



Chile - Argentina - Peru

Complete Course Catalog
Updated June 2014

For more information, please, contact
your ECELA Spanish program advisor
directly or email us at
info@ecelaspanish.com.

Explanation of Courses

Standard Spanish language courses are taken as group classes and elective courses, such as Medical Spanish or Latin American Cultures I, may be taken as private classes or group classes if pre-arranged with ECELA's Academic Coordinator. Classes are intensive, consisting of 20 contact hours per week in the Standard Program with a maximum of eight students per class.

Language Courses: Levels A1 - C2

These courses are designed with the primary focus of giving students a thorough understanding of reading, writing and speaking Spanish. All key grammatical components are covered in a sequence, from beginner through advanced. Applied conversation is a key focus, and cultural discussion topics will be used to expand upon students' vocabulary and conversational skills. All courses have duration of four weeks, for a total of 80 contact hours (Standard Program) or four academic credits.

Note: Students may take just three weeks of a course to receive three credits if this is what their university credit requirements and/or travel plans require. In this case students should try to begin their program during the second week of the course; their ECELA adviser can confirm this date for them.

Upper-Level Elective Courses: Foundations of Spanish and Latin American Literature, Magical Realism in Latin American Literature, Spanish Writing and Composition I, Spanish Writing and Composition II, Latin American Cultures I, Latin American Cultures II, Business Spanish, Medical Spanish, Legal Spanish.

Each of these courses has a prerequisite of Spanish language skills; see individual descriptions for details. Grammar is not a primary focus, but the professor will correct any obvious errors where appropriate. Achievement of advanced writing and conversational abilities is the goal of these courses. Coursework will be more intensive, including, but not limited to, writing assignments, oral presentations and long-term projects.

Note: four week courses may be compressed to three weeks in length for winter or summer session group programs.

Placement Exam:

The ECELA placement exam was designed by our team of professors to accurately evaluate students' current level of Spanish language ability. All students take the placement exam on or before their first day of classes and are then placed in the course that corresponds to their placement exam results. If a student feels they were inaccurately assigned, they may petition the on-site academic director for a change of course level.

A shorter, online placement exam is given to all students prior to their arrival. This can be used to help determine which course a student will be enrolled in with ECELA and thus can receive credit for at their home university.

Quick Course Conversion Chart

Standard College Course	ECELA Equivalent	Duration	Hours
Spanish 101 (Semester I)	SPAN 101 (A1)	4 weeks	80 hours
Spanish 102 (Semester II)	SPAN 102 (A2)	4 weeks	80 hours
Spanish 201 (Semester III)	SPAN 201 (B1)	4 weeks	80 hours
Spanish 202 (Semester IV)	SPAN 202 (B2)	4 weeks	80 hours
Advanced Spanish Conversation 301 (Semester V)	SPAN 301 (C1)	4 weeks	80 hours
Advanced Spanish Conversation 302 (Semester VI)	SPAN 302 (C2)	4 weeks	80 hours
Spanish Literature 300+	SPAN 303 - Foundations of Spanish and Latin American Literature	4 weeks	80 hours
Spanish Literature 300+	SPAN 304 - Magical Realism in Latin American Literature	4 weeks	80 hours
Spanish Composition 300+	SPAN 305 - Spanish Writing and Composition I	4 weeks	80 hours
Spanish Composition 300+	SPAN 306 - Spanish Writing and Composition II	4 weeks	80 hours
Latin American Cultures 300+	SPAN 307 - Latin American Cultures I	4 weeks	80 hours
Latin American Cultures 300+	SPAN 308 - Latin American Cultures II	4 weeks	80 hours
Business Spanish 300+	SPAN 309 - Business Spanish	4 weeks	80 hours
Medical Spanish 300+	SPAN 311 - Medical Spanish	4 weeks	80 hours
Legal Spanish 300+	SPAN 313- Legal Spanish	4 weeks	80 hours

Explanation of Academic Credit

ECELA has two university partners: Universidad Bolivariana (Chile) and Brookhaven College (Texas, USA). Home universities also have the option of approving ECELA’s courses for direct credit transfer. Students should check with their study abroad advisor at their home institution to find out whether or not additional information (course syllabus, approval forms, etc.) is required to guarantee credit acceptance. ECELA will send such information upon request.

All students must complete ECELA’s Credit Transfer Approval form (CTA) to receive academic credit for an ECELA program.

Upon completion of their ECELA program, the student will receive an official transcript from Universidad Bolivariana, ECELA or Brookhaven College.

Courses taught at ECELA comply with, and almost always exceed, the generally accepted standard of 15 contact hours (50 minutes per hour) of class time per credit hour. Listed below are the various options students have to earn credit for ECELA courses.

Brookhaven College courses that can be taken for credit at ECELA:

Spanish Language Courses:

SPAN 1411: Beginning Spanish I - 4 credits, 80 hours

SPAN 1412: Beginning Spanish II - 4 credits, 80 hours

SPAN 2311: Intermediate Spanish - 3 credits, 48 hours

SPAN 2312: Intermediate Spanish - 3 credits, 48 hours

Upper-level Elective Courses:

SPAN 2324: Spanish Conversation and Culture Through Reading - 3 credits, 48 hours

SPAN 2316: Spanish for Business - 1 - 3 credits, 48 hours

SPAN 2321: Introduction to Spanish Literature - 1 - 3 credits, 48 hours

1 or 2 Courses Dallas County Resident \$360 Texas Resident \$600 All Others \$780	3, 4, or 5 Courses Dallas County Resident \$600 Texas Resident \$780 All Others \$1020
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Universidad Bolivariana:

Credit available for all ECELA courses.

Cost including registration, transcripts, and processing: \$350 for unlimited number of credits.

ECELA Direct Transfer:

Credit available for all ECELA courses.

Cost including registration, transcripts and processing: \$200 for unlimited number of credits.

Program Scheduling

Students interested in courses for credit can begin their studies throughout the year with ECELA's frequent start dates. They may begin their classes any Monday of the year and can have a program length of their own choosing, but must complete at least three weeks of group or private courses to receive credit.

Multi-location programs are available and encouraged. For example, students may complete a six-week program comprised of two weeks in Buenos Aires, one week in Santiago and three weeks in Lima.

Curriculum is integrated throughout all ECELA locations so the language learning sequence will not be interrupted when a student changes locations. Slight changes may occur in the curriculum of upper-level elective courses, but nothing so prominent as to affect the student's learning process.

Notes Regarding this Course Catalog

All courses are titled with their English name, their Spanish name in parentheses (as it sometimes appears on transcripts) and US-style course number. It is important to note that these numbers are for ECELA's use and advisers' reference only. The course(s) which the student ultimately earns credit for at their home university is up to their foreign language department, registrar and/or adviser.

Prerequisites vary from course to course. The placement exam must be taken before entering any course. Students do not need to provide transcripts showing that they have completed the required minimum level of Spanish or equivalent; this information is intended for advisers who will be evaluating their students' ECELA courses for credit transfer and also for students' own point of reference. There is a Quick Course Conversion Chart located in this course catalog for fast referencing of university-to-ECELA course equivalencies.

Complete Syllabus

A1: The Present and the Past (A1: El Presente y El Pasado) SPAN 101

Prerequisite(s): Placement exam.

Description: This course is intended for those students with very little or no previous Spanish instruction. The most basic grammar and vocabulary are covered intensively through lecture and in-class exercises, while some conversation is included to expand upon students' budding language skills.

Duration: Four weeks (80 hours 4 university credits).

Course Content:

- Spanish alphabet.
- Vocabulary:
 - School, calendar, materials, numbers, time, street, fruits & vegetables, food, the house, colors, restaurant, supermarket, transportation.
- Basic verbs:
 - Ser, estar, ir, tener, pedir, preguntar, tocar, poner, trabajar, escuchar, etc.
- Present tense; usage and regular and irregular conjugation.
- Basic expressions.
- Basic prepositions.
- Personal pronouns.
- Articles (definite and indefinite).
- Descriptive adjectives.
- Interrogative pronouns:
 - Qué, cuánto, dónde, cómo, cuál, quién, por qué, cuánto, cuántos, etc.
- Conjugation of past tenses (preterite and imperfect).
- Usage and differences for the two past tenses.
- Preterite / Imperfect tense; irregular conjugation.
- Comparative and superlative.
- Verbs with third person conjugation (gustar, encantar, molestar, doler, etc.).
- Por / para: differences and usages.
- Selected lecture and discussion topics.
- Selected audio, articles and topics for discussion.

Grading:

- One quiz is given every two Fridays. The average grade of the first and second quizzes must be 75% or higher for the student to pass on to the following level in the grammar course sequence.
 - Automatic failure if more than four (4) classes are missed.
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A2: The Future, the Conditional, Continuous Time and Reflexive Verbs (A2: El Futuro, el Condicional, los Tiempos Continuos, los Verbos Reflexivos) SPAN 102

Prerequisite(s): Placement exam.

Description: Those students who have completed one semester of college Spanish should be comfortable here. Present, past and future tenses will be used in discussion topics and more complex grammar, such as usage of reflexive verbs and the passive voice, will also be learned and practiced through in-class exercises and short homework assignments.

Duration: Four weeks (80 hours → 4 university credits).

Course Content:

- Vocabulary:
 - opposite adjectives, clothing, sports, human body, family, materials, subway, furniture, city, energy and fuels, pastimes, nationalities, etc.
- Possessive adjectives.
- Reflexive verbs.
- Future tense; conjugation and usage.
- Future using present tense, ir + a, present with the idea of future.
- Preposition “a”.
- Impersonal usage of “se”.
- Conditional tense; conjugation and usage.
- Review of all verb tenses; conversation exercises using all tenses.
- Gerund.
- Present progressive tenses.
- Past Progressive tense.
- How to ask for permission.
- Prepositional phrases for place.
- Verbs that require preposition.
- Selected lecture and discussion topics.
- Selected audio, articles and topics for discussion.

Grading:

- At the end of the fourth week (third in some cases) there is a quiz. The final grade must be 75% or higher to pass the level. If the grade is 74% or less, the student must repeat two weeks of the same level in order to advance.
 - Automatic failure if more than four (4) classes are missed.
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B1: The preterite perfect, the present subjunctive, the direct and indirect objects pronouns, The imperfect subjunctive.

(B1: El pretérito perfecto, el Presente del subjuntivo, el Imperfecto del subjuntivo y los Complementos Pronominales) SPAN 201

Prerequisite(s): Placement Exam.

Description: Here students with at least two semesters of college Spanish or the equivalent will be able to expand upon their basic knowledge of Spanish and continue on to more complex grammatical instruction and usage. Review of indicative verb forms is key here, as the present subjunctive is introduced during this course. Understanding of how to properly use commands and pronouns are important here, along with practice of the present subjunctive in oral exercises and short writing assignments.

Duration: Four weeks (80 hours 4 university credits).

Course Content:

- Pretérito perfecto (present perfect) tense; conjugation and usage.
- Present of the subjunctive mood (types 1, 2 and 3).
- Correlative conjunctions.
- Prepositions review.
- Usage of the word *lo* as an article and a pronoun; relevant phrases.
- Present of the subjunctive mood (types 4, 5 and 6).
- Indefinite pronouns.
- Present subjunctive; additional usages.
- Verbs with the 3° person conjugation (gustar, encantar, molestar, doler, etc).
- Direct object pronouns.
- Indirect object pronouns.
- Para / por review.
- The imperative mood, usage and conjugation.
- Selected lecture and discussion topics.
- Selected audio, articles and topics for discussion.

Grading:

- One quiz is given every two Fridays. The average grade of the first and second quizzes must be 75% or higher for the student to pass on to the following level in the grammar course sequence.
 - Automatic failure if more than four (4) classes are missed.
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B2: The Past Subjunctive, the Present Hypothetical, the Past Hypothetical that Requires the Subjunctive, The Passive Voice, Reported Speech.

(B2: Las Hipótesis, La Voz Pasiva, El pasado de Subjuntivo, Discurso Indirecto) SPAN 202

Prerequisite(s): Placement exam.

Description: For students who already feel comfortable using the subjunctive in the present tense, they may continue expanding their knowledge here by learning its imperfect form. Once students are comfortable with all subjunctive forms and using the subjunctive and conditional for hypothetical phrases, the course moves on to the present perfect and its usages. Conversation will now come relatively easily to the student, with these last grammar lessons serving to supplement their already diverse grammar and vocabulary. Comparisons between different verb tenses and forms are important here to polish speaking, reading and writing abilities.

Duration: Four weeks (80 hours → 4 university credits).

Course Content:

- Present of the subjunctive mood (types 7, 8, 9 and 10).
- Comparatives review.
- Adverbial phrases.
- Hypotheticals about the present tense and about past tense.
- Preterite subjunctive, conjugation and usages.
- Direct and indirect object pronouns review.
- Subjunctive with an uncertain reference.
- Verbs to express emotion that require subjunctive.
- Reflexive verbs for accidental or unexpected reference.
- Reported speech.
- Subjunctive in impersonal sentences and opinion expressions.
- Verb differences: pedir vs. preguntar and saber vs. conocer.
- Imperfect preterite of the subjunctive, conjugation and usages.
- Verbs to express emotion, opinion and feelings that require subjunctive.
- Future perfect tense, conjugation and usages.
- The passive voices.
- Grammatical connectors Part 1.
- Selected lecture and discussion topics.
- Selected audio, articles and topics for discussion.

Grading:

- At the end of the fourth week (third in some cases) there is a quiz. The final grade must be 75% or higher to pass the level. If the grade is 74% or less, the student must repeat two weeks of the same level in order to advance.
- Automatic failure if more than four (4) classes are missed.

C1: Traditions, Relationships, Politics and Problems in Latin America
(C1: Las Tradiciones, las Relaciones, la Política, Problemas en América Latina) Spanish 301

Prerequisite(s): Placement exam.

Description: This course is intended for the student who can comfortably converse in Spanish using all of the grammatical knowledge outlined in the previous courses. Certain portions of beginner and intermediate grammar will be reviewed during each lesson to clarify any doubts that students might have. Oral practice and advanced reading comprehension are the focus, expanding upon the student's vocabulary and overall knowledge of the language. All coursework will be that much more intensive and challenging, allowing students to truly explore their linguistic abilities and also fully correct any errors with the guidance of the instructor.

Duration: Four weeks (80 hours → 4 university credits).

Course Content:

- Adjectives that can be used with “ser” or “estar” changing the meaning.
- Expressions of possibility with “if” in all tenses.
- Expressions of possibility using quizás, a lo mejor and tal vez.
- Use of “ojalá” in all the subjunctive tense
- Relative pronouns.
- “Como si” + preterite subjunctive.
- Contrast of all past tenses.
- Expressions of cause: como, porque, ya que, dado que.
- Conditional sentences using “como”.
- Verbs to express change of state: volverse, quedarse, hacerse, llegar a ser.
- Grammatical connectors Part 2.
- Selected lecture and discussion topics.
- Selected audio, articles and topics for discussion.

Grading:

- At the end of the forth week (third in some cases) there is a quiz, the final grade
The final grade must be 75% or higher to pass the level. If the grade is 74% or less, the student must repeat two weeks of the same level in order to advance.
 - Automatic failure if more than four (4) classes are missed.
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**C2: Daily Life, Media, Culture and Literature in Latin America
(C2: La Vida, los Medios, la Cultura y la Literatura en América Latina) Spanish 302**

Prerequisite(s): Placement exam.

Description: This is the last course in the Spanish immersion sequence. Only advanced grammatical components will be reviewed here, as a much larger emphasis will be placed upon intensive discussion topics and a variety of short writing assignments. Students who feel very comfortable with their Spanish abilities with few remaining questions concerning grammar and general vocabulary should find themselves well here, with new challenges being more intellectual and theoretical.

Duration: Four weeks (80 hours → 4 university credits).

Course Content:

- Hypothetical sentences using “de”.
- The uses of “ya”.
- Verbal periphrasis.
- Future tenses with supposition, conjecture and speculation.
- Punctuation rules.
- Accent rules.
- “Lo más” + adjective.
- Full list of Spanish prepositions.
- Sentence connectors involving logical conclusion.
- Expressions starting with a preposition.
- Selected lecture and discussion topics.
- Selected audio, articles and topics for discussion.

Grading:

- At the end of the fourth week (third in some cases) there is a quiz. The final grade must be 75% or higher to pass the level. If the grade is 74% or less, the student must repeat two weeks of the same level in order to advance.
- Automatic failure if more than four (4) classes are missed.

Exams graded out of 100. Student must receive grade of 75 or higher on each exam to advance to next course. One make-up exam will be given for each exam if first grade is lower than 75. If the student fails the make-up exam, the course must be repeated.

**Foundations of Spanish and Latin American Literature
(Programa de Literatura en Lengua Española) → Spanish 303**

Prerequisite(s): Four semesters of college Spanish or equivalent; performance on placement exam to demonstrate linguistic competency.

Description: This course was designed with the goal of giving students a general knowledge of Spanish-language literature, especially 20th century Latin American literature. Some course content will vary depending on the student's location of study; for example, students taking the course in Santiago will focus especially on Chilean authors. The different possibilities are detailed in the course contents with the corresponding study location.

Objectives:

- Identify the principle contemporary tendencies of Spanish literature and their Latin American representatives.
- Value the stylistic and thematic contributions of written literature to the Spanish language, such as the geographical, social and cultural elements of its production.
- Expand upon the comprehension of Spanish texts.
- Broaden the capacity of interpretive analysis and aesthetic evaluation of texts.

Duration: Four weeks (80 or 64 hours → 4 university credits).

Course Content:

Unit 1 - Historic and Literary Precedents:

- Don Quijote de la Mancha:
 - Socio cultural context.
 - Principal characteristics.
 - Repercussions in Spanish literature
- Modernism:
 - First Latin American literary movement.
 - Focus: Ruben Dario.
- Contemporary Latin American Literature:
- Characteristic elements of the novel, short story, poetry and essay.

Unit 2 - Latin American Literature:

- Short Story:
 - Typology, characteristics, principal elements.
 - Representative Authors: Julio Cortazar, Jorge Luis Borges, Marco Denevi.
 - Principal Chilean Authors (Santiago, Viña del Mar): Alejandro Jodorowsky, Poli Délano.
 - Principal Peruvian Authors (Lima, Cusco): Julio Ramon Ribeyro, Ricardo Palma.
 - Principal Argentine Authors (Buenos Aires, Mendoza): Rodolfo Walsh, Adolfo Bioy Caseres.
- Novel:
 - Historical context, style, principal themes.
 - Representative Authors: Gabriel García Márquez, Mario Vargas Llosa.

- Principal Chilean Authors (Santiago, Viña del Mar): José Donoso, Francisco Coloane, Luis Sepúlveda, Isabel Allende.
- Principal Peruvian Authors (Lima, Cusco): José María Arguedas.
- Principal Argentinean Authors (Buenos Aires, Mendoza): Julio Cortázar.
- Poetry:
 - Historical context, characterization, principal themes.
 - Representative Authors: César Vallejo, Octavio Paz, Mario Benedetti.
 - Principal Chilean Authors (Santiago, Viña del Mar): Gabriela Mistral, Pablo Neruda, Vicente Huidobro, Pablo de Rokha, Juan Guzmán Cruchaga, Gonzalo Rojas, Jorge Teillier, Nicanor Parra.
 - Principal Peruvian Authors (Lima, Cusco): Abraham Valdelomar, José María
 - Eguren, Carlos Oquendo de Amat, Martín Adán, Emilio Adolfo Westphalen, Blanca Varela.
 - Principal Argentine Authors (Buenos Aires, Mendoza): Jorge Luis Borges, Alfonsina Storni.

Grading:

- Essay and homeworks 50%
 - Written exam 50%
 - Automatic failure if more than five (5) classes are missed.
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Magical Realism in Latin American Literature
(El Realismo Mágico en la Narrativa Hispanoamericana) → Spanish 304

Prerequisite(s): Four semesters of college Spanish or equivalent; performance on placement exam to demonstrate linguistic competency.

Description: This course is designed for the student who would like to expand their knowledge of contemporary Latin American literature by studying the representative authors of the magical realism genre.

Objectives:

- Learn about and become familiar with Latin American authors working within the genre of magical realism.
- Analyze texts that represent the genre of Magical Realism.
- Provide foundational elements of textual analysis.
- Motivate critical thinking.
- Enrich the knowledge and understanding of Latin American cultures.
- Improve oral, written and listening abilities, such as reading comprehension and oral analysis. Being able to express oneself fluently both in written and spoken Spanish.

Duration: Four weeks (80 or 64 hours → 4 university credits).

Course Content:

Unit 1 - Literary Foundations:

- Magical Realism as a characteristic and representative form of contemporary Latin American literature.
- General characteristics of the genre (timeline, representative authors, basic definitions, etc.).
- Comprehension of the term Magical Realism in both literary and socio-historical contexts.

Unit 2 - Selected Readings:

- Analysis of selected chapters from representative novels:
 - Cien años de soledad - Gabriel García Márquez.
 - El reino de este mundo - Alejo Carpentier.
 - Hombres de maíz - Miguel Ángel Asturias.
 - La casa de los espíritus - Isabel Allende.
- Selection of short stories, chosen at the discretion of the professor.

Grading:

- Essay and homeworks 50%
 - Written exam 50%
 - Automatic failure if more than five (5) classes are missed.
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Spanish Writing and Composition I
(Programa de Composición y Redacción en Español 1) → SPAN 305

Prerequisite(s): Four semesters of college Spanish or equivalent; performance on placement exam to demonstrate linguistic competency.

Description: This course was designed with the goal of giving students the necessary tools for the correct composition of written texts in Spanish.

Objectives:

Acquire the ability to produce Spanish texts of all kinds, literary and otherwise.
Thoroughly understand the rules of usage of the morphological categories and syntax of the Spanish language.
Expand upon the knowledge of different literary genres.

Duration: Four weeks (80 or 64 hours → 4 university credits).

Course Content:

Unit 1 - Basic Concepts of Composition

- Definition of composition.
- Qualities and components of composition.
- Structure of texts:
 - Beginning - middle - end.
 - Internal structure: object, reader, subject, selection, ranking.
 - External structure: order, language, tone, style.
 - The paragraph: principal and secondary ideas.
 - Types of paragraphs.

Unit 2 - Idiomatic Approaches

- Types of Words:
 - General presentation.
 - Gender and numbers: special cases, irregularities.
 - Prepositions and connectors.
- The sentence:
 - Simple sentence: active and passive, impersonal.
 - Compound sentence: coordinates and subordinates.
- Orthography:
 - Accented orthography.
 - Punctuation.

Unit 3 - Lexicon

- Synonymy.
- Antonymy.
- Polysemy.
- Paronyms.
- Homonyms.

Unit 4 - The Written Text

- The functions of language.
- Types of texts:
 - Expressive texts.
 - Informative texts: informal and formal letters, the report and the summary.
 - Narrative texts: literary figures, the anecdote.
 - Argumentative texts: opinion pieces, the essay.

Unit 5 - Styles of Writing

- Definition of style.
- Types of style.
- Formation of style.
- Improvement of style.
- Common stylistic errors: dequeismo, loismo, leismo, etc.

Grading:

- Essays 50%
 - Homeworks 50%
 - Automatic failure if more than five (5) classes are missed.
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Spanish Writing and Composition II
(Programa de Composición y Redacción en Español II) → SPAN 306

Prerequisite(s): Completion of Spanish Writing and Composition I or placement; performance on placement exam to demonstrate linguistic competency.

Description: This course intends to expand upon the concepts covered in Spanish Writing and Composition I. Additionally, it will provide new knowledge to further the acquisition of Spanish as a second language.

Objectives:

- To gain the necessary skills for optimum writing and composition of Spanish texts.
- Understand the techniques of writing and composition in texts with different communicative functions (i.e. different readers/audience)
- Identify and analyze the elements that make up simple, compound and complex sentences.
- Identify the universal structures that give a text orderliness and coherence, such as the logical structure of beginning, middle and end.
- Elaboration of that reflect student's competency in written expression of the Spanish language, with all of its complexities.

Duration: Four weeks (80 or 64 hours → 4 university credits).

Course Content:

Unit 1 - Grammar

- Orthography: accents, punctuation and some cases of literal orthography (CS-Z, V-B, J-G) in context.
- Advanced use and study of prepositions.
- Advanced use and study of connectors.
- Sentence structure: simple (subject, predicate and object), compound (juxtaposition or coordination) and complex (subordinate nouns, adjectives and adverbs).
- Verbal paraphrasing.

Unit 2 - Lexicon

- Expansion and deepening of the understanding of topics discussed in Spanish
- Writing and Composition I (synonymy, polysemy, etc.).

Unit 3 - Types of Writing

- Descriptive (objective and subjective)
- Narrative (expository or explanatory)
- Argumentative (informative and data-based)
- Expressive
- Narrative (literary)
- Periodical/Journalistic
- Technical

Unit 4 - Style

- Identification of the author’s position in a speech/text in a specific context (direct and indirect styles).
- Understanding the correct frame of time (verbal usage) and linguistic turns of phrase (idioms) in written texts, depending upon the aim of the author.
- Mode of presentation to the reader: certainty, doubt; qualification, disqualification. Identification of diverse style within one text: academic, standard, and common language.

Unit 5 - Linguistic Registers

- Identification of diverse linguistic registers via representative texts: colloquial, academic, standard and technical.

Grading:

- Essays 50%
 - Homeworks 50%
 - Automatic failure if more than five (5) classes are missed.
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Latin American Cultures I
(Programa de Cultura Latinoamericana I) → SPAN 307

Prerequisite(s): Four semesters of college Spanish or equivalent; performance on placement exam to demonstrate linguistic competency.

Description: This course attempts to give a general picture of Latin American cultures in the spheres of literature, politics and folklore. Some course content will vary depending on the student's location of study; for example, students taking the course in Santiago will focus especially on Chilean culture. The different possibilities are detailed in the course contents with the corresponding study location.

Objectives:

- Learn and incorporate cultural vocabulary pertaining to politics, literature and folklore.
- Learn about Latin American cultures in general, with a more specific focus on those of South America.
- To be able to express oneself fluently in Spanish in a cultural context.

Duration: Four weeks (80 or 64 hours → 4 university credits).

Course Content:

Unit 1 - Literary Movements

- Chilean poetry (Santiago, Viña del Mar):
 - Pablo Neruda, Gabriela Mistral.
- Generación de los 50 (Lima, Cusco):
 - Mario Vargas Llosa, Julio Ramón Ribeyro, Luis Loayza, Enrique Congrains.
- Fantasy:
 - Jorge Luis Borges, Adolfo Bio Casares and Julio Cortázar.
- Magical Realism:
 - Gabriel García Márquez and Isabel Allende.
- The grotesque (theatre and one-act plays):
 - Roberto Cossa, Florencio Sánchez and Jacobo Langsner.
- Contemporary authors:
 - Mario Vargas Llosa, Jaime Bayly, Federico Andahazi, Alfredo Bryce Echenique.

Unit 2 - Principal Historical Events

- The colonial regime and the revolutions for independence.
- First years of independence.
- Beginnings of democracy and populist regimes.
- Dictatorships and their effect on South American cultures.
- Recent history:
 - The 1990s, MERCOSUR, current economy.
- Key figures in Latin American history and the influence of their ideas on contemporary issues.

Unit 3 - Music and Folklore

- An examination of music and its legacy in South America, its most representative artists and the traditions of each country.
 - South American folk music.
 - Tango in the Río de la Plata region of Argentina.
 - South American rhythms.
 - Latin American Rock music.
 - New influences and Pop music.

Unit 4 - Film and Identity

- Film as a form of social expression, its representation of the customs of contemporary cultures, and historical accounts in film.
- Latin American directors and their shared vision, depending upon country of origin.
- Film as an expression of each region's cultural characteristics.
- Representative films:
 - Pantaleón y las visitadoras, Machuca, La Virgen de los Sicarios, La Ciénaga, Cama Adentro.
- Political cinema:
 - Relations between film, history and politics.
 - Viewing and analysis of a controversial film concerning the history of a Latin American country.

Grading:

- Essay and homeworks 50%
 - Written exam 50%
 - Automatic failure if more than five (5) classes are missed.
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Latin American Cultures II
(Programa de Cultura Latinoamericana II) → SPAN 308

Prerequisite(s): Completion of Latin American Cultures I or placement; performance on placement exam to demonstrate linguistic competency.

Description: This course aims to expand upon the knowledge gained in Latin American Cultures I by exploring the more complex issues of Latin American cultures and history. The most defining components of Latin American culture will be introduced and analyzed, such as the family unit, ethnoracial history and religion.

Objectives:

- Investigate the formation and development of Latin American cultures.
- Understand the principal characteristics of Latin American cultures and their connection to the historical processes that influenced them.
- Distinguish Latin American cultures from other world cultures, especially from those that heavily influence modern society.
- Distinguish Latin American cultures from other historico-cultural experiences, especially from those that heavily influence modern society.
- Incorporate cultural analysis in the observation of Latin American societies and the connections between contemporary cultures and the processes of modernization.
- Understand Latin American realities from a social point of view.
- Complete presentations on themes related to Latin American cultures.
- Critically analyze Latin American cultural themes.

Duration: Four weeks (80 or 64 hours → 4 university credits).

Course Content:

Unit 1 - Survey of Latin American Cultures

- Aztecs, Inca and Maya.
- Spanish colonization:
 - Key issues of colonization and immigration.
 - Colonialism in Latin America.
 - Mestizaje.
- Religion:
 - Precedents and influence.
 - Syncretism.
- Cult of the Virgin:
 - Origins and development

Unit 2 - Latin American Politics

- War and peace in Latin America.
- Independence Movements:
 - Simón Bolívar and José Martí.
- Defining historical events in Latin American history.
- Revolutionary figures, their ideals and their struggles:
 - Emiliano Zapata, Augusto César Sandino, Che Guevara, Salvador Allende, Fidel Castro.

- Political geography of present-day Latin America.

Unit 3 - Latin American Society

- Family units and kinship.
- Formation of social classes.
- Sociopolitical issues concerning women in Latin America.
- Artistic manifestations of Latin American culture:
 - Principal characteristics of Latin American literature and its different periods.
 - Principal characteristics of Latin American painting:
 - Representative painters and muralists.

Grading:

- Essay and homeworks 50%
 - Written exam 50%
 - Automatic failure if more than five (5) classes are missed.
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Business Spanish
(Programa Español de Negocios) → SPAN 309

Prerequisite(s): Four semesters of college Spanish or equivalent; performance on placement exam to demonstrate linguistic competency.

Description: This course aims to explore the political economy of Latin America as well as give students the necessary communication skills to succeed in a Spanish-speaking professional environment.

Objectives:

- Acquire the technical vocabulary that corresponds to the fields of economics and business.
- Study the general characteristics of Latin American economies and also complete a focused study of one country.
- To take a reflective and critical approach when learning about the economic problems of the region.
- Develop the capacity to express one's own ideas about the economy in both written and oral format.

Duration: Four weeks (80 or 64 hours → 4 university credits).

Course Content:

Unit 1 - Linguistic Aspects

- Economic terminology.
- Economic discourse:
 - Economics and its connections to the political framework.
 - Techniques used to make economic discourse more understandable to those without formal economic training.
 - The influence of images.

Unit 2 - Political and Economic Contingencies

- Introduction to Latin American Politics
- Economic history:
 - The beginning: the colonies and the early years of independence.
 - Economic development under dictatorships.
 - Democracy and external debt.
 - The reformation of the State.
- Current economy:
 - Economic expansion.
 - Free market economy.
 - Accepted ideologies.
 - Economic practice in the free market.
 - Diversity of global markets and globalization.

Unit 3 - Latin American Economic Successes

- Chile.
- Brazil.
- Mexico.
- MERCOSUR.

Grading:

- Essay and homeworks 50%
 - Written exam 50%
 - Automatic failure if more than five (5) classes are missed.
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**Medical Spanish
(Programa de Español de Medicina) → SPAN 311**

Prerequisite(s): Two semesters of college Spanish or equivalent; performance on placement exam to demonstrate linguistic competency.

Description: This course aims to give students the basic linguistic tools to implement when providing medical attention to Spanish speakers. Therefore, this course is essentially practical in nature.

Objectives:

- Acquisition of the technical vocabulary that corresponds to the area of medicine and related disciplines, such as nursing, midwifery and other medical professions.
- To gain a better understanding of the healthcare system in Latin American countries, such as problems associated with sanitation.
- Acquisition of the necessary tools to improve direct communication with Spanish speaking patients.

Duration: Four weeks (80 or 64 hours → 4 university credits).

Course Content:

Unit 1 - Survey of Healthcare in Latin America and Beginning Applied Conversation

- The healthcare system in Latin America.
- Usage of tú vs. usted.
- Personal information: name, address, age, family, etc.
- Simple commands.
- Verbs:
 - Tener, ser, estar, haber (hay)
- Describing how someone is feeling:
 - The verb doler.
- Vocabulary:
 - The family.
 - Physical description.

Unit 2 - The Human Body

- Vocabulary:
 - Parts of the body.
- Reflexive verbs.
- Verbs related to the human body.

Unit 3 - Food and Nutrition

- Vocabulary:
 - Food and nutrition.
 - Latin American foods.
- Related verbs.
- Applied usage of *hace + que*.
- Role-play:
 - Prescribing medications.
- The time, appointment making and related expressions.
- Applied usage of *antes de* and *después de*.

Unit 4 - Contagious Illnesses

- Vocabulary:
 - Vaccinations and other shots.
 - The verb *poder*.
- Other relevant verbs.

Unit 5 - The Emergency Room

- Vocabulary:
 - Emergencies.
 - Symptoms.
 - Relevant verbs.

Unit 6 - Drugs and Alcohol

- Vocabulary:
 - Drugs and Alcohol.
- Related Verbs.

Unit 7 - Motherhood

- Vocabulary:
 - Pregnancy.
 - Contraceptives.
- Related verbs.

Unit 8 - Chronic Illnesses

- Vocabulary:
 - Cancer.
 - HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases.
- Related verbs.

Grading:

- Essay and homeworks 50%
 - Written exam 50%
 - Automatic failure if more than five (5) classes are missed.
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**Legal Spanish
(Programa Español de Leyes) → SPAN 313**

Prerequisite(s): Four semesters of college Spanish or equivalent; performance on placement exam to demonstrate linguistic competency.

Description: This course is intended for those interested in the legal system of the Spanish-speaking world and its role in society and domestic development. The course content, as well as the activities therein, will be slightly adjusted depending upon the location of study in order to provide students with the correct information for that particular region.

Objectives:

- Learn and apply the technical vocabulary of the legal system in Spanish.
- Understand the laws of Latin America, including the political, social and economic aspects that present themselves in federal law. Students will also study the results of the application of federal law in various institutions as well as in social, political and economic arenas.
- Express knowledge of this material in both written and oral format.

Duration: Four weeks (80 or 64 hours → four university credits).

Course Contents:

Unit 1 - Public Law

- History of local institutions:
 - 16th - 18th centuries.
- History of local institutions:
 - 19th - 20th centuries.
- Indigenous rights:
 - Local indigenous communities.
 - Analysis of indigenous legislation.
- Local political institutions.
- Freedom of Expression:
 - Human rights and comparative law
 - Constitutional regime and local law.
- Civilian involvement since the 1980s.

Unit 2 - Civil Law

- Family Law.
- Marriage:
 - Joint assets.
- Divorce and Inheritance Law:
 - Separation of assets.
 - Executorships.

Unit 3 - Labor Law

- Quantity and quality of employment.
- Individual work contract.
- Contractual terms.
- Healthcare and social welfare institutions.

- Labor content of free trade agreements.

Unit 4 - International Law

- Definition of property:
 - Cases of arbitrary definition.
- International human rights laws:
 - Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR).
- Resolution of international controversy:
 - Resolution of political and diplomatic controversy.
- Resolution of commercial and economic controversy:
 - OMC, CIADI, NAFTA and other free trade agreements.

Unit 5 - Commercial Law

- International commercial law:
 - International trade agreements.
 - Exterior commercial operations.
- Corporate finance.
- Tax Law:
 - Tax obligations.
 - Other basic aspects.

Unit 6 - Environmental Law

- Judicial policy
- Judicial regulations in relation to production and its impact on the environment.

Unit 7 - Criminal Law

- Local court.
- Code of criminal process.
- Criminal responsibility.
- Criminal proceedings.

Grading:

- Essay and homeworks 50%
- Written exam 50%
- Automatic failure if more than five (5) classes are missed.

FAQ

Q: Is your Spanish language course curriculum similar enough to those of the U.S. for ECELA coursework to be relevant?

A : Yes. ECELA coursework includes all grammatical components covered in the U.S, and in some cases even more intensively than a standard U.S. Spanish course. In the case of upper-level electives, coursework is not always identical, but often comparable enough for students to receive valuable credit for coursework completed here.

Q: What if a student doesn't place in the course they need credit for?

A: If it turns out that a student's current language ability does not match the requirements for the ECELA course they are seeking credit for, we recommend that they seek independent study credit for a language course or another general education elective. Alternatively, if they take the placement exam before arrival, they could study on their own to be brought up to speed with their chosen ECELA course before beginning their program on-site.

Q: Which American universities have accepted ECELA, Brookhaven or Bolivariana transcripts in the past?

A : Many! Here are just a few:

Baruch College (CUNY)
Boise State University
Boston University
Colorado State University
East Carolina University
Eastern Washington University
George Washington University
Georgia State University
Indiana University
James Madison University
Marietta College
Northwestern University
Pennsylvania State University
Pittsburgh State University
Portland State University
San Diego City College
Seattle University
Texas A&M
Towson University
UC Santa Barbara
University of Colorado Boulder
University of Colorado Denver
University of Georgia
University of Massachusetts
University of Michigan
University of Minnesota

University of North Florida
University of Oregon
University of San Diego
University of Texas Austin
University of Virginia
Virginia Tech University