

CISabroad Semester/Summer in Costa Rica Programs: Intensive Spanish Language Courses

Please note that Universidad Veritas reserves the right to cancel any course for which there is insufficient enrollment (less than 4 students).

SPN 101: BÁSICO 1 (80 hours) - This course is an introduction to Spanish for beginners with no previous knowledge of the language. Students will develop basic linguistic skills necessary in order to communicate in common situations. The course covers basic grammatical structures, vocabulary, communicative expressions and frequent situations in settings such as restaurants, stores, buses and others. Emphasis is given on understanding, speaking, reading and cross-cultural perspectives.

SPN 102: BÁSICO 2 (80 hours) - This course is for students who have completed a minimum of 60 contact hours in Spanish studies and already have a command of elementary grammatical tenses. Students will advance on their previous experiential knowledge and further develop their oral, reading, written and listening skills. Students will expand their vocabulary and language usage in order to facilitate interaction with the Costa Rican environment and be able to express themselves in the past.

SPN 201: INTERMEDIO 1 (80 hours) - Students in this course should have a good communicative command of usual everyday situations and a structural command of the present tense. The objective of this course is to develop the student's skills emphasizing on oral and written presentations and more complex grammatical structures. Students should develop a good command of all past indicative tenses.

SPN 202: INTERMEDIO 2 (80 hours) - This course emphasizes the discourse enrichment on contexts related to description and simple narrations. The contents include vocabulary building and detailed work with the subjunctive mode and other complex grammatical structures. Students will also learn idiomatic expressions used in Costa Rican.

SPN 210: INTERMEDIO CONVERSACIÓN (80 hours) - This course is for students who already have a high intermediate level of Spanish and wish to better their communicative skills and pronunciation. The emphasis is set on situational every day conversation and certain cultural issues. The methodology enhances structured speech to provide a firm base in patterns of spoken Spanish progression towards free conversation.

SPN 301: AVANZADO 1 (80 hours) - This course is based on grammatical analysis, expansion of vocabulary, idiomatic expressions through readings, and student compositions at a complex level. The objective is for students to acquire a high level of communicative Spanish that will permit them to express their opinion and thoughts on complex and controversial subjects.

SPN 302: AVANZADO 2 (80 hours) - This course is for students who want to polish their oral and written skills. Students should have a high linguistic level and full knowledge of grammatical structures in order to work on polishing stylistics. Students will practice narrative constructions, reactions on non-expected contexts, how to report compiled information. The course also covers important aspects about myths, beliefs and other cultural issues in Latin America.

SPN 310: AVANZADO CONVERSACIÓN (80 hours) - This course is based on acquiring the skill of self-correction. Students will acquire higher levels of diction and fluency through the exposure to oral contexts, idiomatic language and the varieties of Spanish spoken in different Spanish-speaking nations. This course develops skills in reading, discussion, analysis, self-correction and research. Emphasis is given to pragmatic production and students must be prepared to spend a minimum of 2 extra hours per day for assignments.

SPN 304: SPANISH FOR BUSINESS (80 hours)

This course is for students with an advanced level of Spanish who wish to learn general information about the development and processes of some of Costa Rica's main entrepreneurial settings. By the end of the course students will have a general knowledge of business vocabulary and usual business practices in Costa Rica. The course contents are complemented with a couple of field visits to some of Costa Rica's developing businesses.

SPN 320: CULTURAL HERITAGE IN LATIN AMERICA (80 hours)

This course introduces relevant topics and issues in the development of Latin America's cultural heritage. Students will develop an understanding of intellectual, artistic, social and historical perspectives in Latin America with emphasis on Costa Rica.

SPN 340: ORAL EXPRESSION TECHNIQUES (80 hours)

This course focuses on advanced communication and presentation skills. Students will work on communication techniques and efficient oral expression in formal contexts.

SPN 410: ADVANCED COMPOSITION (80 hours)

This course is for high advanced level students who want to further develop their written skills through different composition practices and techniques. The course studies complex and difficult syntax topics. Special attention is given to stylistics and composition structure.

SSP 141: BASIC SPANISH FOR HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

This course is designed for the purpose of giving health personnel, who do not have any previous Spanish experience, the tools necessary for interacting with and interviewing Spanish speaking patients. Students will acquire the linguistic knowledge and skills that will permit them to communicate at a basic level with Spanish speaking patients.

SSP 241: INTERMEDIATE SPANISH FOR HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

This course is designed for health personnel that have taken a minimum of 100 elective hours of Spanish as a second language. The goal of this course is to deepen the knowledge of medical related Spanish and increase the competency of communications in specific situations with Spanish speaking patients.

SSP 341: ADVANCED SPANISH FOR HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

This course is designed for health personnel that have an advanced background in Spanish and who need to improve their linguistic competency in order to interact with their Spanish speaking patients and their families. The goal at the end of this course is to be able to communicate in an effective and fluent form with Spanish speaking patients and families.

SSP 151: BASIC SPANISH FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT PROFESSIONALS

This course is designed for the purpose of giving general law enforcement professionals, who do not have any previous Spanish experience, the tools necessary for interacting with and interviewing Spanish speakers. Students will acquire the linguistic knowledge and skills that will permit them to communicate at a basic level in simulated situations with Spanish native speakers.

SSP 251: INTERMEDIATE SPANISH FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT PROFESSIONALS

This course is designed for law enforcement professionals that have taken a minimum of 100 elective hours of Spanish as a second language. The goal of this course is to deepen the knowledge of law-related Spanish and increase the competency of communication in specifically simulated situations with native Spanish speakers.

SSP 351: ADVANCED SPANISH FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT PROFESSIONALS

This course is designed for law enforcement professionals that have an advanced background in Spanish and who need to improve their linguistic competency in order to interact with Spanish-speaking individuals. The goal at the end of this course is to be able to communicate in an effective and fluent form.