

Drexel University College of Medicine
Spanish for Medical Professionals

Location 2900 Queens Ln

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Course Syllabus

Required Text and Materials

Chase, Robert O. and Medina de Chase, Clarisa B., **An Introduction to Spanish for Health Care Workers: Communication and Culture**, Fourth Edition (New Haven and London: Yale University Press 2013).

- The e-book is available online at <https://innoserv.library.drexel.edu/record=b2902398~S2>

Outcomes

A. Communication

Greet Your Patient and Introduce Yourself
Discuss Colds and Influenza
Discuss Pain
Tell Vital Signs
Negotiate Dates for Appointments
Ask about Family Constellation
Give Medication Instructions
Educate a Patient about Asthma
Explain How to Use a Pill Organizer
Educate Patients about Special Diets
Clarify the Chief Complaint
Schedule Follow-up Tests
Conduct a Pre-surgery Interview
Ask About Medical History
Educate a Patient about Tuberculosis
Educate a Patient about Vaccinations
Plan a Hospital Discharge
Conduct a Mental Status Exam
Confirm a Pregnancy
Coach a Delivery

Test a Patient's Orientation
Ask About Patient Comfort
Diagnose Injuries
Take a Telephone Message
Conduct a Registration Interview
Take Family Medical History
Educate Patients about Allergic Reactions
Ask who Helps an Infirm Family Member
Ask About Food Preferences
Teach How to Prepare for a Colonoscopy
Conduct a Physical Examination
Give Test Results
Educate a Patient about Cancer
Ask About Symptoms
Ask About Surgical History
Discuss Activities of Daily Living
Teach about Dental Hygiene
Address Addictions
Teach about Possible Complications
Promote Safer Sex

B. Structure

Gender and Number of Nouns and Articles	Subject Pronouns and the Verb <i>Ser</i>
Agreement of Nouns, Adjectives, and Articles	The Verb <i>Estar</i>
Choosing Between <i>Ser</i> and <i>Estar</i>	The Verb <i>Tener</i>
The Verb <i>Doler</i>	Possession
Forming Questions	Regular Verb Endings in <i>-ar</i> , <i>-er</i> , and <i>-ir</i>
The Personal <i>a</i>	Direct Object Pronouns
Commands with <i>favor de</i> , <i>hay que</i> , and <i>tener que</i>	Formal (<i>usted</i>) Commands
Demonstrative, Affirmative, and Negative Adjectives	Indirect Objects and the Verb <i>Dar</i>
Verbs like <i>Gustar</i>	The Verbs <i>Preferir</i> and <i>Querer</i>
The Verb <i>Deber</i>	The Verb <i>Ir</i>
The Contractions <i>al</i> and <i>del</i>	The Preterit of Regular Verbs
The Preterit of Some Irregular Verbs	The Imperfect Mood of the Past Tense
The Verb <i>Padecer</i>	The Present Perfect Tense
Indefinite and Negative Pronouns	Reflexive Verbs
<i>Se</i> and Unplanned Events	The Verbs <i>Dormir</i> and <i>Poder</i>
The Verb <i>Sentirse</i>	Informal (<i>tú</i>) Commands

Course Description:

Spanish for Medical Professionals is a course designed for students with low-intermediate level of Spanish with an extensive focus on medical vocabulary, grammar structures and Hispanic cultures. Students will review grammatical structures needed to interact with patients such as asking questions, giving commands and reporting medical history in the present and past tense. Students are expected to come to class prepared with the material assigned for the week; class time will be focused on “hands on” oral practice set around realistic dialogues that model typical conversations in doctor-patient relations. There will be a strong focus on developing oral as well as listening skills for fluid the conversation. Reading will be part of the class to improve students’ pronunciation and strengthen the recognition and help with memorization of the vocabulary. There will also be a focus on understanding the cultural differences between Spanish speaking countries and the US.

Spanish Intermediate-low Level

You should consider your level of Spanish as an intermediate-low if you have taken 3 quarters of Spanish at Drexel University or 2 semesters of Spanish at another university during your undergraduate studies or after 2 years of “serious” High School Spanish classes.

This is what students at intermediate-low level are able to do:**Listening**

At the Intermediate level, listeners can understand information conveyed in simple, sentence-length speech on familiar or everyday topics. They are generally able to comprehend one utterance at a time while engaged in face-to-face conversations or in routine listening tasks such as understanding highly contextualized messages, straightforward announcements, or simple instructions and directions. Listeners rely heavily on redundancy, restatement, paraphrasing, and contextual clues.

Reading

At the Intermediate Low sublevel, readers are able to understand some information from the simplest connected texts dealing with a limited number of personal and social needs, although there may be frequent misunderstandings. Readers at this level will be challenged to derive meaning from connected texts of any length.

Speaking

Speakers at the Intermediate Low sublevel are able to handle successfully a limited number of uncomplicated communicative tasks by creating sentences in straightforward social situations. Conversation is restricted to some of the concrete exchanges and predictable topics necessary for survival in the target language culture. These topics relate to basic personal information; for example, self and family, some daily activities and personal preferences, and some immediate needs, such as ordering food and making simple purchases. At the Intermediate Low sublevel, speakers are primarily reactive and struggle to answer direct questions or requests for information. They are also able to ask a few appropriate questions. Although they are not fluent they are familiar with grammatical topics such as Present Tense and Past Tense, interrogative words, numbers, verb GUSTAR, the difference in use between SER and ESTAR, making commands.

Course goals and objectives:

1. Use Spanish vocabulary that relates specifically to the medical field
2. Apply grammatical structures to properly interact with Spanish speaking patients
3. Comprehend main ideas and identify supporting details in written medical Spanish.
4. Understand spoken medical Spanish in different conversations and situations.
5. Use the target language to communicate and exchange information related to the medical field.
6. Demonstrate understanding of Hispanic culture and reflect how cultural differences may affect interaction between patients and providers.

Evaluation

Teaching Methods:

A combination of lecture, reading, listening, grammatical and vocabulary activities, video watching, and role playing.

Method of Assessment:

1. Chapter quizzes from vocabulary and structures taught.
2. Midterm test at the end of 10 sessions.
2. Certificate test at the end of the 20 sessions.

Participation and Attendance

Class participation is imperative for the success of the student therefore **students can only miss 3 sessions total**. Students that miss the class beyond 15% (three total classes) due to special circumstances or illness will be dealt on the individual basis and may potentially lose a chance to receive the completion certificate at the end of the course.

A: Assignments

1. Read the text assignments and other assigned readings in advance of each class meeting.
2. Complete assigned homework and quizzes.
3. Attend class and participate in oral, written and pair/group activities.

B: Grading

Quizzes and written assignments will be graded according to accuracy of spelling and accent marks, grammar, and syntax, and on whether the student has demonstrated mastery of the language needed to follow the assignment instructions. Quizzes and tests will be graded on a pass/fail basis. **Missing 2 or more quizzes will mean that the student will fail the course.**

Policy on missed work

There is no guarantee that late work will be accepted. To ensure that late work will be accepted students must notify the instructor beforehand if they will be unable to complete the assigned work on time and make arrangements for the late submission.

Since this class is an elective, graded on a Pass/Fail basis, students will need to obtain a grade of 65 or above to Pass the class to be able to receive the Certificate of completion

Schedule of Class Meetings

Note: Class meetings begin promptly at 5:30 pm and end at 7 pm.
Syllabus is subject to change

FALL SESSION

Week 1 Sept 6

«Buenos días, soy el doctor».

This week we'll practice the pronunciation of words; make brief introductory conversations to introduce ourselves by name and profession; ask patients their name and origin; and describe third parties.

Grammar: Verb ser / Agreement between nouns and adjectives

Culture

Quiz

Week 2 September 13

¿«Cómo está usted»?

This week we'll learn to ask about feelings and pain; to give directions in the hospital; and to test a patient's orientation.

Grammar: Verb estar / Choosing between Ser and Estar

Culture

Quiz

Week 3 September 27

¿«Qué le pasa»?

This week we'll learn to clarify colds and flu symptoms; and to inform patients of diagnoses of minor injuries.

Grammar: Verb tener

Culture

Week 4 October 4

¿«Qué le pasa»?

This week we'll learn parts of the body, organs and systems. We'll learn to communicate vital signs and to form questions.

Grammar: Verb doler / Past participle

Culture

Quiz

Week 5 October 11

La familia

This week we'll learn the names for telling family relationships and to ask and tell about family medical histories.

Grammar: "regular verbs" in the present tense / Personal "a"

Culture

Quiz

Week 6 November 1

La farmacia

This week we'll learn to say and to write medication instructions. We'll learn to educate patients about side effects and allergic reactions.

Grammar: Verb Tomar and Formal commands: Con favor de, hay que and tener que

Culture

Week 7 November 8

La farmacia

This week we'll learn instructions for dosage, routes of administration and classes of medications

Grammar: Formal Commands

Culture

Quiz

Week 8 November 15

El examen físico

This week we'll learn to clarify the patient's chief complaint and to explain the components of a physical examination

Grammar: How long has it been? / Verb Ir (future)

Culture

Week 9 December 6

El examen físico

This week we'll learn to talk about specific follow-up tests and to ask about bowel habits.

Grammar: Contractions al and del

Culture

Repaso

Quiz

Week 10 December 16

Exam. Listening comprehension, vocabulary, grammar and culture taught up to this point

SPRING SESSION

Week 11 January 17

La nutrición y las dietas

This week we'll learn to ask about dietary habits, give instructions for special diets and how to prepare for a colonoscopy

Grammar: verb deber

Culture

Quiz

Week 12 January 31

¿«Qué pasó»?

This week we'll learn to talk about things that occurred in the past. For example, we will ask about precipitating events and about circumstances that were concurrent to the precipitating event. This will help us to further clarify the patient's chief complaint. Conduct a pre-surgery interview

Grammar: Preterit of regular and some irregular verbs/Imperfect tense

Culture

Quiz

Week 13 February 14

Padecimientos e historia médica

This week we'll learn vocabulary to communicate illnesses, abbreviated history, and review of systems

Grammar: verbs padecer and sufrir

Culture

Week 14 February 21

Padecimientos e historia médica

This week we will learn to ask about medical history, general symptoms and to educate patients about surgeries and immunizations.

Grammar: Present perfect/ Verb ponerse

Culture

Quiz

Week 15 February 28

Internamientos, odontología y la salud mental.

This week we'll learn to tell patients about the need for hospitalization and to talk about discharge planning and activities of daily living.

Grammar: se and unplanned events/reflexive verbs

Culture

Week 16 March 7

Internamientos, odontología y la salud mental.

This week we'll learn to conduct a mini mental status examination and to assess a patient for substance abuse problems.

Grammar: Verb sentirse

Culture

Quiz

Week 17 March 14

Maternidad y protección sexual

This week we'll learn the vocabulary for prenatal care, labor, and delivery.

Grammar: Informal Commands

Culture

Week 18 April 11

Maternidad y protección sexual

This week we will learn about how to promote safe sex and prevent AIDS

Grammar: Subjunctive and recommendations

Quiz

Week 19 April 18

Review

Week 20 May 9

Certificate Exam. Listening comprehension. Vocabulary, grammar and culture taught up to this point. It will be based on the second part of the semester, but any vocabulary and grammar from previous chapter will be considered to be known and will appear in context.