



University of
New Haven

Intermediate Spanish I (Early Start)

SECTION I: Course Overview

Course Code: SPN201

Subject Area(s): Spanish Language & Argentine Culture

Prerequisites: See Below

Language of Instruction: Spanish

Total Contact Hours: 45

Recommended Credits: 3

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This intensive intermediate course works to improve the four basic skills: reading, speaking, writing, and understanding through direct exposure to Spanish language and Argentine culture. After reviewing basic grammar and vocabulary, you will be exposed to new and more complex grammar and communicative structures so that you will have more opportunities for interacting accurately and expressively with the host community.

The course combines several integrated approaches intended to develop your skills. Most in-class time—driven by the materials provided by your professor—is devoted to speaking and practicing Spanish through a combination of group-based and individual activities, focusing on grammatical structures, language functions, and vocabulary. Lessons also focus on a wide range of contemporary cultural themes through the use of varied materials such as newspaper articles, advertising material, and short film clips. Onsite activities will require involvement with the local community, which will give you a unique chance to rapidly implement your linguistic development in real-life.

Special extra-curricular activities—such as exploring museums and parks, Argentine movie night, or possible language-exchange opportunities—will be announced, and your instructor will help you identify which activities would be most useful for you. These and other cultural components of the course will also promote your knowledge of Argentina and the Spanish language as you learn about Argentine society, and thus learning Spanish gives you a privileged opportunity to develop sensitivity towards cultural differences and to understand the ways in which culture and language interlock. In this sense, you will be encouraged to exploit the value of these lessons not just as a useful aid to your progress in other courses at the Study Center, but as a set of tools for unlocking a wide range of intercultural discoveries whilst living and studying abroad.

By the end of the course, you are expected not simply to be able to demonstrate mastery of the basic grammar and lexical structures, but also the growing ability to conduct relatively demanding conversations to express

personal ideas and opinions, hypothesis, commands, and future projects, as well as to be able to write short texts that clearly and simply relate personal experiences, impressions, and opinions.

Several class sessions will involve simple group discussions and debates on current topics, thus increasing the possibilities for developing the skills of self-expression. Particular attention will be devoted to expressing individuals' and other people's ideas and to synthesizing information and opinions.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Consolidate and build on your grasp of the main grammar and lexical structures of the language.
- Expand your basic vocabulary to a wider variety of registers.
- Develop your use of idiomatic expressions.
- Improve listening comprehension through the exclusive use of Spanish in class and through a variety of communicative activities inside and outside of the classroom.
- Enhance oral proficiency by engaging in communicative situations with a certain level of complexity in order to be able to express ideas, opinions, commands, advice, hypothesis, and future plans.
- Progress in reading comprehension through periodical reading assignments and related activities.
- Improve writing proficiency through a variety of written assignments, such as narrating a plot, relating personal experiences, describing the surroundings, expressing your own or someone else's opinion, or writing about events in the past.
- Increase awareness of cultural, social, and historical issues in the host country.

PREREQUISITES

Prior to enrollment, this course requires you to have completed Beginning Spanish II or the equivalent of two semesters of college level Spanish.

SECTION II: Instructor & Course Details

INSTRUCTOR DETAILS

Name:	TBA
Contact Information:	TBA
Term:	EARLY START

ATTENDANCE POLICY

This class will meet four times a week for 165-minute classroom sessions in the morning and 165-minute experiential learning activities in the afternoons. All students are expected to arrive on time and prepared for the day's class session.

CEA enforces a mandatory attendance policy. You are therefore expected to attend all regularly scheduled class sessions, including any field trips, site visits, guest lectures, etc. that are assigned by the instructor. The table below shows the number of class sessions you may miss before receiving a grade penalty.

ALLOWED ABSENCES – EARLY START		
Courses Meeting X day(s) Per Week	Allowed Absence(s)	Automatic Failing Grade at Xth absence
Courses meeting 4 day(s) per week	1 Absence	2 nd Absence

For every additional absence beyond the allowed number, your final course grade will drop down to the subsequent letter grade (ex: A+ to A). As a student, you should understand that the grade penalties will apply if you are marked absent due to tardiness or leaving class early. In the table below, you will find the grade penalty associated with each excessive absence up to and including automatic course failure.

ATTENDANCE DOCKING PENALTIES		
Absence	1st	2nd
Penalty	No Penalty	Automatic Failure
HIGHEST POSSIBLE GRADE AFTER ATTENDANCE PENALTIES		
Grade	A+	F

CEA does not distinguish between excused and unexcused absences. As such, no documentation is required for missing class. Similarly, excessive absences, and the grade penalty associated with each, will not be excused even if you are able to provide documentation that shows the absence was beyond your control. You should therefore only miss class when truly needed as illness or other unavoidable factors may force you to miss a class session later on in the term.

GRADING & ASSESSMENT

The instructor will assess your progress towards the above-listed learning objectives by using the forms of assessment below. Each of these assessments is weighted and will count towards your final grade. The following section (Assessment Overview) will provide further details for each.

Class Participation	10%
Homework	10%
Field Study Reports	10%
Quizzes	15%
Midterm Exam	20%
Final Oral Presentation	15%
Final Written Exam	20%

The instructor will calculate your course grades using the CEA Grading Scale shown below. As a CEA student, you should understand that credit transfer decisions—including earned grades for courses taken abroad—are ultimately made by your home institution.

CEA GRADING SCALE			
Letter Grade	Numerical Grade	Percentage Range	Quality Points
A+	9.70 – 10.0	97.0 – 100%	4.00
A	9.40 – 9.69	94.0 – 96.9%	4.00
A-	9.00 – 9.39	90.0 – 93.9%	3.70
B+	8.70 – 8.99	87.0 – 89.9%	3.30
B	8.40 – 8.69	84.0 – 86.9%	3.00
B-	8.00 – 8.39	80.0 – 83.9%	2.70
C+	7.70 – 7.99	77.0 – 79.9%	2.30
C	7.40 – 7.69	74.0 – 76.9%	2.00
C-	7.00 – 7.39	70.0 – 73.9%	1.70
D	6.00 – 6.99	60.0 – 69.9%	1.00
F	0.00 – 5.99	0.00 – 59.9%	0.00
W	Withdrawal	N/A	0.00
INC	Incomplete	N/A	0.00

ASSESSMENT OVERVIEW

This section provides a brief description of each form of assessment listed above. Your course instructor will provide further details and instructions during class time.

Class Participation (10%): Student participation is mandatory for all courses taken at a CEA Study Center. The instructor will use the rubric below when determining your participation grade. All students should understand that attendance and punctuality are expected and will not count positively toward the participation grade.

CLASS PARTICIPATION GRADING RUBRIC	
Student Participation Level	Grade
You make major & original contributions that spark discussion, offering critical comments clearly based on readings, research, & theoretical course topics.	A+ (10.0 – 9.70)
You make significant contributions that demonstrate insight as well as knowledge of required readings & independent research.	A/A- (9.69 – 9.00)
You participate voluntarily and make useful contributions that are usually based upon some reflection and familiarity with required readings.	B+/B (8.99 – 8.40)
You make voluntary but infrequent comments that generally reiterate the basic points of the required readings.	B-/C+ (8.39 – 7.70)
You make limited comments only when prompted and do not initiate debate or show a clear awareness of the importance of the readings.	C/C- (7.69 – 7.00)

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You very rarely make comments and resist engagement with the subject. You are not prepared for class and/or discussion of course readings.	D (6.99 – 6.00)
You make irrelevant and tangential comments disruptive to class discussion. You are consistently unprepared for class and/or discussion of the course readings.	F (5.99 – 0.00)

Homework (10%): You will be assigned textbook exercises on a weekly basis. Your instructor will collect your homework periodically and randomly to ensure that you are keeping up with the course material and that you are making satisfactory progress.

Field Study Reports (10%): You will write four reports on your experiences of the afternoon learning activities. Further instructions and guidelines will be provided by the instructor.

Quizzes (15%): These quizzes are designed to establish the progress you are making towards meeting the course learning objectives listed above. It is comprised of questions and exercises that test your abilities in different areas of language competency. Dates of the quizzes will be determined by the instructor.

Midterm Exam (20%): The midterm exam is designed to establish the progress you are making towards meeting the course learning objectives listed above. It is comprised of questions and exercises that test your abilities in different areas of language competency.

Final Oral Presentation (15%): Students will work individually or in groups to develop a final presentation about a subject related to Argentine society or culture. This activity gives you an opportunity to practice your oral skills and to demonstrate the level of spoken Spanish you have achieved at the end of the term. Further instructions and resources for this assignment will be provided during class.

Final Written Exam (20%): The final written exam is comprehensive, and it will be administered on the last day of class.

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING ACTIVITIES (AICAP)

CEA courses are designed to include a variety of experiential learning activities that will take you out of the classroom and allow you to explore your local, host city. These activities may include field studies, guest lectures and/or activities offered through our Academically Integrated Cultural Activities Program (AICAP). The following experiential learning activities are included in this course:

- Field Studies to Historical Neighborhoods in Buenos Aires: Recoleta, Retiro, & San Telmo.
- Visits to Centro Cultural Borges, Plaza de Mayo, Museo del Humor, & MALBA Museum.

REQUIRED READINGS

Reading assignments for this course will come from the required text(s) and/or the selected reading(s) listed below. All required readings—whether assigned from the text or assigned as a selected reading—must be completed according to the due date assigned by the course instructor.

I. REQUIRED TEXT(S):

The required text(s) are listed below:

Etcheverry Díaz, María Eugenia. *A Buen Puerto. Español como Lengua Extranjera*. Nivel Intermedio A. 82pp.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

In order to ensure your success abroad, CEA has provided the academic resources listed below. In addition to these resources, each CEA Study Center provides students with a physical library and study areas for group work. The Academic Affairs Office at each CEA Study Center also compiles a bank of detailed information regarding libraries, documentation centers, research institutes, and archival materials located in the host city.

- **UNH Online Library:** As a CEA student, you will be given access to the online library of CEA's School of Record, the University of New Haven (UNH). You can use this online library to access databases and additional resources while performing research abroad. You may access the UNH online library [here](#) or through your MyCEA Account. You must comply with UNH Policies regarding library usage.
- **CEAClassroom – Moodle:** CEA instructors use Moodle, an interactive virtual learning environment. This web-based platform provides you with constant and direct access to the course syllabus, daily schedule of class lectures and assignments, non-textbook required readings, and additional resources. Moodle includes the normal array of forums, up-loadable and downloadable databases, wikis, and related academic support designed for helping you achieve the learning objectives listed in this syllabus.

During the first week of class, CEA academic staff and/or faculty will help you navigate through the many functions and resources Moodle provides. While you may print a hard copy version of the syllabus, you should always check Moodle for the most up-to-date information regarding this course. The instructor will use Moodle to make announcements and updates to the course and/or syllabus. It is your responsibility to ensure that you have access to all Moodle materials and that you monitor Moodle on a daily basis in case there are any changes made to course assignments or scheduling.

To access Moodle: Please log-in to your MyCEA account using your normal username and password. Click on the "While You're Abroad Tab" and make sure you are under the "Academics" sub-menu. There you will see a link above your schedule that says "View Online Courses" select this link to be taken to your Moodle environment.

- **Online Reference & Research Tools:** The course instructor has identified the resources below to assist you with understanding course topics. You are encouraged to explore these and other avenues of research including the databases available via the UNH online library.

Grammar & Vocabulary

<http://www.spaleon.com/index.php>

<http://www.indiana.edu/~call/ejerci.html>

<http://www.auladiez.com/ejercicios/index.html>

<http://babelnet.sbg.ac.at/carlitos/index.htm>

<http://spanish.about.com>

<http://www.travlang.com/languages/indextext.html>

<http://www.studyspanish.com>

Readings

<http://home.cc.umanitoba.ca/~fernand4>

<http://cvc.cervantes.es/aula/lecturas>

<http://www.tecuento.com>

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Newspapers & Magazines

<http://www.clarin.com>

<http://www.lanacion.com.ar>

<http://www.ambito.com>

<http://www.cronica.com.ar>

<http://www.infobae.com>

<http://www.laprensa.com.ar>

<http://www.ole.com.ar>

<http://www.apertura.com>

<http://www.mercado.com.ar>

Radio

<http://www.continental.com.ar>

<http://ar.cienradios.com>

<http://www.rivadavia.com.ar>

COURSE CALENDAR
Intermediate Spanish I (Early Start)

SESSION	TOPICS	ACTIVITY	READINGS & ASSIGNMENTS
1	Course Introduction Review Syllabus & Classroom Policies My City, Your City (I) Talk about the present	Debate: Cultural differences between Argentina and the United States Exercises: “Top Ten Places to Visit in Buenos Aires” (Annex p. 2) “Buenos Aires” (Annex pp .4-5)	—
	Experiential Learning Touring the City: Commuting in Buenos Aires: subtes, colectivos y más.		
2	My City, Your City (II)	Exercises: “¿Sos de ciudad, de pueblo o de campo?” (pp. 7-9) “Moscato, pizza y fainá” (Annex p. 6) “¿Qué sabemos de la Argentina?” (pp. 10-11)	Readings: Verbs to be and to lay (p. 27-28) Regular and irregular verbs (p. 24-26) Exercises: Textbook, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 (p. 18-22)
	Experiential Learning Field Study to a Historical Neighborhood in Buenos Aires: Recoleta		
3	My City, Your City (III)	Exercises: “¿Qué te gusta de Buenos Aires?” (p. 12) “Cuidemos nuestro planeta” (p. 16) “Gustos como para quedarse helado” (Annex p.8)	Reading: Verb to like (pp. 26-27) Exercises: Textbook, 9, 10 (p .23) *Due: Field Study Report 1
	Experiential Learning Field Study to a Historical Neighborhood in Buenos Aires: Retiro and Florida Street (Centro Cultural Borges)		
4	Comidas Argentinas Speaking about tastes & eating habits	Exercises: “Un restaurante vasco en Buenos Aires” (p. 14)	Reading: Direct Object (p. 47) *Due: Field Study Report 2
	Experiential Learning Touring the City: Visit to Plaza de Mayo – Museo del Humor/CCK		

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5	<p>Once Upon A Time Talk about the past & Spanish past tenses</p>	<p>Exercises: “¿Alguna vez?” (p. 32) “Hablemos de arte” (pp. 32-34) “Cuando la lengua baja de los barcos (y de los aviones)” (pp. 35-36)</p>	<p>Readings: Past tense (pp. 45-47) Direct Object (p. 47)</p> <p>Exercises: Textbook, 1, 2, 3, 4 (pp. 37-38) Textbook, 7 (p. 39)</p> <p>*Due: Field Study Report 3</p>
	<p>Experiential Learning Field Study to a Historical Neighborhood in Buenos Aires: San Telmo</p>		
6	<p>Other Times Habits in past tense & past imperfect</p>	<p>Exercises: “Juventud, divino tesoro” (pp. 51-52) “Y de repente...” (pp. 52-53) “Juegos en la época colonial” (Annex p. 17)</p>	<p>Readings: Imperfect past (p. 63) Revision direct and indirect object (p. 64)</p> <p>Exercises: Textbook, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 (pp. 56-59) Textbook, 10, 11, 12 (pp. 60-61)</p> <p>*Due: Field Study Report 4</p>
	<p>Experiential Learning Argentinian Movie Experience</p>		
7	<p>The Way We Were Narrate stories in the past</p>	<p>Exercises: “Vacaciones en Río” (pp. 53-54) “Fantasmas en el museo” (Annex pp. 14-16)</p>	<p>Reading: Contrast between past tenses (p. 81)</p> <p>Exercises: Textbook, 1, 2, 4 (pp. 75-76)</p>
	<p>Experiential Learning Touring the City: Visit to MALBA Museum</p>		
8	<p>FINAL ORAL PRESENTATION & FINAL WRITTEN EXAM</p>		

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SECTION III: CEA Academic Policies

The policies listed in this section outline general expectations for CEA students. You should carefully review these policies to ensure success in your courses and during your time abroad. Furthermore, as a participant in the CEA program, you are expected to review and understand all CEA Student Policies, including the academic policies outlined on our website. CEA reserves the right to change, update, revise, or amend existing policies and/or procedures at any time. For the most up to date policies, please review the policies on our website.

Class & Instructor Policies can be found [here](#)

General Academic Policies can be found [here](#)