



Pronunciation and Oral Expression in Spanish

Level 1

LE-301

Updated January 2024

80 hours / 5 credits

I. Course description

This course is characterized for being practical, aimed at developing the competence of the oral expression with emphasis on pronunciation with a tasks approach. To achieve this purpose, fifty percent of the activities will be carried out in public, cultural and some other places in the city. Level 0 coincides with Level A2 with the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) and the Cervantes Curriculum Plan, therefore those who opt for this course are assumed to have a zero or A1 level of the Spanish language. Students will be provided with linguistics and strategic tools of oral expression so as to produce various types of short oral texts, respecting the grammar rules. Intercultural competition will be developed transversally along the course, and it will be reinforced with cultural excursions to surrounding areas of the city.

II. Objectives: At the end of the course students will be able to:

- Describe in a simple way or in a presentation people, living or working conditions, daily activities, things they like and dislike in simple sentences.
- Explain what they like and dislike.
- Describe everyday aspects of their surroundings, places, plans in a simple way.
- Tell stories and experiences briefly.
- Do brief and simple presentations.
- Speak clearly and comprehensible although interlocutors have to ask for repetitions from time to time.

III. **Topics:** They may be related to visits, Written Expression course topics, Reading Comprehension course, or to those in the text.

1. Getting to know each other
2. Spanish in the world and Costa Rica
3. San Isidro neighborhoods
4. Buying at the farmers fair
5. Artistic activities in San Isidro
6. Sustainable tourism in Costa Rica
7. Costa Rican gastronomy and agroecological food systems
8. Costa Rican nature, landscape and ecosystems
9. Emblematic animals in Costa Rica
10. How was Costa Rica a few years ago
11. Films and music in Spanish.

IV. **Cultural visits:** Cultural visits are meant to bring students closer to the Costa Rican culture. All of them have an academic purpose which will be achieved through the tasks assigned by the teacher of the course.

1. Knowing San Isidro: ask about the most important places in the city.
2. Knowing the neighborhoods of San Isidro.
3. Buying at the farmers local market.
4. Visiting the cultural sites of San Isidro.
5. Visiting the local school and participating in environmental education activities with kids.
6. Visiting local restaurants.
7. Visiting grandparents in the host families to find out what Costa Rica was like some years ago.

V. **Academic field trips:** The sites to visit on these excursions are surrounding San Isidro in southern Costa Rica. Each semester UISIL Spanish courses feature several academic field trips. After having visited these places, students must participate in some obligatory presentations which will be evaluated. Some field trip examples from past semesters are:

1. Longo Maï: Agricultural and ecological community (ecovillage) focused on sustainable production for self-consumption and inhabited mostly by Salvadoran immigrants who fled the war in their country in the 80s.
2. Local farms in rural communities: We visit some local farmers in rural communities with innovative and sustainable ideas who are producing traditional crops such as cocoa, coffee or sugarcane.

3. Terraba: One of the most important indigenous communities in Costa Rica. They still preserve and practice some rituals, handcrafts, building house techniques, traditional ecological knowledge and everyday customs.

VI. Language

This course is taught in the Spanish language except for some excursions where some limited translation to English is offered.

- #### VII. Schedule and organization:
- 4 classroom hours per week (60 classroom hours) plus compulsory participation in academic field trips and excursions (20 hours).

VIII. Literature

Course book: Molina Guillermo, Jaime Corpas et al (2018) *Aula America 1: Libro del alumno*. Editorial Difusion .

IX. Method and evaluation criteria.

Attendance: It is compulsory that students attend 80% of the classes to be evaluated.

Evaluation methodology: Techniques described in the CEFR will be used for the evaluation of this course.

- Summary:

Evaluation activities	Number	Value	Total
Quizzes	3	10 %	30 %
Presentations	2	10%	20%
Final exam	1	35 %	35%
Class participation			15 %
Total			100%

- Scale:

90 - 100%	A	Excellent
80 - 89 %	B	Good
70 - 79%	C	Fair
Less than 70%		Failed

