

# SPAN 1013 CIN4: Introductory Spanish Language 1

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## Syllabus - web page

### Course Overview

Spanish 1013, Introductory Spanish Language 1, is a first-year university course and is intended for students with no previous knowledge of Spanish.

After completing Spanish 1013, students will have a basic knowledge of the grammar and structures of the Spanish language. This course is the pre-requisite for upper-level courses in Spanish at Acadia; students in Arts programs need 6 hours of credit in one language to complete the Arts core requirements.

Spanish 1013 uses an introductory Spanish text, *¡Arriba! Comunicación y cultura*, 3rd Canadian edition, and covers the first four lessons (*lecciones*) of this text. There is one introductory lesson, Module 1 (Lección Preliminar), which introduces the Spanish alphabet and pronunciation. Modules 2 through 5 cover the material in Lecciones 1 through 4 in the textbook. Except for Module 1, the lesson covered in each Module includes basic vocabulary, dialogues which illustrate the new vocabulary and grammatical structures in context, explanations and examples of the new structures, and plenty of exercises and opportunities to practice the new material. These exercises follow a progression from basic recognition of the new material, to more communicative activities that will have you using Spanish for writing and listening. In addition, each lesson ends with a cultural section to introduce students to the places where Spanish is spoken and the many varied peoples of the Spanish-speaking world.

As well as the textbook activities and exercises, practice exercises, Powerpoints and other activities are posted on Acorn to review and reinforce the target structures and vocabulary.

Students are evaluated based on a variety of assignments which are posted and submitted on Acorn. There are two sets of practice exercises, comprising short and long-answer and aural questions, for each Module except for Module 1 (Lección Preliminar). At the end of each completed Lección there is a set of written activities, four in all, which will challenge students to use the vocabulary and structures they are learning in different contexts. Students receive a number grade for the practice exercises and written activities. In addition, there are online listening comprehension and short participation activities to complete for each module; a simple "Completed/Not Completed" evaluation will count towards the final grade. There is ample feedback on students' progress as they work through the course and submit the assignments for each Module. After finishing the course material, students take a proctored final exam which is worth 30% of the final grade.

### Instructor

I have taught Spanish language, culture and literature courses at Acadia since the 1980s. Before coming to Acadia, I taught English and French in the school system and English as a Foreign Language when I worked with CUSO International in Peru for three years. My areas of research interest are intercultural bilingual education in Peru, and language teaching methodology.



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## Course Materials

Required text: *¡ARRIBA! Comunicación y cultura* (3rd Canadian edition). 2013. Zayas/ Bacon/ Nibert/ Aitken/ Saroli.

The following options for the text are available from the campus bookstore:

(**Looseleaf**) Custom Spanish with MySpanishLab RVP (CUSTOM) ISBN: 9781323480199

(**Hardcover**) Arriba (w/Access Code)(CANADIAN ED) ISBN: 9780132893541

Or, the book is also available on [\[Amazon\]](#).

See the [student handbook](#) for ordering information.

To access Library Articles and Journals from off-campus use [VPN](#) web service link for direct access.

## Evaluation

Listening comprehension activities	5%
Participation activities	5%
Practice exercises for each <i>lección</i> (8 assignments)	40%
Written exercises (4 assignments)	20%
Final exam	30%

**Listening comprehension activities (5%):** There will be 10 of these activities to complete. Each consists of short dictations or questions; you will write and submit your answers. These are not graded, but each is worth half a point towards your final grade.

**Participation activities (5%):** There are also 10 of these activities, which are intended to get you using Spanish in “outside the classroom” contexts. There are a variety of options, including crosswords, listening activities and discussion forums. As with the listening comprehension activities, these are not graded, but each is worth half a point.

**Practice exercises (40%):** There will be two sets of exercises for each Module except for Module 1, one for each part of the lesson, so each set of exercises is worth 5%. These are completed and submitted on Acorn. You must get 90% or better on each short-answer exercise to receive full marks; these exercises can be repeated in order to improve your result. The long-answer questions will be graded by your instructor.

**Written exercises (20%):** There will be one set of written exercises for each Module except for Module 1. These will be completed and submitted on Acorn. Each set of exercises is worth 5% of your final grade.

**Final exam (30%):** You must pass the final exam to pass the course. Note that for the time being, students and their instructor will decide a time to write the exam, which will be written off-campus and proctored by their instructor using Teams.

The assignments are delivered to the instructor via assignment drop-boxes. Please remember to put your name, student number, course number, and assignment number on the assignment and keep a copy in the event the original is lost.

The last assignment should be received at least 4 weeks prior to the date you wish to write the exam. This will allow adequate processing time for the request, and for setting the exam.

## Useful Resources

The [Español en vivo](#) website has short video dialogues for aural comprehension and practice.

Here is some information about how to set up your keyboard so you can use the Spanish characters.

### Windows

#### Spanish Keyboard Setup

- ✓ [Click on your Start button and then open Settings](#)
- ✓ [Click on Time & Language](#)
- ✓ [Click on Language, click on the current default language, and then click the Options button](#)
- ✓ [Under the Keyboards section, click on the Add a keyboard button and scroll to select Spanish](#)

#### Spanish Keyboard Use

- ✓ [Click the keyboard language at the bottom right of your screen and select the Spanish keyboard option.](#)

#### Spanish Keyboard Layout

- ✓ [Click to see the layout, right-click and save to keep a copy on your computer](#)
- ✓ [To put an accent above lower-case vowels, first hit the accent key, and then hit the vowel](#)
- ✓ [To put an accent above upper-case vowels, hold down the <ALT> key, and type the appropriate number, then let go](#)

### macOS

#### Spanish Keyboard Setup

- ✓ [Spanish characters can be typed in macOS without setting up a keyboard](#)

## Exam

How to apply: Complete the Application for Examination (<https://openacadiaexams.acadiau.ca>)

### Proctored at Acadia

- The final exam in an online course must be passed to successfully pass the course unless otherwise stated in the assessment section of the course syllabus. There are no rewrites or supplemental examinations at Acadia University.
- Examination requests must be received one month prior to the date you wish to write your examination.
- Course requirements must be completed to the satisfaction of your instructor.
- Graduating Students Note: If you are graduating in Spring Convocation you must write by April 15th. If you are graduating in the Fall you must write by September 15th.

### Proctored at Another Location

If it isn't practical to take your exam at Acadia, off-campus exams can be written at another university or college. Arrangements for an examination may be made through the Registrar's Office or the Continuing Education office of most universities and colleges. If it is not possible to write your exam at an approved institution, please contact us for assistance.

- All fees associated with examinations written at other locations are your responsibility.
- Some courses may require specific software or internet accessibility at the off-campus examination location.

## Student Handbook

You are responsible for becoming familiar with the contents of the Student Handbook. It contains important information about scheduling examinations (if applicable), applying for extensions, withdrawing from your course, ordering books, and computer and library services available to you. If you have questions about the policies outlined in the handbook (<https://courseware.acadiau.ca/openacadia/studenthandbook.html>), contact:

### Open Acadia

- 21 University Avenue (Rhodes Hall)
- Wolfville, NS B4P 2R6
- Phone: 1-800-565-6568
- Fax: 1-902-585-1068
- Email: [openacadia@acadiau.ca](mailto:openacadia@acadiau.ca)

## Academic Integrity

Academic integrity demands responsible use of the work of other scholars. It is compromised by academic dishonesty such as cheating and plagiarism. A student who is uncertain whether or not a course of action might constitute cheating or plagiarism should seek in advance the advice of the instructor involved.

- Cheating is copying or the use of unauthorized aids or the intentional falsification or invention of information in any academic exercise
- Plagiarism is the act of presenting the ideas or words of another as one's own. Students are required to acknowledge and document the sources of ideas that they use in their written work.
- Self plagiarism is also a form of plagiarism. It is the presentation of the same work in more than one course without the permission of the instructors involved.
- A student who knowingly helps another to commit an act of academic dishonesty is equally guilty.
- Penalties are levied in relation to the degree of the relevant infraction. They range from requiring the student to re-do the piece of work, through failure on that piece of work, to failure in the course, and to dismissal from the university.

## Course Schedule

You have six months to complete the course, although you may finish more quickly than that. Try to work at a steady pace. The best way to learn a language is with frequent practice and repetition: you will get much better results if you do a little bit of work each day, rather than trying to cover a whole lesson in one day.

Module 1 covers a short *Lección Preliminar*, which will introduce you to the Spanish alphabet and pronunciation. There is no assignment for this Module, but there are practice exercises on Acorn which you are encouraged to try. Modules 2 through 5 will take longer to work through, as they each cover one of the *lecciones* (lessons) in your textbook. Each *lección* has two parts, which introduce new vocabulary and grammatical structures. There are two online assignments per Module, one for each part of the *lección*. In addition, there are listening comprehension and participation activities to complete. After each *lección* there is a cultural section, which you will be tested on in the final exam.

You should expect to spend a minimum of 9 hours, and as much as 15, working through each Module or *lección*: as with any academic course, the time you spend will be reflected in your results. You will need to schedule time to go over the material in your textbook and the related resources and activities that are posted on Acorn, and to prepare and submit the assignments for each section. You may find that you are able to complete some Modules more quickly than others, but a tentative timetable is outlined below.

Please do not leave all of your course work until a few weeks before your completion date! Although I will make every effort to accommodate your schedule within reason, I need time to grade assignments and mark exams..

**Recommended Schedule**

Week 1	Lección preliminar (Module 1)
Week 2-4	Lección 1 (Module 2)
Week 5-7	Lección 2 (Module 3)
Week 8-10	Lección 3 (Module 4)
Week 11-13	Lección 4 (Module 5)
Week 14	Review

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