



The
University
Of
Sheffield.

DEPARTMENT OF HISPANIC STUDIES

GUIDE TO LEVEL 1B

COURSES

2009 - 2010

LEVEL 1 SPANISH, COURSE B

This booklet is intended to provide a guide to the Level 1B course. It should be used in conjunction with the Departmental Student Handbook of General Information.

The complete Level 1B course comprises TWO Modules of 20 credits each.

Module taken in the Autumn Semester: HSS 140

Module taught in the Spring Semester: HSS 141

Module HSS 141 can only be studied if module HSS 140 has been satisfactorily completed.

Study of these linked modules is aimed at Beginner students in the Faculties of Arts and Social Sciences.

MODULE HSS 140 - SEMESTER 1

SPANISH LANGUAGE

The course aims to equip students with a basic command of present-day Spanish.

The four skills of reading, writing, speaking and aural comprehension will all receive attention.

Practice in the language will allow students to improve their ability to comprehend and speak current Spanish.

The main emphasis will be on the written language.

AN INTRODUCTION TO CONTEMPORARY SPANISH SOCIETY

One session per week (at 10.00 a.m. on Wednesdays) will be devoted to Spanish history and society, providing an outline of political and social structures. The course will analyse aspects of social, political, economic and cultural developments in Spain, with an emphasis on the present-day, but setting the examination of institutions and attitudes in a historical context.

Course Text: Christopher ROSS, Bill RICHARDSON and Begoña SANGRADOR-VEGAS

Contemporary Spain, London, Hodder Arnold, 2008

Course Tutor: Professor Philip Deacon

MODULE HSS 141 - SEMESTER 2

SPANISH LANGUAGE

The second semester course aims to build on the knowledge acquired in Module 140, learning additional grammatical structures and lexis, and consolidating skills learned in Semester 1.

INTRODUCTION TO LATIN AMERICA

These classes, continued from semester 1, will introduce students to key issues in relation to the study of Latin America.

Materials on Latin America will be made available at the start of Semester 2

Course Tutor: Dr Peter Watt

LITERATURE

The study of a modern Spanish play is intended to provide an introduction to contemporary Spanish literature, and to give students an opportunity to develop their Spanish reading skills.

FURTHER DETAILS

Classes, six in total, will take place in the second half of Semester 2

Set text: Antonio BUERO VALLEJO, *Historia de una escalera*, Madrid, Espasa-Calpe (Austral)

Tutor: Dr Anthony Trippett

ASSESSMENT

MODULE 140

Language skills will be assessed by formal examination at the end of semester 2, as detailed below.

The Introduction to Contemporary Spanish Society will be assessed by formal examination held during the examination period at the end of Semester 1.

MODULE 141

Language skills for the whole course is assessed by formal examinations at the end of Semester 2, at which all students are required to pass the written language component in order to satisfy the examiners.

Language: Translation from and into Spanish and other linguistic tests

Literature: Commentary, Translation

Language: Oral / Aural test (in Language Laboratory)

In addition to the formal examinations students will be required to take a language test at the end of semester 1.

The Introduction to Contemporary Spanish Society and Introduction to Latin America are assessed, as indicated above, at the end of each semester. Unsatisfactory performance in either of these examinations may prevent students from taking relevant modules – on Spanish and Latin American society – in their second and subsequent years, and will also be taken into consideration in determining the overall module marks.

The Learning Process

STUDENT-FOCUSED LEARNING

Success in this course depends on students' willingness to attend classes regularly, submit all written work set weekly, and undertake substantial private study. In this regard we draw your attention to the self-access facilities provided in the Modern Languages Teaching Centre in the Portobello Building.

FUTURE PERSPECTIVES

Those who successfully complete the course with a high overall standard can gain access to Honours courses in the Department. Subsidiary courses can also be pursued for two further years.

PACE OF THE COURSE

By the end of Semester 1 students should have completed the first ten units of the coursebook, *Camino al español* and have a rudimentary grasp of the present and imperfect tenses, radical-changing verbs (present tense), and be able to use personal pronouns.

GROUPS

Students following the Beginners' Course will be assigned a class tutor and divided into sub-groups for most class work and Language Laboratory study. A special sub-group may be provided for those who have Spanish G.C.S.E. or similar qualifications, if numbers allow.

TEACHING ARRANGEMENTS

The course will be arranged as follows:

Semester 1 : Three hours per week of language instruction

Semester 2 : Two / three hours of language instruction

Six hours in total on the literary text

One oral class for the post-GCSE group will be arranged.

Language Laboratory: one hour to be arranged for Dr Trippett's and Miss Baker's classes.

Plus one hour per week of the Introduction to Spain/Latin America throughout the year.

TIMETABLE

Written classes will be held at the following times:

Peter Watt's Group (post GCSE)

Monday 9 am

Wednesday 9am

Friday 12 noon

Tony Trippett's Group

Wednesday 9am

Friday 11am and 12 noon

Pascale Baker's Group

Monday 10 a.m

Wednesday 9am

Friday 12 noon

INITIAL MEETING

Students should make every effort to attend the first meeting which will be held during the Introductory Week. Details will be given during registration and posted on the Departmental Notice Board on Floor 2 of Jessop West.

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION

Your most immediate sources of information about the course and other matters relating to the Department are MOLE and the Departmental Notice Boards, which you should make a habit of consulting on a regular basis.

Members of staff have set hours when they are available in their offices for personal consultation. If you cannot locate a member of staff whom you wish to contact urgently, you should go the School Office on Floor 1. Members of staff may also be contacted by e-mail; see below for addresses.

STUDENT PARTICIPATION

Important matters concerning the Department can be raised through the Staff-Student Committee. You should find out who your course representatives are (or even serve on the committee yourself), and pass on suggestions for improvement. Issues concerning teaching are discussed at the Teaching Committee on which there is also student representation.

RESOURCES

COMPUTING

There are a large number of PCs available for student use throughout the campus, including the Information Commons, Jessop West, and the Western Bank Library. When you register as a user you are given your own number which enables you to access the library catalogue as well as a host of other services available via the University network such as e-mail and the Internet. Corporate Information and Computing Services (CiCS) provides comprehensive backup for all your needs. It is a simple matter to write essays and other course assignments in a form which makes them easy to read as well as keep safe.

AUDIO-VISUAL

The Department sometimes arranges showings of films from Spain, Portugal and Latin America. Watch out for notices.

Sheffield's excellent *Showroom* cinema also has regular showings of the latest films from Spain, Portugal and Latin America; Mondays and Tuesdays are student nights with special concessionary prices. Watch out for copies of the monthly programme or put yourself on their free email list (info@showroom.org.uk).

VIDEOS AND DVDS

The University Library (Information Commons and Western Bank) holds videos and DVDs in Spanish (mainly of cinema films), which can be borrowed like any book. If there are other materials in Spanish which you think should be added to the holdings, please drop an email to Philip Deacon with your recommendation.

PERIODICALS: The Western Bank Library subscribes to, and keeps back issues (for a month) of the Madrid-based daily newspaper *El País*. Spanish daily newspapers (*El País*, *ABC*, *El Mundo*) can also be

bought (for the previous day) in the Union shop. Most newspapers can, however, be easily accessed on the Internet. Make a bookmark for your favourite Spanish, Latin-American, Portuguese or Catalan newspapers so that they are readily available when you log on.

PRIVATE LANGUAGE STUDY

The Modern Languages Teaching Centre (Portobello Building off Mappin Street) has language laboratory facilities for private study, as well as satellite TV, computer-based language learning programmes, and substantial holdings of audio and video language materials for individual student use.

MEMBERS OF STAFF

Members of staff with particular responsibilities for Level 1B students are:

Head of Department:	Dr. David Wood	david.wood@Sheffield.ac.uk
Course Co-ordinator & Personal Tutor:	Dr Peter Watt	p.watt@Sheffield.ac.uk
Class Tutors:	Eugenia Bruce	m.e.bruce@Sheffield.ac.uk
	Dr Anthony Trippett	a.m.trippett@sheffield.ac.uk
	Pascale Baker	spp06pjb@sheffield.ac.uk
	Dr Minerva Sirera	minervast@yahoo.com

COURSE MATERIALS AND BASIC READING

LANGUAGE STUDY

The Department has produced its own coursebook which students should obtain in time for the start of the course. Andrés Martínez et al.: *Camino al español* (Cambridge University Press, 2004)

LITERATURE

Antonio BUERO VALLEJO, *Historia de una escalera*, Madrid, Espasa-Calpe (Selecciones Austral)

INTRODUCTION TO SPAIN/LATIN AMERICA

Christopher J. ROSS, *Spain 1812-2004*, London, Hodder Arnold.

Duncan GREEN, *Faces of Latin America*, Latin America Bureau, 2006.

RECOMMENDED BOOKSELLER

Blackwell's University Bookshop

St. Georges Library

Mappin Street

SHEFFIELD S1 4DT

Tel: 0114-2787211

Fax: 0114-2787629

E.mail: blackwells@sheffield.ac.uk

(Blackwell's aim to have all course books in stock at the Sheffield branch)

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Note

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information in this booklet, but the University can accept no responsibility for any errors or omissions.