

# SPANISH FOR HERITAGE SPEAKERS

---

## HERITAGE SPEAKERS

Students of Hispanic background who graduated from a high school in the U.S. and can speak and understand Spanish, are considered Spanish Heritage Speakers. For those Heritage Spanish speakers wishing to further develop their language skills to be used in academic and professional settings, we have created a sequence of three courses and the option of a fast track for a major or minor in Spanish.

Course	SPAN 2123 or 2013* Heritage Speakers I	SPAN 3123 Heritage Speakers II	SPAN 4123 (forthcoming Spring 2015) Heritage Speakers III
Description	Designed for students from a Spanish-speaking background with limited to no formal study of the language. Literacy development in Spanish with emphasis on building vocabulary, plus reading and writing skills.	Designed for students from a Spanish-speaking background with some formal training in Spanish and/or the ability to read and write in the language. Continue developing language skills, plus introduction to the U.S. Latino literature and culture	Designed to continue developing and expanding writing skills in Spanish. Special emphasis is given to active grammar, textual production, and critical thinking for writing in academic and professional settings. Students' work involves research, reading, composing, writing and proof reading different types of essays. Students will compose and deliver academic and professional presentations on topics related to their majors or areas of professional interest.
Placement	Students who have taken one year or less of Spanish. Placement by exam or by Spanish Advisor.	Students who have taken two years of Spanish in High School, 2123 or placement exam.	Students who have taken three or more years of Spanish in high school, AP Spanish, SPAN 3123 or placement exam.
LEVEL	Equivalent to SPAN 2013	Take in lieu of SPAN 3003 and SPAN 3103	Take in lieu of SPAN 4003 Advanced Grammar

## WHY MAJOR OR MINOR IN SPANISH?

Spanish is currently the second language of the United States and spoken by millions across the world. Given that Hispanics are the largest minority in the U.S., Spanish will increase significantly your academic and professional opportunities. Spanish courses also offer an opportunity for personal development and greater understanding of your Hispanic heritage. Often, knowing the language is not enough in academic or professional settings. It may be necessary to document that you know it. A major or a minor in your transcript is an official recognition of your bilingual language skills. Heritage speakers should also consider a major or minor Latin American Studies, which will also open many academic and professional opportunities.

## FAST TRACK FOR HERITAGE AND NATIVE SPANISH SPEAKERS (Credit by Exam)

Native and Heritage Spanish speakers may earn up to 9 credit hours by taking an advanced Spanish exam (SPAN 4003, 3003, and 3033). Students must demonstrate advanced proficiency in reading and writing as well as knowledge of main grammatical structures, an ample vocabulary, and good spelling. This is a pass/fail exam, requiring 80% correct in order to pass. The exam may be repeated only once. After completing the exam and filling 3 Credit by Exam forms (available in the WLLC Department), the University registrar will bill the student and process the credits.

To register: contact Prof. Luis F Restrepo [lrestr@uark.edu](mailto:lrestr@uark.edu)

### PREPARING FOR THE EXAM

The exam will assess your Spanish skills in a variety of ways, including fill in the blank grammar questions, reading comprehension exercises, short translations, and short writing exercises.

REVIEW SIMPLE AND PERFECT TENSES. Attention to irregular forms.

- Difference between the imperfect and the preterite
- Use of the indicative vs the subjunctive
- Uses of the present, future and conditional
- Uses of the infinitive and gerund in Spanish
- Past participles / attention irregular forms
- Reflexive verbs and their usage
- Use of direct and indirect pronouns
- Active versus passive voice. Use of the se impersonal
- Relative pronouns (este, ese, aquél, el cual, la cual)
- Accents
- Spelling differences in English-Spanish cognate words (immigration, psychology, governor)

For a grammar review, consult any advanced grammar book and/or see the following links

<http://www.purduecal.edu/imc/spangram.pdf>.

<http://www.indiana.edu/~call/ejercicios.html>

<http://roble.pntic.mec.es/~msanto1/ortografia/>

<http://www.colby.edu/~bknelson/SLC/index.php>