

**NOVA COLLEGE-WIDE COURSE CONTENT SUMMARY
SPA 111 – CONVERSATION IN SPANISH I (3 CR.)**

Course Description

This course teaches the oral skills to speak and understand Spanish; emphasizes basic language structure, pronunciation and vocabulary; examines the sociolinguistic and cultural aspects of the language. Part I of II. Lecture 3 hours per week.

General Course Purpose

The purpose of this course is to provide the student with extensive oral and audio practice to become a proficient speaker and listener at or above the novice-mid level as defined by the ACTFL(American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages) Proficiency Guidelines. In keeping with National Standards for Foreign Language education, culture (music, art, gastronomy, social mores, and others) is embedded in this language course. This is reflected in our listening and oral assessments.

Course Prerequisites/Corequisites

Prerequisite: SPA 102

Course Objectives

A. Listening

The student will be able to understand short, learned material and longer sentence-length content, particularly where context strongly supports understanding and speech is clearly audible. The student will also understand questions, statements and high-frequency commands as well as video topics adapted for their use, although minimum repetition, rephrasing and/or slower rate of speech for comprehension may still be required. (Addresses general education objectives 1.1-1.2 and 1.4-1.6 under Communication and 5.2 under Personal Development and 3.1-3.5 under Cultural and Social Understanding)

B. Speaking

The student will be able to handle a limited number of interactive, task oriented and social situations; ask and answer questions; initiate and respond to simple statements, and maintain face-to face basic conversations with some linguistic inaccuracy. Within these limitations, the student will be able to describe people and places, narrate recurring events in the present tense and may achieve some ability to narrate past events. Vocabulary is adequate to express the basic needs. Strong interference from native language may occur. With repetition, speakers at this level can generally be understood by sympathetic listeners. (Addresses general education objectives 1.1-1.2 and 1.4-1.6 under Communication and 3.1-3.5 under Cultural and Social Understanding.)

C. Culture

The ACTFL standards include Culture, Connections, Comparisons and Communities as part of foreign language instruction and assessment. Within these areas, students will be able to:

- Discuss and analyze the relationship between the practices and perspectives of the culture studied
- Discuss the relationship between the products and perspectives of the culture studied
- Acquire information and recognize the distinctive viewpoints that are only available through the foreign language and its cultures
- Describe the concept of culture through comparisons of the cultures studied and their own.
- Use the language both within and beyond the school setting
- Read, discuss and write about topics concerning the Spanish-speaking cultures featured in textbooks and in target language media at the novice level.

(The above areas address general education objectives 3.1-3.5 under Cultural and Social Understanding.)

Major Topics to be Included

Topics and situations to be covered are determined largely by the textbooks chosen and are shared with SPA 111, i.e., some are covered in 111 and some in 112:

- Personal identification
- Education
- House and home
- Earning a living
- Leisure
- Family life
- Community/neighborhood
- Weather
- Shopping
- Travel
- Meal-taking/Food/Drink
- Daily routines
- Current events
- Health and welfare
- Social patterns of behavior
- Historical developments
- Contributions to the arts and sciences