



SPANISH PROGRAM FOR FOREIGNERS

Resolution No. 02-013 of June 22, 2016 of the Secretariat of National Education

The Language Institute of the Catholic University of Colombia holds as one of its purposes to allow members from other cultures to approach Colombian culture through the learning of Spanish which strengthens the links between cultures and shows a vision closer to the reality of Colombian culture. It is from this objective that the different Spanish Programs for Foreigners offered by the Language Institute were created as a way to open the doors of our culture to the world through learning one of the most important languages required by members of other cultures, as the following data shows:

1. Spanish is the third most spoken language in the world with 528 million speakers.
2. It is the third language on the internet by number of users, web content and social networks.
3. Spanish is in third position regarding recognition as a working language within the United Nations system and is in fourth position for the institutional field of the European Union.
4. The number of American university students enrolled in Spanish courses surpasses the total number of students enrolled in courses in other languages.

In the search of quality, the Spanish Programs of the Catholic University of Colombia are committed to excellence with differentiating factors in both the use of technology and in the methodology. Thus, for the development of classes, teachers and students have high technology equipment that turns classrooms into interactive multimedia sites, where students can have an innovative and vivid experience for greater recall and learning.



OBJECTIVES

The Spanish Program for foreigners has been designed to get our students to achieve academic, professional and social objectives in Spanish.

Academic Objective

To offer strategies and support to foreigners, allowing them to successfully develop all academic activities related to Spanish, such as reading specialized and academic texts, and understanding lectures. In addition, it aims to promote the development of good study habits, reading strategies, writing, listening and academic speech, as well as higher order cognitive strategies such as making inferences, conclusions and developing critical thinking.

Professional Objective

To promote the development of professional skills such as public management, performance and mastery of interviews, etc., besides transmitting the importance of Spanish in order to expand the student's professional profile by developing skills and knowledge to ensure their success at a national and international level.

Social Objective

To develop appropriate social skills for a global world, through a methodology focused on the student and their environment. In addition, the students are expected to explore our culture, in order to broaden their worldview, to develop a capacity for adaptation and understanding of cultural differences and similarities.



SYLLABUS, ON-SITE TEACHING

Each academic period in this format has a total of sixty (60) on-site hours, in groups of 20 students. This is complemented by independent work. This allows students to reach the following levels:

SYLLABUS				
Program	Level*	Academic Period	Module	On-site hours
BASIC	A1	I	BASIC I	60 hours
		II	BASIC II	60 hours
	A2	III	BASIC III	60 hours
		IV	BASIC IV	60 hours
INDEPENDENT	B1	V	INDEPENDENT I	60 hours
		VI	INDEPENDENT II	60 hours
		VII	INDEPENDENT III	60 hours
ADVANCED	B2	VIII	ADVANCED I	60 hours
		IX	ADVANCED II	60 hours
		X	ADVANCED III	60 hours
		XI	ADVANCED IV	60 hours

*Our courses are aligned with the international standards determined in the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR).



METHODOLOGY

Our methodology is based on the development of significant tasks and projects throughout the course, in on-site courses, with dynamic activities that offer students possibilities such as: time and material for self-study, tutoring sessions, counselling, free laboratory sessions accompanied by highly qualified teachers. This set of elements provides skills and competencies that allow for the implementation of acquired knowledge in real life situations. The former shall allow the student to successfully complete a university career and perform appropriately in a global world.

As an optional extra, there shall be visits to historical and symbolic places accompanied by a teacher, with the aim of carrying out a cultural immersion.

TUTORING SESSIONS

Within the different plans established the tutoring sessions service stands out. The tutoring session is thought of as a process of personal and academic accompaniment by a teacher who adopts the role of facilitator or tutor. This is directed at a student or small groups of students. The principal objective is to help to resolve academic difficulties via the planning and implementation of strategies suggested by the tutor and that are orientated toward the student identifying their shortcomings and activities that lead to improvement.

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES:

With the aim of getting to know the cultural components of Spanish in Colombia, there shall be some guided visits to diverse historical and symbolic sites in the capital. In these places there shall be recreational activities that promote real life interaction with inhabitants of the city. As such, the students shall be able to get to know our customs in more depth.

These activities are optional and shall have an additional cost.



ADMISSION:

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

- ✓ Registration form
- ✓ Receipt of payment of registration
- ✓ Valid Visa or Entry and Stay Permit depending on the nationality of the student and the duration of their stay in Colombia
- ✓ Receipt of payment of enrollment
- ✓ Wide-coverage international health insurance

Note: If the student already has prior knowledge of Spanish, they can take a classification exam.

To fill in the corresponding form, click [here](#)

IMMIGRATION PROCEDURES

Students interested in taking the Spanish Program for Foreigners must undertake the necessary immigration procedures to legalize their stay in Colombia before the corresponding migration authorities.

The process for requesting a Visitor Visa shall depend on the nationality of the interested party and the duration of their stay in Colombia. Each case is described below:

a. Student coming from a country from whom Colombia requires a visa

If the student has as their nationality one of the countries that is found in the list of Annex I they must request a Visitor Visa that allows them to study in Colombia, as well as carry out tourism and recreational activities and participate in academic events.



The V-Visa can be requested before entering the country, or if the interested party entered Colombia with a tourist visa and wishes to take the Spanish Program for Foreigners.

The interested party can request the V-Visa via:

1. Internet:

<https://tramitesmre.cancilleria.gov.co/tramites/enlinea/solicitarVisa.xhtml>

2. Colombian Consulate in their country:

<https://tramites.cancilleria.gov.co/ciudadano/directorio/Misiones/enExterior.aspx>

3. The Visa Office of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Bogotá

To request the visa, all interested parties must have the documents mentioned below:

1. Valid passport or travel document, in good condition and with empty pages for the visa.
2. The last six (6) months of bank statements that demonstrate sufficient funds to cover the stay in Colombia and that have an expiry date of no more than three months. It is not necessary to translate them if the information is clear.
3. Acceptance letter onto the Spanish for Foreigners Program that confirms the program's name, unit and course intensity with no less than 10 hours per week.

The V-Visa to carry out academic exchanges, studies in art or professions and postgraduate studies has a cost of 51USD/40EUR and the study of documents costs 16USD/12EUR.

Following this link, the student can consult all information regarding Visas:

https://www.cancilleria.gov.co/tramites_servicios/visa



If the Visa-V lasts more than three (3) months, students must request a foreigner's ID card at the Colombian Migration Office within the 15 days after they have arrived. With this link you will find further information about the paperwork:

<https://www.nomasfilas.gov.co/memoficha-tramite/-/tramite/T703>

b. Students coming from a country from which Colombia does not require a visa

Students coming from countries that are not in the following list [click here](#) can enter the country with an Entry and Stay Permit (Permiso de Ingreso y Permanencia-PIP). The PIP is a stamp that Colombian Migration stamps on every students' passport and allows them to take the Spanish for Foreigners Program.

There are three types of PIP, thus students must request getting the PIP-2 or PIP-5 stamped in their passports (this is ONLY for students that come from the Schengen area). In the event that the migration official stamps the passport with a different PIP, students must request its amendment at the Colombian Migration Office and pay a cost of 96.000 COP.

To be able to get a PIP-2 or PIP-5 stamp students must hand in the following papers once they arrive to Colombia:

1. Current passport, in good condition and with empty pages.
2. Acceptance letter onto the Spanish for Foreigners Program that confirms the program's name, unit and course intensity with no less than 10 hours per week.
3. Wide-coverage international health insurance that includes medical repatriation in the case of serious disease or death



The PIP has a 90-day validity that can be extended to an additional period, depending on the number of courses to be taken. https://www.cancilleria.gov.co/sites/default/files/resolucion_1128_de_2018.pdf

International Health Insurance

Every foreign student needs international health insurance with coverage in Colombia. This must include medical repatriation in the case of death or serious disease. This insurance must have coverage from their first day in Colombia until the end of their residence.

The insurance policy must be handed in with every document the Language Institute demands upon arrival at the Catholic University of Colombia.

Medical insurance provided by credit card companies is not accepted as wide-coverage international health insurance.

LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY CERTIFICATES

Once each course ends, students will get a certificate indicating the Spanish level achieved according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages, which is supported and approved by **Resolution 02-013 issued on June 22, 2016 by the Secretariat of National Education.**

QUALITY

On the other hand, and framed in the quality policies for Higher Education Institutions, the Language Institute of the Catholic University of Colombia has the following certifications granted on December 28, 2016 by the CELAC (Centro Latinoamericano de Certificaciones):





UNIVERSIDAD CATÓLICA
de Colombia
Vigilada Mineducación



Sumit Singh tells us his experience studying Spanish at our University.

For further information please contact:

Language Institute

E-mail: institutodelenguas@ucatolica.edu.co

Telephone: (571) 3277300. Ext. 5100-5104

Address: Calle 47 No. 13 – 54, sede Carrera 13, bloque B

Customer service schedule:

Mondays to Fridays from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. *Saturdays* from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m