



Universitas Castellae

MEDICAL SPANISH Course & Practicum

Class schedule: To be determined (one daily ninety minutes session from Monday to Friday)

Total contact hours: 45 (6 weeks)

Credits: 3

COURSE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The main goal of this course, integrated in the Intensive Summer Program, is to provide to the students the basis of Medical Spanish, focusing on two main areas:

- Main characteristics of Spanish medical system, both public and private, including its connections to the European system
- The specific words and expressions used in the medical language, through oral and written activities

Medical Spanish has an obvious relevance in all the fields related to the social development of the country, and it can't be placed apart from daily communication; for this reason the course will focus mainly on the practical contents of the course, in order to give students all the resources they will need to apply in real situations (how to describe different symptoms, the "specific" vocabulary vs. the "real" expressions used in daily life...)

Students will be able to:

- Exercise and improve their oral and written skills, focusing on medical vocabulary and expressions
- Acquire specific words and expressions widely used in the different topics seen in the course
- Improve their reading/listening comprehension with specific exercises which will prepare them for the "hands on" experience
- Write different kind of professional medical documents using the appropriate style
- Do oral presentations about topics related to medical issues
- Get to know the cultural and economical reality of the country where they will be studying
- Analyze the medical system in their country by comparing it to the Spanish model
- Develop their ability to experience meaningful contexts in which they will be able to use the resources learned in class

-Receive first hand information of the methods and resources used in daily life medical world, by watching and/or interacting with local professionals

COURSE POLICIES

The course will be taught in Spanish. Students will work with different materials (writing, listening and oral exercises) provided by the professor, which will allow them to learn, review and use all the contents presented in class. At the end of each chapter there will be two recap activities:

-Students will work on the structure of some medical documents and will have to write these documents using the words and expressions worked in class

-Students will do oral presentations (individual and/or in groups) in which they will develop a whole project related to the content of the chapter; these activities will allow students to prove their command of the specific medical speeches, as well as their ability to work with different resources; some of these presentations will work as debates, in order to show the command in oral skills

Students will send via e-mail all the materials indicated by the professor. **STUDENTS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR PREPARING DAILY THE HOMEWORK AND CONTENTS GIVEN BY THE PROFESSOR.** Due to the mainly practical design of the course, attendance and ACTIVE class participation will be a very important part of the final grade.

Attendance to class is mandatory. **Each unexcused absence will diminish the final grade in 2%.**

There will be **three written exams**. Exams will consist of different exercises (written, listening...) related to the topics presented in class. Exams will be **35%** of the final grade.

At the end of each chapter, students will do their **oral presentations**. The professor will anticipate students the topic and the methodology of these presentations, which will be **30%** of the final grade.

Students will hand a written report based on their experience with local professionals **the last day of the course**. The professor will tell students in advance about the characteristics of this report. Written report will be **25%** of the final grade.

Class attendance, active participation and daily homework will be **10%** of the final grade.

¡VERY IMPORTANT! NO LATE WORK WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER THE DUE DATE SPECIFIED IN THE SYLLABUS. THERE WILL BE NO MAKE-UP ACTIVITIES

RECOMMENDED LINKS

www.cambridge.org/elt/goodpractice

www.medes.com



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MEDICAL SPANISH PROGRAM

COURSE SYLLABUS

WEEK 1

INTRODUCTION: General considerations about Spanish medical system

- The universal health system: benefits and challenges
- Hospitals and clinics
- Medicines and pharmacies
- Public or private? The future of Spanish medical system

UNIT 1: Anatomy

- The human body: specific terms
 - Joints
 - Muscles
 - Bones
 - Nervous and blood system

-Oral presentation 1

WEEK 2

UNIT 2: Medical specialists

- Clinical medical specialists
- Surgical medical specialists
- Lab medical specialists

-Exam 1

WEEK 3

UNIT 3: Illness: symptoms, diagnose and treatment

- The diagnose process
- Main symptoms and signs in medicine
- The big syndromes
- Clinical exploration

-Oral presentation 2

WEEK 4

UNIT 4: Pharmacology

- General pharmacology
- Nervous system pharmacology
- Pain pharmacology
- Blood pharmacology

-Exam 2**WEEK 5**

UNIT 5: Medical communication (I)

- Assistance communication: goals, influence factors and barriers
- Medical acts: clinical relationship models. Particularities of communication in hospitals and clinics
- Medical interviews (I): structure, purposes, phases and models

-Oral presentation 3**WEEK 6**

UNIT 6: Medical communication (II)

- Medical interviews (II): analysis of communication and interpersonal relations
- Diagnose transmission and therapy strategies
- Information as support technique for patients with severe sickness: giving bad news
- Medical reports: structure and instructions

-Exam 3**Send Written Report****MEDICAL SPANISH PRACTICUM**

Contact hours: 20 (6 weeks)

Credits: 1

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

The purpose of this practicum is to be a meaningful complement to the contents seen in the morning classes. Students will have the opportunity to meet representatives from different medical professionals and get direct information about the running of this specialization and the situation of the medical system of Spain, with an emphasis in Valladolid. Students will also prepare a questionnaire for the representative, and do an oral presentation in class to get a deep understanding of all the processes explained by the professionals.

During the course, students will visit a private hospital and meet some professionals of the Emergency area. Students will have the opportunity to shadow the doctor to get a broad understanding of the operations.

At the end of the practicum students will be able to:

- Get to know the problems and situations in which a Spanish professional develops his/her duties
- Evaluate differences and similarities between the Spanish and the US system
- Understand the specific language used in different kinds of medical situations and use it in real contexts

At the end of the course students will prepare a written report based on their experiences and send it via e-mail to the professor. This report should include a description of the places visited, an analysis of the different operations they have seen and a critical evaluation of the Spanish medical system, compared to their experience in the US. The report will have the following characteristics:

- Length: 5 pages
- Format: Times New Roman 12 (double space)
- Bibliography and quotation: MLA system

Reports will be sent **the last day of the course. LATE WORK WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**