SPANISH BASIC LANGUAGE PROGRAM

Each semester, between 1,500 and 2,000 undergraduate students take our language courses to fulfill the three- or four-semester non-primary language requirement for their general education.

The language sequence consists of four course options (SPAN 122, 130 and 141/142). All courses are designed to develop students’ skills in reading, writing, listening and speaking and to foster an appreciation of the rich culture of the Spanish-speaking world. Our program follows a communicative, task-based approach, where students actively engage in activities that foster the exchange of real world information. We have been particularly successful at combining technology and multimedia with content-based instruction, and our use of technology provides students with freedom for self-paced learning and immediate feedback, allowing for more quality time to spend on communication in the classroom. Every semester a very high percentage of our instructors are rated as "excellent" by our students.

Students' Frequently Asked Questions

What course should I take?

The normal sequence of Spanish courses at UIUC is: 122, 103, and either of the 4th semester courses of 141 or 142.

SPAN 122 is considered a 2nd semester class which covers the information from both 101 and 102 and is predominantly for those who have had 1-2 years of high school Spanish or 101 at another college/university (101 and 102 are not offered on campus; these courses can be taken at Parkland College and the credits can be transferred to UIUC).

SPAN 141 and 142 are equivalent. You can choose between them based on personal interest.

You are highly encouraged to take the placement and proficiency exams. Please contact Ms. Debbie Kraybill (debrice@illinois.edu) for more information.

For more information, see the Course Catalog. If you would like to know what courses to take after 141/142, contact the Spanish advisor, Ms. Tasha Robles (tmatos@illinois.edu).

I cannot enroll in the Spanish course I need; what should I do?

We offer many sections, and students drop and pick up classes during the first weeks; keep looking on-line for openings. Early-morning and late-afternoon sections often have available spaces.
I am in SPAN 122/103/141/142/143, but it is too easy/too hard for me. Can I change courses?

Consult your academic advisor or the course director (see below). If you are in the correct course but still have difficulties with the work, TAs are available to assist you in the Tutoring Room (4031 FLB). For a list of private tutors, contact span-port@illinois.edu.

If you have additional questions you may contact the following persons:

Ms. Melanie Waters, Director of Introductory Spanish Language; Mr. Brenden Carollo, Director of Fourth Semester Spanish; Prof. Annie Abbott, Director of Undergraduate Studies.