

INTENSIVE SPANISH COURSES

1. TARGET AUDIENCE

This course is designed for international students who live outside Spain or in Castelldefels and the surrounding area and who want to learn Spanish quickly and effectively.

Courses are offered throughout the year. Beginner groups start every month, except December, with a minimum of four students. Students who already have some knowledge of Spanish may join a group at any time of the year.

2. LEVELS

Intensive courses are available at all levels, from beginner to proficiency:

- A1: beginner level
- A2: elementary level
- B1: intermediate level
- B2: upper-intermediate level
- C1: advanced level
- C2: proficiency

Course content is organised with reference to the Cervantes Institute Curriculum Plan (PCIC), in accordance with the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR).

Before joining a group, you must take the school's placement test.

3. COURSE DURATION

You can take an intensive course lasting from 1 to 48 weeks. Each teaching hour lasts 55 minutes.

4. TIMETABLE AND FREQUENCY

The programme offers the following study options:

- Intensive 15: 15 hours per week for 2 weeks (30 hours).
- Intensive 20: 20 hours per week for 2 weeks (40 hours) *
- Intensive 10: 10 hours per week for 4 weeks (40 hours).

*20-hour-per-week course – Suitable for student visa applications.

This programme provides 20 teaching hours per week and is designed for international students who need to provide evidence of full-time study for a student visa application, subject at all times to the requirements and criteria established by the relevant immigration authorities.

The school will provide the necessary documentation confirming enrolment, course duration, teaching hours, and the programme's start and end dates.

5. GROUP SIZE AND COURSE FORMAT

You will study in a small group of between 4 and 10 students.

Groups are organised by level. Before joining a group, you must take the school's placement test.

6. MATERIALS

You will receive a folder containing the coursebook, workbook and any supplementary materials provided by the teacher during the course.

You will also have free access to the school library, be able to complete the homework set by the teacher and take part in our workshops.

The Vitamina series published by SGEL is used as the main coursebook:

- A1: Vitamina A1.
- A2: Vitamina A2.
- B1: Vitamina B1.
- B2: Vitamina B2.
- C1: Vitamina C1.
- C2: Español C2 (SGEL)

The programme is supplemented with digital and audiovisual resources, authentic documents, reading materials, cultural activities and materials created by our teaching staff.

7. PROGRESS AND DEVELOPMENT

As a guideline, the expected study time for each level is:

- A1: 90 hours.
- A2: 120 hours.
- B1: 140 hours.
- B2: 170 hours.
- C1: 190 hours.
- C2: 190 hours.

These hours are approximate. The teacher adapts the pace of instruction to the group, taking into account its progress, needs and areas of difficulty; consequently, these hours are not applied rigidly in every case.

8. ASSESSMENT AND CERTIFICATION

Assessment is continuous and consists of different tasks completed throughout the course, as well as a final written and oral assessment.

- Oral assessment: 50% of the final mark. It consists of a project or a topic chosen by the student.
- Written assessment: 50% of the final mark. It includes two listening exercises linked to a writing task or comprehension questions.
- You must submit two written assignments during the course.

At the end of the course, you will receive a final report through Langlion and a satisfaction questionnaire.

Certificates: Students who have attended at least 80% of classes —100% in the case of students holding a student visa— will receive a certificate of attendance or achievement, provided that they have completed the corresponding course and met the established learning objectives.

9. LEARNING PROGRESS MONITORING

Progress monitoring forms part of continuous assessment and enables learning to be adapted to the group's development.

- Receive regular feedback on your progress.
- Identify difficulties and areas for improvement.
- Review spoken and written work.
- Take part in self-assessment and peer-assessment activities.
- Use a portfolio and other monitoring tools to assess your progress and set new goals.

10. LEARNING OBJECTIVES AND CONTENT

Content is developed progressively so that you make balanced progress in linguistic, pragmatic and intercultural competences and become more independent as a user and learner of Spanish.

A1.1 – Beginner level

You will learn to:

- Introduce yourself and other people.
- Give and ask for basic personal information.
- Identify people, objects and places.
- Greet people, say goodbye and use basic polite expressions.
- Express simple likes and needs.
- Take part in brief everyday interactions.

You will work on:

- The alphabet, pronunciation and basic intonation.
- Gender, number, agreement and articles.
- The present indicative and common verbs: ser, estar, tener and ir.
- Ser/estar and hay/está-están.
- Question words, negation, demonstratives, possessives and numerals.
- Basic prepositions and connectors; ir a + infinitive.
- Vocabulary relating to identity, family, location, routines and basic needs.

A1.2 – Beginner level

You will learn to:

- Introduce yourself in greater detail and describe people, objects and places.
- Talk about family, housing, work and routines.
- Express immediate plans, likes, preferences and interests.
- Ask for information and assistance in shops and services.
- Make simple purchases, order food and manage basic travel situations.
- Hold brief conversations using appropriate polite expressions.

You will work on:

- Consolidating the present tense and extending your knowledge of common irregular verbs.
- Reflexive verbs; ser/estar and hay/estar.
- Demonstratives, possessives, numerals and expressions of frequency.
- Common prepositions and ir a + infinitive.
- Gustar, encantar and interesar.
- Basic connectors for linking ideas.
- Vocabulary relating to housing, work, food, shopping, services and everyday life.

A2.1 – Elementary level

You will learn to:

- Talk about recent experiences and past events.
- Describe people, places and objects in greater detail.
- Explain habits, customs, plans and projects.
- Request information, make bookings and manage purchases or returns.
- Resolve minor everyday problems.
- Express opinions, wishes, obligation and necessity, and give basic advice.

You will work on:

- The present tense, the present perfect and an introduction to the preterite.
- The affirmative imperative and common verbal periphrases.
- Comparatives, superlatives and quantifiers.
- Direct object pronouns.

- Adverbs of time, place and manner.
- Connectors for sequencing and linking a narrative.
- Vocabulary relating to everyday life, travel, services, leisure and social relationships.

A2.2 – Elementary level

You will learn to:

- Narrate past events more precisely.
- Describe experiences and talk about future projects.
- Compare people, objects and situations.
- Manage travel, bookings, complaints and simple incidents.
- Express opinions, preferences, emotions and evaluations.
- Give advice, make recommendations, invitations, proposals and suggestions.

You will work on:

- Contrasting the present perfect, preterite and imperfect.
- The affirmative and negative imperative.
- Common verbal periphrases.
- Direct and indirect object pronouns.
- Comparatives and superlatives.
- Temporal and causal connectors.
- Vocabulary relating to travel, relationships, projects, leisure, culture and everyday life.

B1.1 – Intermediate level

You will learn to:

- Narrate experiences and events in an organised way.
- Describe situations, people and places in detail.
- Explain simple processes and procedures.
- Manage independently in common study, work, travel and leisure situations.
- Express and justify opinions, wishes, feelings and concerns.
- Give advice and express probability and simple hypotheses.

You will work on:

- Consolidating the past tenses and introducing the past perfect.
- The future and simple conditional.
- An introduction to the present subjunctive.
- The imperative and common verbal periphrases.
- Object pronouns.
- Simple causal, temporal, purpose and conditional subordinate clauses.
- Connectors for organising, supporting and linking ideas.

B1.2 – Intermediate level

You will learn to:

- Narrate and describe experiences in detail.
- Explain processes and summarise information from different sources.
- Take part in meetings, interviews and conversations of some length.
- Resolve incidents and negotiate simple solutions.
- Express and qualify opinions, emotions, wishes and evaluations.
- Form hypotheses, express probability, recommend and persuade at a basic level.

You will work on:

- Consolidating the indicative and the present subjunctive.
- Contrasting the indicative and subjunctive in common contexts.
- The future, conditional and imperative with pronouns.
- Verbal periphrases and common relative pronouns.
- Simple reported speech.
- Causal, consecutive, temporal, purpose, concessive and conditional subordinate clauses.
- A range of discourse connectors.

B2.1 – Upper-intermediate level

You will learn to:

- Present information clearly and precisely.
- Explain complex processes and summarise information from a variety of sources.
- Participate naturally in meetings and extended conversations.
- Negotiate and resolve everyday conflicts.
- Construct arguments, formulate hypotheses and express doubt, probability and certainty.
- Convince and persuade using appropriate arguments.

You will work on:

- Consolidating the verb system, future and conditional.
- Extending the present subjunctive and introducing the present perfect subjunctive.
- Contrasting the indicative and subjunctive.
- Different types of subordinate clauses.
- Reported speech and relative pronouns.
- Verbal periphrases and aspectual meanings.
- Connectors and markers for structuring texts.

B2.2 – Upper-intermediate level

You will learn to:

- Present and synthesise information from different sources.

- Explain, narrate and describe complex situations precisely.
- Reformulate information to suit the listener.
- Participate actively in meetings, interviews and debates.
- Negotiate agreements and manage disagreements.
- Argue, counterargue and express nuanced opinions.
- Adapt register, style and level of formality to the context.

You will work on:

- Consolidating the indicative and subjunctive.
- The present perfect subjunctive and an introduction to the imperfect subjunctive.
- The simple and perfect conditional.
- Reported speech with tense and deictic changes.
- More complex subordinate clauses.
- Cohesion devices, reformulation and discourse markers.
- Periphrases with aspectual and modal meanings.

C1.1 – Advanced level

You will learn to:

- Present complex information precisely.
- Synthesise and reformulate information from a variety of sources.
- Explain abstract concepts.
- Participate effectively in meetings, seminars and debates.
- Negotiate agreements and manage communication conflicts.
- Defend opinions, qualify statements and persuade.
- Adapt register to different listeners and situations.

You will work on:

- Consolidating the indicative and subjunctive.
- The imperfect and past perfect subjunctive.
- The simple and perfect conditional with hypothetical and counterfactual meanings.
- Complex subordinate clauses.
- Advanced reported speech.
- Modality, impersonal constructions, the se passive and nominalisation.
- Textual cohesion and markers for organisation, reformulation, contrast and qualification.

C1.2 – Advanced level

You will learn to:

- Present specialised information clearly and in a structured way.
- Synthesise, reformulate and integrate information from different sources.
- Explain abstract concepts and complex processes.

- Participate effectively in meetings, negotiations, interviews and debates.
- Mediate between speakers or texts.
- Argue, counterargue, persuade and manage disagreements.
- Adapt register and style flexibly.

You will work on:

- Flexible use of the indicative, subjunctive and conditional.
- Compound tenses, the imperfect and past perfect subjunctive.
- Advanced structures for hypothesis, concession, condition, purpose, cause and consequence.
- Modality and complex reported speech.
- Nominalisation, impersonal constructions and passivisation.
- Advanced resources for cohesion, reformulation and thematic organisation.
- Precise discourse markers for qualifying and supporting arguments.

C2.1 – Proficiency I

You will learn to:

- Understand complex spoken and written discourse, including abstract, literary and specialised texts.
- Express yourself fluently, spontaneously and precisely in a wide range of situations.
- Produce complex, well-structured texts appropriate to the context and register.
- Reformulate and synthesise complex information using different levels of formality.
- Argue, explain, justify and qualify opinions in highly demanding contexts.
- Understand and interpret implied meanings and pragmatic nuances.
- Adapt your discourse to different listeners, situations and registers.

You will work on:

- Flexible and precise command of grammatical structures.
- Stylistic use of verb tenses, moods and aspects.
- Alternation between the indicative and subjunctive and their main subtle meanings.
- Complex syntactic structures, ellipsis and discourse condensation.
- Cohesion and coherence in highly complex spoken and written texts.
- Formal, academic and professional registers.
- Phraseology, collocations, idioms and idiomatic expressions.
- Reformulation, synthesis and mediation strategies.

C2.2 – Proficiency II

You will learn to:

- Understand virtually any spoken or written discourse, even when it is highly specialised, abstract, literary or implicit.

- Express yourself spontaneously, precisely, fluently and flexibly, adapting your discourse to any context.
- Produce complex texts in a natural, precise and effective style.
- Mediate between speakers, texts, registers and cultures.
- Reformulate complex information while accurately preserving its meaning, intention and tone.
- Argue, persuade, negotiate and counterargue in situations of the highest communicative demand.
- Interpret and use implied meanings, irony, humour, double meanings and other pragmatic nuances.
- Use different varieties, registers and styles of Spanish naturally.

You will work on:

- Stylistic and pragmatic selection of grammatical structures.
- Advanced use of verb tenses, moods and aspects for expressive and discourse purposes.
- Alternation between the indicative and subjunctive in contexts involving particular semantic and pragmatic subtlety.
- Advanced syntax, ellipsis, complex subordination and discourse condensation.
- Specialised registers and highly precise academic and professional language.
- Advanced phraseology, idioms, collocations and idiomatic expressions.
- Dialectal, social, situational and stylistic variation.
- Advanced cohesion, presuppositions, implicatures and nuances of politeness.
- Irony, humour, double meanings and other pragmatic resources.
- Mediation, negotiation, reformulation and intercultural adaptation strategies.

11. FINAL OBJECTIVE

Our objective is for you to develop your communicative competence quickly and effectively and to use Spanish with increasing independence.

As you progress, you will develop listening and reading comprehension, spoken and written production and interaction, learning strategies and intercultural competence in an integrated way.

The course aims to help you apply what you have learned in real-life situations and continue developing your Spanish independently, in accordance with your level, needs and goals.