

SPANISH: THE BASICS **LANG6401**

Course Outline

Description: In this course, the student will have the opportunity of learning while playing different games and activities, interacting with others and gaining speech skills. The student will be able to conjugate and build phrases in Present tense in Spanish.

It is important to review the material assigned by the instructor and study new words and expressions, as well as grammar structures after each class. In this way, the student will be enhancing his or her skills of communication in Spanish, being able to use recently learned content in the following session. The topics are flexible and depend on the interest of the group and learning speed. Therefore the lectures may change as the course progresses. The order of lectures may differ that of the textbook, in order to offer more consistent learning strategies that combine both the textbook, presentations, audiovisual files, handouts and diverse activities in class.

Course Goals: To build a strong foundation of Spanish that enables the student to communicate in daily situations. Understanding the basics of grammar and the proper use of genders and articles in Spanish. Prepare students for a deeper understanding of the language in “Spanish beyond the basics”.

Course Objectives: At the completion of this course, the student will be able to: Build sentences in Present Tense using regular verbs ending in AR, ER and IR. The student will be able to communicate effectively in daily situations

Attendance Requirements:

Students must miss no more than two classes to receive a completion for this course. A grade report can be printed from myWCS.

Code of Student Conduct

The purpose of the Code of Student Conduct is to define the general standard of conduct expected of students registered at Western University, provide examples of behavior that constitutes a breach of this standard of conduct, provide examples of sanctions that may be imposed, and set out the disciplinary procedures that the University will follow. For the complete Code of Student Conduct: <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/board/code.pdf>

Western Continuing Studies

Course Schedule:

1. INTRODUCTION TO SPANISH

- Introductions in Spanish
- Countries and Nationalities
- The Spanish Speaking World
- The Spanish Alphabet and Pronunciation
- Special sounds in Spanish
- Regional variations in pronunciation
- Hellos and Good-Byes

2. ABOUT PEOPLE, THINGS AND ACTIONS

- Nouns and Gender
- Definite and indefinite articles
- The Plural form of Nouns
- Diminutives
- Subject Pronouns
- An Introduction to Verbs

3. SER AND ESTAR

- The Verb Ser
- The Verb Estar
- ¿Cómo es? Or ¿Cómo está?
- Ser or Estar?
- Rules for using *Ser*
- Rules for using *Estar*
- Words That Change Meaning with Ser and Estar

4. ACTIONS AND POSSESSIONS

- Verb Stem and Endings
- Verbs Ending in –ar: Present Tense
- Making a Sentence Negative
- Asking Yes-No Questions
- Answering Yes-No Questions
- Negative Expressions
- Possessive Adjectives
- Possession with De
- The family members

5. DESCRIBING PEOPLE AND THINGS

- Adjectives
- Adjective Placement
- Superlatives and Diminutives of Adjectives
- Colors
- The Question Words ¿Quién?, ¿Qué?, ¿Cuál?, and ¿Por qué?
- ¿Cuál? or ¿Qué?
- The Question Words ¿Dónde?, ¿Cuándo?, and ¿Cuánto?
- Verbs ending in –er: Present Tense
- Verbs Saber, Conocer and Poder
- Verbs Ending in –ir: Present Tense

6. LOCATION AND TIME

- Prepositions of Place and Location
- Asking ¿Dónde queda?
- Locations and Landmarks
- The Verb Ir
- Cardinal Numbers
- Asking ¿Cuánto Vale?
- Talking About Time
- Days of the Week
- Months and Seasons

7. IRREGULAR VERBS, LIKES AND DISLIKES

- The Verb Form Hay
- Conjunctions
- The Verb Hacer
- Talking About the Weather
- The Verbs Tener and Venir
- Tener to Talk About Age
- Tener to Talk About Feelings and Qualities
- Tener Que and Hay Que to Express Obligation
- Demonstrative Adjectives and Pronouns
- Demonstrative Pronouns
- The Verb Gustar

8. ACTIONS IN PROGRESS

- The Present Progressive with Estar
- The Present Progressive with Ir and Seguir
- Forming Present Participles
- Some Irregular Present Participles
- Indefinite Adjectives
- Indefinite Pronouns
- Double Negatives
- Possessive Pronouns

9. COMPARING AND TRAVELING

- Making Comparisons
- Comparisons of Inequality
- Comparisons of Equality
- Superlative Adjectives
- The Exclamation ¡Qué! (What a!)
- Vocabulary and expressions when travelling
- Entrance, exit, pull, push, arrivals, departures, etc.
- Means of transportation

10. SHOPPING AND EATING

- Vocabulary at the restaurant
- The Menu
- Ordering food and drinks
- Buying food
- Clothing and other personal items (a visual dictionary)