. The audio-lingual aspect of the language is further developed, and the ability to read with understanding is increased. Students are presented with different aspects of the more common language structures in order to achieve a solid foundation. Students develop culturally appropriate skills for everyday situations in Spain. Practice with the homestay family forms an integral component of the course.

5. Advanced Language – 3 U.S. Credits

Designed for students with four or five semesters of previous University-level Spanish, Advanced Language furthers students' skills in all four competences: listening comprehension, oral production, reading comprehension, and writing production. The course makes use of a variety of contemporary registers, from the very colloquial to the more stylish/stylistic. Special attention is given to the more complex structures used in everyday life in Spanish. This course provides students with the necessary tools to produce statements in a variety of situations and social contexts. Practice with the homestay family forms an integral component.

6. Advanced Conversation and Composition 3 U.S. Credits

This course is recommended for students with six semesters of previous university-level Spanish or equivalent. Students achieve creative and innovative writing skills through the study of analytical, literary, and critical texts. Coursework focuses on stylistic variations while concentrating on other essential and interrelated writing elements, such as content, intention, and metaphors.

7. Spanish for Business – 3 U.S. Credits

This course is recommended for students with five semesters of College-level Spanish or equivalent. The aim of this course is to foster the student's comprehensive and productive abilities both in written and oral productions. Spanish for Business is designed to provide students with specific vocabulary, expressions, communicative strategies, and special constructions for a variety of business-related contexts. Students are presented with the necessary skills to participate in business and financial environments. Highly qualified students may also enjoy business internship opportunities.

8. Spanish for the Health Professions – 3 U.S. Credits

This course is recommended for students with four semesters of College-level Spanish or equivalent. Spanish for Health Professionals provides students with specific vocabulary, expressions, communicative strategies, and constructions related to health issues. Students learn the necessary tools to interact with

Spanish-speakers in a variety of health-related settings. Essential grammar topics are reviewed so that health professionals can make themselves understood in many different situations. Students also engage in discussion about the cultural differences between Spain and the U.S., paying special attention to questions of health labor, as well as the benefits/challenges of socialized versus privatized medicine. Students with a high level of Spanish may enjoy an internship in a University health clinic or associated hospital (some restrictions may apply).

UCV-US Elective Courses

1. Contemporary Spanish Literature. Spring Only

The main purpose of this course is to analyze recent Spanish culture through a selection of films and literary works. Students read excerpts or full novels, several short stories, and watch a number of films over the course of the semester. Works selected focus on the period of rapid social, economic, and political change in Spain between 1979 and the present day. Through the study of each literary work, students will gain valuable knowledge of critical issues and a deeper understanding of the complexities of Spanish culture.

3 US Credits - Language of Instruction/Spanish

2. Survey of Spanish Literature. Fall Only

This course reviews selections of the literature of Spain from the XI century to the present. The works are analyzed in their cultural and historical context focusing on the evolution of Spanish literature and culture. Students engage in the study of several novels, plays, and excerpts from other literary works; theatrical and cinematic adaptations of selected works are also incorporated.

3 US Credits - Language of Instruction/Spanish

3. Contemporary Hispanic-American Literature- Fall Only

The main purpose of this course is to analyze recent Latin American cultural productions through a selection of literary works. Students will engage in texts beginning with what is known as “the Boom” all the way the 21st century literary productions, closing the course with the Bogotá 39 generation. Through the study of each literary work, students will gain valuable knowledge of critical issues and gain a deeper understanding of the complexities/diversity of Latin American culture.

3 US Credits - Language of Instruction/Spanish

4 Survey of Hispanic-American Literature-Spring Only

This course reviews selections of the literature of Latin America from pre-Columbian times to the present. Each work is analyzed in its cultural and historical context, analyzing the evolution of Hispanic literatures and cultures. Students engage in the study of several novels, plays, and excerpts from other literary works; theatrical and cinematic adaptations of selected works may also be incorporated.

3 US Credits - Language of Instruction/Spanish

5. The Gothic in Literature.

This course explores the Gothic as an artistic and cultural phenomenon from its earliest development in eighteenth century literature to its contemporary manifestations in modern cinema. Apart from discussing key works of the Gothic imagination, students will also seek to understand this genre in terms of its philosophical, psychological and sociological dimensions. As students engage in a thorough analysis of each text or film, they are also encouraged to think critically about the Gothic in relation to the European/American cultures in which it has developed

3 US Credits - Language of Instruction/English

6. Culture and Society of Contemporary Spain.

With an emphasis on the present day but setting the examination of institutions and attitudes in their historical context, this course offers an introduction to Spanish culture, familiarizing students with the social, economic and political structures of contemporary Spain. Course highlights include: the restoration of the ancestral monarchy after years of dictatorship; the organization in autonomous communities; and the perception of Spain in the world today.

3 US Credits - Language of Instruction/Spanish

*It can also be offered in English upon demand

7. History and Civilization of Spain.

This course provides students with a general overview of Spanish history from the Iberians, the Celts and the Phoenicians to the present, paying special attention to the mosaic of different cultures and civilizations that have shaped Spain. As they seek to understand questions of Spanish national identity, students engage with authentic texts and visual materials and are encouraged to think critically about the cultures studied. The notion that history, culture and civilization are concepts constantly “under construction” will also be explored.

3 US Credits - Language of Instruction/Spanish

*It can also be offered in English upon demand

8. History of Spain through Cinema.

This course provides students with a general overview of Spanish history from the Middle Ages to the present through cinema. In order to understand contemporary Spanish society, the class focuses on important aspects of the country's history and analyzes each through a selection of films and historical texts. The aim of this course is not only to teach students how to analyze a film, but also to demonstrate how cinema can be both enjoyable and didactic, as it provides students with an increasing knowledge of Spanish culture and history.

3 US Credits - Language of Instruction/Spanish

*It can also be offered in English upon demand

9. Toys as an Education Tool

Playing is an important part of child development and learning through play is the best way to develop new skills. Toys are mediating instruments for children's play, usually designed with strong pedagogical potential to influence the development of the child. This course provides a general view of the process of learning through play-toy and a specific analysis of particular and popular toys. As students analyze the capacities toys develop and strengthen in children, they themselves develop an understanding of the science behind play.

3 US Credits - Language of Instruction/Spanish

*It can also be offered in English upon demand

10. Social Justice

This course introduces students to the study of social justice, attempting to link social theory, particularly the theories of Catholic social teaching, with social action and change. Students explore the diverse meanings and definitions of social justice while developing a critical understanding of key concepts and theories. Presented in relation to some of the most important social justice debates today, this course encourages students to apply their knowledge to a wide range of subject areas and social issues. As a key component of the course, students choose a relevant placement in a community service organization/NGO, complete a minimum of four hours of service per week, and engage in meaningful reflective practice with their peers.

3 US Credits - Language of Instruction/English

Direct Enrollment Electives

UCV-US participants may choose to enroll directly in courses offered for Spanish and international students at the UCV.

Students enrolling in these courses must make sure they meet all necessary prerequisites, including Spanish skills. In order to directly enroll in courses taught in Spanish, for example, students should have an advanced level (five or more semesters of previous university level Spanish or equivalent). Interested students should contact the program directors as early as possible to confirm course availability and schedules.

1. World Economics

The purpose of this course is to provide students with a theoretical framework for analysis of the wealth and poverty of nations. Special attention will be paid to development theories, growth models, physical capital, population and human capital, science, technology and innovation, natural resources, government and economic growth, income inequality, and geography and climate.

2. Spanish Economic Structure

This course reveals to students the idiosyncrasy of Spanish economic structures through the study of the country's economic history and the development of its institutions. Students are taught to understand economic news, identify that which is relevant to the purposes of the firm, and to deduce possible consequences. The course also focuses on report-writing focused on the possible evolution of sectors and markets. Finally, students are taught to think as economists; to understand the different factors that are relevant to economic growth while keeping in mind the contributions of Spaniards to current economic thought.

3. The Role of Finance

The objective of this course is to familiarize students with the role of the financial manager or CEO within a company, analyzing their key responsibilities and areas of influence inside the organization as well as the tools they have to deal with short- and long-term imbalances.

Students receive a variety of inputs, both conceptual and factual (based on real life information), and are challenged to analyze situations in order to help them comprehend the key concepts of financial management.

3 US Credits -Language of Instruction/English

Additional Direct Enrollment

Courses offered in English

include: Civil Law, Constitutional Law, Information Technology, Anthropology, European Community Law, Civil Law II, Administrative Law, Accounting, Mercantile Law, Foundations of Business Management, Mathematics for Business, Marketing Business, Law and Economics

With a wide selection of courses in English, this program is designed to give students a broad knowledge of the functional areas of a company, and their interconnectedness, while also allowing for specialization/study in a particular area of business. Directly-enrolled UCV-US students are exposed to a variety of core subjects, allowing them to develop practical managerial skills, communication skills and business decision-making capabilities. Highly qualified students can also enjoy practical experience, internships, and interaction with experts from the industry. Popular courses chosen by UCV-US students have included:

Oral Expression & Anglo-Saxon Cultures -Spring Only

This course is designed to provide an overview of key social issues in major English speaking countries; particular emphasis is placed on the United Kingdom and the United States.

3 US Credits -Language of Instruction/English

Teaching Children's Literature. Fall Only

This course is designed to provide students with critical literary tools and hands-on skills necessary for teaching literature in the nursery and primary school setting.

3 US Credits -Language of Instruction/English

Formación Literaria para Maestros/ Literary Formation for Teachers

This course provides students with the fundamental tools necessary to critically approach any literary text and fully comprehend its meaning. Students will also learn about major youth/children's literary works, paying special attention to how each one reflects the ideas of its historical time period. The last third of this course will be devoted to hands-on projects aimed at exploring the teaching possibilities of the works studied.

3 US Credits -Language of Instruction/SPANISH

Education

Students with the necessary language skills may pursue coursework in primary Education, Nursery Education, Education and Social Service, Speech Therapy, and Educational Psychology. Full information is available on the UCV-US website. Courses are primarily taught in Spanish, though options in English are often offered. Examples of popular courses for UCV-US students have included:

Nursing

The Nursing Program at the UCV prepares highly knowledgeable, skilled nurses. UCV trains professional nurses that are reflective, independent, who think logically and creatively on their feet, make decisions, interpret reality, and analyze the problems of everyday nursing practice in order to improve or change it. Furthermore, without losing the essence of the tradition of quality nursing education at the UCV, the new nursing curriculum provides training tailored to the needs and dynamics of today's society. Courses taught in English include: Nursing Care of Women, Nutrition and Dietetics, Mental Health Nursing, IT Applied to Nursing, Life Support and Emergency Care

Physiotherapy

The UCV program in Physiotherapy aims to train professionals committed to the promotion, maintenance and restoration of health, as well as the prevention of disability, in people of all ages. Physiotherapists optimize potential ability, physical function, independence and quality of life through rehabilitation practices. The UCV program provides students with an extensive understanding of the physical, structural and physiological aspects of the human form and movement, as well as the factors related to human functioning and the acquisition of skill. All courses are taught in Spanish. Qualified UCV-US students with advanced language skills may apply.

Sport Science

The UCV program in Sport Science focuses on the application of scientific principles with the aim of improving sporting performance. Through the study of science and sport, students develop a greater understanding of how the human body reacts to exercise, training, different environments, and many other stimuli. Courses offered in English include: Physical Activity and Health, Biomechanics of Physical Activity and Sport, Team Sports, Fundamentals of Research Applied to Sport Sciences, Exercise Physiology.

Marine Science

The Department of Marine Science at UCV is one of only five oceanography programs in all of Spain. This exciting program provides students with an understanding of biological, chemical, physical and geological oceanography, paying close attention to research both inland and at sea. Courses in English available to UCV-US students include: Marine Ecology, Methods in Oceanography II: Chemical and Biological Oceanography, Practicum I, Practicum II, Independent Research, Internship

Dentistry

The training of future dentists has become increasingly important at the undergraduate level, with consequent improvement in clinical skills training and a reduction in the number of lectures. It is also important to emphasize the use of new technologies in the classroom, the importance of university dental clinics (with training programs and personalized assistance from professors), and the inclusion of a longitudinal curriculum in bioethics. Dentistry students are integrated into the clinical care team for much of their undergraduate studies. Courses in both Spanish and English are available to interested UCV-US students.

Biotechnology

The UCV Biotechnology Program examines microorganisms, plants and animals in the context of the discovery, understanding, improvement and development of viable products or activities. The discipline combines elements from many areas such as molecular genetics, microbiology, immunology, physics, chemistry, engineering and mathematics. Courses in English available to UCV-US students include: Molecular Genetics, Plant and Animal Biotechnology, Genomics, Proteomics, Internship Placements (in select partner institutions)

Medicine

The UCV is strongly committed to the well-rounded education of future doctors, offering them a number of practical training experiences. Highly qualified UCV-US students have access to the following exciting opportunities in English: Practicum I - Psychiatry and Dermatology, Practicum II - Obstetrics, Pediatrics and Allergies, Practicum III - Cardiovascular and Respiratory, Practicum IV - Infectious, Nervous System and Nephrology, Practicum V - Locomotive, Rheumatology and Rehabilitation, Practicum VI - Ophthalmology, Oncology, Palliative Care, Practicum VII - Geriatrics, Practicum VIII - Family Medicine, Practicum IX - Hospital Emergency.