

**Madrid Summer Program**  
**Beginning Level Course Descriptions**  
**Universidad Complutense de Madrid**

► Beginning Level students take a set curriculum of Spanish language, consisting of four parts: Spanish Grammar, Practice of Communicative Skills, Language Laboratory and Oral Comprehension and Expression. Total number of contact hours = 80.

**Course Title: Spanish Grammar**  
**20 contact hours**

This component will cover the following topics:

1. The alphabet. Pronunciation, syllables and accents.
2. The verbs “ser” and “estar”. Fundamental values: identification and localization.
3. Nouns and adjectives. Numbers and numerals.
4. The article: definite and indefinite. “A”, “de”, “en”, “sobre”. Prepositions “ir” and “estar”.
5. Adjectives and demonstrative pronouns. The adverbs “ahora”, “antes”, “despues”, “aquí”, “ahí”, “allí”.
6. Question and negation. Possessive adjectives. The verb “tener”
7. Regular conjugation. Present indicative of verbs ending with "AR. Personal pronouns. The verb “gustar”.
8. Present indicative of verbs ending with "ER. The verb “hacer”.
9. Present indicative of verbs ending with "IR. Personal pronouns: “llamarse” and “irse”. Pronominal verbs.
10. Irregular conjugation: “el presente de Indicativo”.
11. Irregular conjugation: future and conditional.
12. Ordinal number adjectives
13. Past imperfect of the indicative of the verbs ending with: -AR, -ER, -IR.
14. Indefinite past of the verbs ending with: -AR, -ER, -IR. Interrogative and exclamatory pronouns.
15. Past perfect of the indicative of the verbs ending with: -AR, -ER, -IR. The helping verb “haber”. Indefinite adjectives and pronouns.
16. Past pluperfect of the indicative of the verbs ending with: -AR, -ER, -IR. Use of past tenses.
17. Simple sentence construction and its elements.
18. Present subjunctive.

**Course Title: Practice of Communicative Skills**  
**20 contact hours**

This component will focus on helping students with the following skills:

- I. Spelling
- Greetings and saying good-by
- Resources for communication control
- Vocabulary: Salutations, Days of the week, Months of the year

II. Give and receive personal information: age, nationality, marital status, profession, etc.  
Vocabulary: Professions, Nationalities, class

III. Express preferences for travel  
Vocabulary: Means of transportation

IV. Asking for and negotiating price  
Asking for things in a store  
Vocabulary: Stores, money, colors, clothes, fruits and vegetables

V. Talk about daily activities  
Ask for and tell time  
Be able to discuss ones present actions  
Vocabulary: The home, daily routine

VI. Express likes and dislikes  
Express support and disagreement  
Talk about family  
Vocabulary: Likes, the family

VII. Describe the location of places and objects  
Physically describe a person  
Speak about a person's character  
Make plans  
Express intentions  
Vocabulary: The city, physical description, personality, parts of the body

VIII. Give recommendations and advice.  
Give and understand instructions  
Offer things  
Give permission  
Vocabulary: Health, physical activities

IX. Learn to interpret television programming  
Choose between products and justify your choosing  
Vocabulary: types of programs, etc. types of stores

X. Talk about personal experiences  
Talk about past events that are related to the present  
Vocabulary: Nature, experiences

**Course Title: Language Laboratory**  
**20 contact hours**

Objective: To learn the basic structures of the Spanish language, vocabulary acquisition, and gain an understanding of Spanish phonology.

#### Activities

Grammar exercises and pronunciation and phonetic practical exercises.

Topics to be Discussed:

I. Individual student introductions (discuss briefly aspects about themselves)

II. The verb “estar”, location.

Phonetic exercise: (b) and (p)

III. Physical descriptions-questions of understanding

Phonetic exercise: (t) and (d)

IV. Grammar exercises with present indicative verbs-questions and common conversational phrases.

Phonetic exercise: (k), (g), (f), (s)

V. In a restaurant-vocabulary, likes and dislikes.

Phonetic exercise: (c), (m)

VI. Shopping, colors and other vocabulary.

Exercise: role playing: one student the client, the other the seller.

Phonetic exercise: (n), (ñ), (x)

VII. The family-speaking on the telephone, writing letters, conversations, etc.

Phonetic exercise: (r), (r)

VIII. Travel.-Expressing future plans.

Phonetic exercise: Affirmative phrases, interrogative.

IX. Expressing the past.

Phonetic exercise: interrogative and alternative phrases

### **Course Title: Oral Comprehension and Expression 20 contact hours**

The following topics will be looked at in this component:

I. Give and receive personal information (name, nationality, profession, age, address)

In class: how to ask for clarification (what chapter are we looking at, can you please repeat, please speak louder, etc.)

Speaking in the present tense (Regular Verbs)

Talk about known and unknown things (definite and indefinite articles)

Express quantity (numbers, a lot, a little).

The existence or presence of things (“hay”/”estar”)

II. The family and family relations.

Situation in space (prepositions and adverbs of location)

Physical description (adjectives)

Character description (“ser”, “estar”, “tener”, “llevar”+adjective or name)

Time, dates, and weather

III. Daily routine (Irregular verbs)

Writing exercise: write a short composition of your daily activities.

IV. Express likes and opinions (gustar, parecer)

Demonstrate understanding and disagreement (tambien, tampoco)

The home: furniture and appliances

Parts of the body, illness (pain)

V. Present actions (gerund)

Telephone conversations

Express feelings (tener + sust. Ser, estar + adj.)

Express obligation (deber + inf., tener, hay que + inf.)

VI. Discuss the past while referencing the present (este/esta....., hoy, todavía no, ya)

Writing exercise: diary of daily activities and interests.

React to positive and negative situations

Interaction with the speaker (qué bien/mal, qué bena/mala suerte, vaya...)

VII. Make reference to objects and/or people previously or presently mentioned in the conversation.

VIII. Give advice, instructions and orders.

IX. Discuss past actions. (ayer, ....pasado/a)

X. Daily actions in the past (imperfect) (antes..., ahora...)

Make comparisons

XI. Discuss future actions (future, ir a + inf.)

Make predictions