

CURRICULUM (A1 – Beginners Basic Level)

TARGET AUDIENCE

This curriculum is designed for students who want to familiarize themselves with fundamental language skills such as basic needs and daily topics in communicative situations.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

- To develop the four communicative skills (listening and reading comprehension, conversation, and written expression).
- To master the grammar outlined in this course and its use in communicative situations.
- To become proficient in the vocabulary and idioms designed for this course for this course and its use in communicative situations.
- To reinforce the course's contents through extra pedagogical materials and homework.

METHODOLOGY

Our pedagogical model is based on the communicative approach, which tries to prepare the student for real-life communications with other Spanish-speakers. With this objective in mind, we often use photographs, illustrations, audio samples, videos, texts, and role-plays that represent daily life, which serve as a starting point to stimulate conversations during our classes.

FUNCTIONAL CONTENT

- Asking questions and giving general information.
- Using proper conversational skills such as how to greet, introduce, and congratulate others.
- Describing people, places, objects, emotions, and physical appearance.
- Comparing people, objects, places, and situations.
- Asking and giving opinions.
- Expressing agreement and disagreement.
- Expressing feelings, likes, wishes, and preferences.
- Ordering things from various establishments.
- Asking for a price.
- Expressing plans and projects and asking about others' plans.
- Control of oral communication.

GRAMMATICAL CONTENT

Alphabet

Pronunciation

Adjectives

- Descriptive adjectives.
- Adjectives describing place of origin.
- Gender and number agreement.
- Comparative and superlative.

Articles of speech

- General use of definite and indefinite articles.
- When and when not to use articles.

Adverbs

- Quantity.
- Affirmation and negation.
- Mode, time, and place.

Sentence construction

- Informative sentences.
- Asking direct questions.
- Using common conjugations.
- Comparative.
- Cause and effect (*porque, para* + infinitive).

Demonstratives

- Morphology and its uses to identify, show, and distinguish.

Indefinite and quantitative articles

- Morphology and its most common uses.
- Shortened forms.
- Differences between *algo/nada*.

Numerals

- Ordinal and Cardinal numbers formation and agreement.
- Common weights and measurements.
- Numerals to a million: examples and recognition.

Questions

- Morphology and use of direct question.

Possessives

- Stressed and unstressed forms.
- General uses: identification and describing who something belongs to.

Prepositions and prepositional expressions.

Personal pronouns

- Stressed and unstressed forms.
- Functions: subject and direct object.

Key words

- Indicators of the present time.
- Indicators of location.
- Expressions of time, days of the week, months, dates and seasons of the year.

Nouns

- Gender and number agreement.

Verb tenses

- Present indicative (common, regular and irregular verbs).
- The use of present tense as imperative.
- Common reflexive verbs.
- Verbs *gustar* and *parecer*.
- Periphrastic verbs: *tener que* + infinitive, *ir a* + infinitive, *haber que* + infinitive.
- Uses of *ser* and *estar*:
 - *Ser* + adjective.
 - *Ser* to tell time and in reference to time.
 - *Estar* + temporal adverbs.
 - *Estar* to describe the location of people and objects.
- Differences between *ser/tener/llevar* in descriptions.
- *Hay* versus *está*.