Universidad de Navarra

Español A1: Comunicación y Cultura (Septiembre 4)

Guía docente 2026-27

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to *Español básico!* A1 Spanish Communication & Culture is a course that centers on developing students' abilities through interaction and active participation in interpretation and analysis of cultural texts (literary, visual, and artistic). Student creativity in oral and written composition will also be promoted, as well as knowledge and understanding of language and culture. This is a Spanish course for beginners which takes place during one semester.

- **Módulo/Materia**: Spanish to foreigners, level A1 (beginners)
- **ECTS**: 6 ECTS
- **Curso, semestre**: first semester
- **Profesorado**: Laura Marcela Castrillón Pineda - lcastrillon.1@alumni.unav.es
- **Idioma**: Spanish
- **Horario:** Tuesdays and Thursdays, 14.00-15:30 (2pm - 3:30pm)
- **Aula, edificio:** Seminario 013 (Amigos building)
- **Fecha de inicio y fin:** September 1st - November 27th

LEARNING OUTCOMES (Competences)

The three primary goals of the program are:

1. To begin to develop **oral and written communicative abilities in Spanish.**
2. To understand the rich **cultures** of the Spanish-speaking world through varied texts and cultural artifacts.
3. To acquire a range of abilities in the **Spanish language** appropriate for the level through study of grammar and orthography to writing with coherence, cohesion, and accuracy.

PEDAGOGICAL APPROXIMATION

Spanish A1 focuses on the development of written and oral communicative abilities in Spanish through an interactive activity-based approach and active learner participation. Students are expected to engage in interactive small and large-group activities.

GLOBAL RESPONSIBLE LITERACY AND STUDENTS' LEARNING OUTCOMES

Global responsible literacy is the **ability to participate in sociocultural practices** by creating, presenting, and interpreting ideas through oral and written texts **in Spanish**. It includes critical thinking and social responsibility, appreciation of cultural artifacts and artistic products, and the mastery of new technologies.

In Spanish A1 learners will:

WRITTEN AND ORAL COMMUNICATION

1. Begin to develop communicative abilities in Spanish to attain a basic level of written and oral proficiency so as to allow students to participate effectively in formal and informal conversations concerning a variety of topics: university life, families, hobbies, childhood, food, health, and current events.
2. Begin to develop a basic level of proficiency to present and explain information in Spanish in front of an audience related to academic and non-academic topics. Introduce basic writing tasks (300-500 words).

CRITICAL THINKING & SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

1. Be introduced to basic descriptions, simple narrations, and basic analytical tools to write short compositions. Be introduced to the basic grammar that accompanies each one of these narrative functions.
2. Begin to develop social responsibility, tolerance, and a nuanced understanding of the diversity and richness of the Spanish-speaking world cultures: from basic geographical knowledge to issues connected to history, politics, current events, and cultural diversity.

ARTISTIC APPRECIATION & NEW TECHNOLOGIES

1. Begin to appreciate and understand non-artistic and artistic cultural products written or produced in Spanish. Introduction to the contextualization and analysis of authentic and current newspaper articles, brief literature pieces (short stories and poems), and short and long feature films. Read in Spanish with sufficient accuracy so as to understand the main idea and details and to develop critical thinking analyses in a variety of short genres: brochures, news, fiction.
2. Begin to work with new technologies and develop digital literacies when studying and learning new languages and cultures. Begin to participate on blogs, discussion boards, and virtual collaborations. Learners begin to be partially proficient in defining, accessing, and managing information in multilingual digital environments. Develop digital projects such as digital stories.

SPANISH: THE LANGUAGE OF THE CLASSROOM

The class will be conducted in Spanish in order to provide you with maximum exposure to the language. The main focus of classes is on Spanish communication, and we strive for maximum use of the language in the classroom. This means that **your instructor will speak Spanish to you during class, and you will be expected to do the same with your instructor and classmates**. Should you need additional explanations or wish to discuss matters not directly related to course content, your instructor will be happy to speak to you in English before or after class and during office hours.

PROGRAM

This is a class for beginner students. Content corresponding to CEFR level A1 will be taught using the *Aula Plus 1* textbook. For specific details on the content, please consult the ***CRONOGRAMA*** section.

EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

PARTICIPATION IN ACTIVITIES. For a good progress, all students should attend activities promoted by the Club de Español, as well as other activities organized by the Clubs de la UNAV or other organizations such as, for example, Civivox or the Casa de la juventud. Students should attend one activity per week.

If you join CLUB DE IDIOMAS WhatsApp group you will be informed about activities and updates.

ASSESSMENT

Participation 10 %

Homework and activities 10 %

Redacción* (Composition): 10 %

2 oral exams* (Scenarios): 20 %

Logros 1* (Written test 1): 20 %

Logros 2* (Written test 2): 30 %

*Check ***CRONOGRAMA*** to know the dates when those tests will be taking place

Convocatoria extraordinaria (retake): 9 December, 12:00h. It will consist of a speaking component (30%) and a written comprehension and expression component (70%), which will comprise reading and writing exercises, listening comprehension, and tasks to evaluate the grammar and vocabulary covered throughout the course. Further details about the test will be provided prior to the exam.

Written exams (*logros*). This is a test of learning and practical application of language skills in use. It will consist of exercises in written comprehension and expression, listening comprehension, and exercises to assess grammar and vocabulary corresponding to the content studied. It is mandatory to complete the tasks by the specified date. More details about the test will be provided prior to the test date.

Oral exams (*scenarios*). These will be carried out in pairs and involve putting oral expression skills into practice. In addition to task preparation, these tests assess conversation dynamics, clarity of message, vocabulary use, and lexical and grammatical accuracy. More details about each test will be provided beforehand.

OTHER GENERAL RULES

- **Accommodations**. Students who require academic accommodations should speak with their school's academic coordinator **at the beginning of the semester**. Once the academic coordinator has determined the type of accommodation in writing, the student must show this document to the instructor. We will will not grant retroactive accommodations to students who have not previously reported their needs.

- **Electronic devices**. As a general rule, the use of electronic devices (cell phones, laptops, etc.) will **not** be allowed in the classroom.

- **Assessment dates**. As a general rule, exams and tests will not be rescheduled. In case of illness, the student must present an official medical certificate (specifying that the illness prevents attendance on the date of the test). If the test coincides with an important appointment (medical appointment, appointment with the embassy or police, etc.), an official certificate stating the date and time of the appointment will also be required. If these documents are presented, the academic board will consider the possibility of changing the date. Simply presenting a certificate does not guarantee a change of date. Under no circumstances will exam and test dates be changed to accommodate student travel, delays, or cancellations. Other cases and special situations will be analyzed within the academic board.

- **Plagiarism**. Please note that any attempt at fraud, copying, plagiarism, or other irregular behavior constitutes a serious offense as outlined in Title IV, “Normas de disciplina académica de los estudiantes”, within the University of Navarra's Code of Conduct.

OFFICE HOURS

Student consultation hours will be announced at the start of the term.

BIBLIOGRAPHY AND RESOURCES

Required text:

AULA PLUS 1. Curso de español A1. Garmendia Iglesias, J. Agustín- Soriano Escolar, Carmen- Corpas Viñals, Jaime - Neus Sans, S.L. Barcelona: Difusión, 2020.

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NO DIGITAL BOOKS / PDFs will be allowed: paper books only

Course site

Aula Virtual ADI (Blackboard).