

SPANISH FOR HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS

Intermediate Level

DESCRIPTION

This course focuses on the study of the communicative skills necessary to understand and interact in different scenarios that model typical conversations in doctor-patient relations and be able to perform effectively in them. The course has the double objective of continuing with the development of the linguistic structures of the intermediate level of Spanish and introducing the particularities of the language needed to interact with patients, such as asking questions, giving commands, and reporting medical history.

The main objective of the course is for the student to become competent in grammatical aspects that allow him/her to construct his/her speech in Spanish in professional fields. The knowledge of the specific lexicon is a fundamental pillar in the program, so the course emphasizes the study of terminology and technical language required for the medical field, as well as focuses on cultural differences in this field.

This is a distance learning and online course, yet uniquely set in the Costa Rican context. It is taught by professors who have been teaching Spanish for several decades and who have experience in the health care field as well. Professor-student interaction and class discussions will also allow students to learn about Costa Rica's Health Care System from a socio-cultural perspective.

PREREQUISITES

Beginner Spanish (A2)

COURSE OBJECTIVES

As a result of completing this course, students will be able to

1. Interact with patients in different practice scenarios
2. Understand and prepare documents relating to the medical field
3. Use medical terminology in different conversations and situations
4. Apply grammatical structures to properly interact with Spanish speaking patients
5. Identify main ideas and details in written medical Spanish
6. Understand how the socio-cultural context influence the Health Care System.

COURSE CONTENTS

SESSION	TOPICS	CLASS	ASSIGNMENTS DUE
1	Basic Anatomy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parts of the body Systems of the body 	Asynchronous	
2	Clinical interaction: Personal information <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greet your patient and introduce yourself Ask about personal information Talk about the daily routine	Synchronous	
3	Clinical interaction: family medical history <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Family medical history Family members Talk about the family, routine, and health condition	Synchronous	
4	Diseases <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of common chronic diseases per systems 	Asynchronous	
5	Clinical interaction: past medical history <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ask about medical history <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chronic Diseases Talk about events that began in the past and that are still going in the present	Synchronous	Quiz 1
6	Diseases <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of common acute diseases per systems 	Asynchronous	Homework 1: Prepare a short video of an acute disease
7	Clinical interaction: past medical history <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ask about Medical History <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chronic Diseases Talk about events in the past	Synchronous	
8	Signs and symptoms <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of signs and symptoms per system. 	Asynchronous	
9	Pain <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe pain Ask about feelings and pain 	Synchronous	

10	Injuries <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of common injuries per system 	Asynchronous	Homework 2: Prepare a short video of the injury assigned
11	History of the present illness <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clarify the chief complaint Ask about history of the present illness 	Synchronous	
12	History of the Present Illness Take medical notes	Asynchronous	
13	MID TERM EXAM	Asynchronous	
14	Conduct a physical examination <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Components of the physical exam: Inspection and Palpation 	Asynchronous	
15	Conduct a physical examination <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Giving instructions / Commands Describe health problems 	Synchronous	
16	Conduct a physical examination <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Components of the physical exam: Percussion and Auscultation 	Asynchronous	Quiz 2
17	Tests <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schedule follow-up tests Teach how to prepare for a specific test Results and Diagnosis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Types of diagnosis Explain the disease to the patient 	Synchronous	
18	Treatment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Medications Give Medication Instructions Explain side effects 	Synchronous	Quiz 3
19	Hospital <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Professions and Medical Specialists Hospitals in Costa Rica 	Asynchronous	
20	Health Care Systems <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Latin America Costa Rica Economy and Socio-cultural Factors 	Synchronous	Present Medical Glossary
21/22	FINAL EXAM / Case study	Synchronous	

METHODOLOGY

The working approach is action-oriented, leading to the promotion of spontaneous and challenging production activities in which the teacher is a facilitator, the learner is the protagonist of their learning and mistakes are a natural part of the literacy process in the foreign language.

The course will be executed and completed online; however, active, and consistent student participation is required throughout the course. Classes will include a combination of online recorded and live presentations and lectures, case study development, project and country reporting portfolio development, group discussions, group and Individual student and teacher meetings, a mid-term debate, individual presentations, group work, homework and on-line assignments, readings, and exams. We will aim to have a positive and creative learning environment for ALL, by respecting deadlines, taking advantage of an array of on-line tools and platforms, and by respecting, listening and sharing with each other in virtual class and spaces throughout the duration of the course.

Microsoft Teams/ Office 365

Microsoft Teams will be used for live lectures, discussions, and meetings. There will be a course folder for the entire class where students will find the reading material needed per week and other materials that the lecturers may choose to share with you and your fellow classmates. You can find the homework and assignment guides there too.

Email and WhatsApp

Email communication will be used for sending assignments, receiving general news, updates, and some of the group communication. A WhatsApp group will be created and used for adding follow-up comments and reflections in relation to assignments and completing some of the assignment components.

Time distribution

The student will be expected to spend approximately 50% of the course attending online meetings, presentations, sharing work and participating in discussion. The remainder will be spent on video viewings, case study development online, online activities, and research and additional fulfillment of assignments.

EVALUATION

On-line attendance/participation/ Teamwork and discussion	15%
Reading assignments and activities	10%
Homework	10%
Medical Glossary	15%
Quizzes	15%
Midterm exam	15%
Final Exam/Case study	20%

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Author	Title	Edition
Chase, Robert O & Clarisa B. Medina.	An Introduction to Spanish for Health Care Workers: Communication and Culture.	2013
Rios, Joanna; Fernandez, José & Ríos, Tamara	Complete Medical Spanish. Practical Medical Spanish for Quick and Confident Communication	2015
Ortega, Pilar	Spanish and the Medical Interview	2015
Villanueva, Esperanza & Villanueva, María Elena	Say it in Spanish	2004
Leonard, Peggy	Building a medical vocabulary	2012
Saenz, María et al	Sistema de salud de Costa Rica	2011
Pérez, Jorge	Sistemas de Salud en América Latina: entre aciertos y desaciertos	2012
Organización Panamericana de la Salud	Perfil del sistema y servicios de salud de Costa Rica	2018

ACADEMIC INSTRUCTIONS

1. Each assignment or evaluation has a unique dateline.
2. Late assignments are accepted only with medical proof.
3. Examinations are only rescheduled when there is a medical document justifying the absence. When applicable, the student must cancel the amount stipulated by the cashier's department for the replacement of the exam.
4. In cases of plagiarism, the percentage of the student's assignment will not be recognized.