

International Law 5284
Beginner Spanish for Lawyers I
Spring 2018
Wednesdays 5:30-7:30 PM

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1. Course description:

An introductory-level Spanish course designed for students with little or no previous Spanish language experience. Speaking, listening, reading, writing, and vocabulary development skills will be practiced within the context of legal professions, especially criminal, family, and immigration law. Special emphasis on oral communication and task-based learning.

2. Textbook: Students are required to purchase a Spanish/English dictionary. I highly recommend Larousse, Oxford, or Webster's. In addition, the student will receive instructions on how to download a packet with course handouts.

3. Learning objectives:

- Students will identify and collect biographical and other pertinent information from Spanish speakers to fill out certain forms related to criminal, family, and immigration law.
- Students will employ basic Spanish to convey matters of a legal case, including referral to the appropriate legal services, explain several legal options, and summarize the nature and consequences of several legal proceedings.
- Students will produce short paragraphs in Spanish summarizing legal cases and other legal matters.
- Students will define, memorize, and practice (in oral and written forms) key Spanish vocabulary items in criminal, family, and immigration law.
- Students will analyze cultural interactions between Spanish and English speakers and identify potential situations for conflict or miscommunication.

4. Course evaluation: Please note this is a *graded* course.

100-90 = A, 80- 89 = B, 70- 79 = C, 60-69 = D, 0- 59 = F

Exams (2)	30%	Written exercises (2)	20%
Homework/Participation:	10%	Vocabulary Quizzes (5-10)	20%
Oral exams (2)	20%		

5. Course Syllabus:

Fecha	Lección	Tarea
17 de enero, 2018	• Presentación del curso • Nombres y apellidos • Cognados	
24 de enero, 2018	• Acta de matrimonio • Lista de vocabulario 2 • Expresiones con <i>tengo</i> • La familia • Ejercicios de pronunciación	• Listas de vocabulario 1 & 2
31 de enero, 2018	• Preguntas • Diálogos • Lista de vocabulario 3 • Expresiones con <i>necesito</i> • <i>Estar</i> +lugar	• Lista de vocabulario 3 • 5 oraciones con la familia.
7 de febrero, 2018	• <i>hay</i> • Descripción de sospechosos • Verbos en -AR	• Written Exercise I is due
14 de febrero, 2018	• Diálogos • Oraciones complejas • Lista de vocabulario 4 • Resumen (Review)	• Lista de vocabulario 4
21 de febrero, 2018	• Examen oral (1)	• Preguntas para el examen oral (1)
28 de febrero, 2018	• Examen parcial	
7 de marzo, 2018	• Lista de vocabulario 5 • Mandatos con usted (verbos en –AR) • Lectura: descripción de delitos	• Lista de vocabulario 5
21 de marzo, 2018	• Verbos en –ER y verbos en –IR • Diálogos • Lista de vocabulario 6 • Actividad de vocabulario	• Lista de vocabulario 6
28 de marzo, 2018	• Mandatos con usted (verbos en –ER/-IR) • Ley de inmigración • Formulario de DACA • Otros formularios de inmigración	• Lista de vocabulario 7

4 de abril, 2018	• Lista de vocabulario 8 • El verbo <i>ir</i> • El futuro con <i>ir</i> • El testamento	• Lista de vocabulario 8
11 de abril, 2018	• Oraciones con las formas verbales • Otros recursos y consideraciones para el lenguaje jurídico • Lectura: las leyes de Texas • Repaso para el examen final	• <i>Written Exercise II is due</i>
18 de abril, 2018	• Examen oral (2)	Preguntas para el examen oral (2)
25 de abril, 2018	• Repaso para el examen final • Language policy in Texas and USA (<i>discussion in English</i>)	Preguntas para el repaso del examen final
TBA	<i>Examen Final</i>	

6. A friendly note from the professor: Second language acquisition and learning takes a lot of practice, time, and effort. Although our class is only once a week, I hope that you do not limit your Spanish practice to only two hours a week. Use your time wisely: Do your homework, go over the new vocabulary lists, make flashcards, do the additional exercises, practice with Spanish-speaking friends, review the previous week's material. Furthermore, this is NOT an online course. Your attendance is essential for practice and for the professor to identify your language areas of improvement. Homework materials will also be handed out in class. Communication is the goal of this course, therefore, always be willing to participate and try your Spanish. Practice makes perfect!

7. Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) can help students who are having difficulties managing stress, adjusting to the demands of a professional program, or feeling sad and hopeless. You can reach CAPS (www.uh.edu/caps) by calling 713-743-5454 during and after business hours for routine appointments or if you or someone you know is in crisis. No appointment is necessary for the "Let's Talk" program, a drop-in consultation service at convenient locations and hours around campus. http://www.uh.edu/caps/outreach/lets_talk.html