



Program descriptions Universal de Idiomas

Our goal at Universal de Idiomas is to enable our students in the least possible time to communicate in Spanish. We offer you theory and praxis in a warm atmosphere and we help our students develop their abilities to speak fluent Spanish. Our school is known for its interactive, communicative, personalized teaching methods plus its excellent teachers and friendly staff. Below you can find the variety of programs that Universal has for you.

Regular Program

This program is geared toward those students who want to learn Spanish at a reasonable pace. Students will be placed according to their level.

Type of Program: Group

Frequency: 3hrs/day

Group classes: Mon-Fri, 9:00am to 12:00pm, or 1:00pm to 4:00pm

Average of students per group class: 3 students.

Max. students per group class: 6 students.

Intensive Program

Our intensive program is geared towards those students who want to learn Spanish at a rapid pace. The emphasis lies on conversation in order to make the most out of the acquired language skills.

Type of Program: Group

Frequency: 4hrs/day

Group classes: Mon-Fri, 8:00am to 12:00pm, or 1:00pm to 5:00pm

Average of students per group class: 3 students.

Max. students per group class: 6 students.

Group Plus Spanish Course

Our Group PLUS program adds two hours of private instruction every afternoon to four hours of group morning classes. If you are interested in specific content, this is the program that enables you to customize your classes to your needs. Students who wish to gain the most out of their time spent at Universal de Idiomas will want to choose this program. Total immersion will take place as soon as the student walks in the door.

Type of Program: Group plus private classes

Frequency: 4hrs/day in group plus 2hrs/day private

Group classes: Mon-Fri, 8:00am to 12:00pm and 1:15pm to 3:15pm

Average of students per group class: 3 students.

Max. students per group class: 6 students.

Number of students per private class: 1 student.

Individual - Intensive Spanish (one on one)

The teacher's attention will be totally focused on you. You will therefore be able to ask any and all questions you wish and the teacher will answer them all. This will permit you to learn at a much faster rate. The course will be adapted to your specific needs. The teacher will focus on your learning and will be able to concentrate on your personal interests and needs with the Spanish language.

You have the option to choose one of our packages of either 3 or 4 hours per day. If you wish to take more or less classes, please contact us and we will be happy to adapt the program to your requirements.

Type of Program: Individual

Frequency: 3hrs/day or 4hrs/day

Group classes: Mon-Fri, 9:00am to 12:00pm or from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm

Number of students per private class: 1 student

Medical Spanish Program Costa Rica

This Medical Spanish program was implemented to help Medical professionals and students improve their knowledge of Spanish in an immersed setting. The program teaches a variety of topics so that the student will understand the culture as well as certain phrases. Topics such as Hispanics and their Health, Anatomic and Physiologic vocabulary, Conversations for Administrative Personnel, Conversations for Health Professionals, Medical Therapy, Laboratory Tests, and Patient Instructions, and much more.

The structure of the course begins 4 hours of general Spanish per day followed by 2 hours of classes concentrating on Medical Spanish.

Type of Program: Group PLUS*

Frequency: 4 weeks, 4hrs plus 2 hrs/day

Group classes: Mon-Fri, 8:00am to 12:00pm and 1:15pm to 3:15pm

Max. students per group class: 4 students

*Alternatively, the Medical Program can be held via private tutoring. In this case, the regular prices for private classes apply.

Also, homestay can be provided with this option for \$170 a week, including weekly laundry and daily breakfast and dinner.

Spanish for the Classroom Teacher

Over the year we from Universal de Idiomas have developed a program that helps teachers to revamp their Spanish.

Our expertise on this comes from many years of experience. We have had Spanish teachers coming to our school belonging to the bilingual program of the University of Arizona. This program is designed mainly to help students' correct structures and vocabulary that has been contaminated through English usage. For this program we use books written by Ethel Pazos, a Costa Rican, which addresses the problems non-native Spanish speakers might have with the language. For example, false cognates, Spanish slang's, redundancies, and the excessive use of "Que". In a 30 hour course Spanish teachers are expected to correct common mistakes that might arise due to influence of foreign language structures, mainly English or French. In addition this program will provide information for your students about the Latin American and Hispanic culture that exists. This allows teachers to take home firsthand experience and new insights on how to enrich their classes with cultural topics and new words and usages that have been incorporated into the Spanish language.

Type of Program: Group or Private

Frequency: 2 weeks, 3hrs/day

Group classes: Mon-Fri, 9:00am to 12:00pm or Mon-Fri, 1:00pm to 4:00pm

Max. students per group class: 4 students

Business Spanish Program Costa Rica

This business Spanish course is ideal for anyone who is planning a business travel to Costa Rica or any other Latin American country and does not have the necessary language skills. This course was designed for students with an intermediate level of Spanish.

In our business Spanish course you will acquire important vocabulary concerning marketing, finance, merchandise trade, service and many more. Besides this our students will learn how to lead negotiations and make transactions.

Needless to say, all our business Spanish course students will also receive insight to Costa Rican culture and important customs which are essential to be successful in Costa Rica.

The goal of our business Spanish course is to enable you to communicate with your Spanish speaking surroundings. Our main interest is in teaching you how to cope with a new language and a new business environment. With our help you will soon be able to successfully conclude transactions in Costa Rica and other Latin American countries.

Course Syllabus Intermediate Level

- 1-Trámites bancarios y su terminología.
- 2-Compra y venta de propiedades, requisitos, trámites, impuestos.
- 3-Relaciones obrero- patronales, garantías sociales.
- 4-Pago de impuestos.
- 5-Las exportaciones e importaciones en Costa Rica
- 6-Precio de compra y precio de venta en monedas extranjeras.
- 7-El mercado bursátil.
- 8-Denominaciones en español de organismos internacionales (ONU, OEA, OIT, etc)

Course Syllabus Advanced Level

- 1-El desarrollo económico de Costa Rica en los últimos 40 años.
- 2-Los tratados comerciales (NAFTA, CUENCA DEL CARIBE, MCCA)
- 3-Constitución del gobierno central costarricense
- 4-La Nacionalización Bancaria y la banca privada
- 5-El desarrollo en el país de pequeñas y medianas empresas (PYMES)
- 6-El mercado de Bienes Raíces
- 7-El sistema tributario en Costa Rica
- 9-El Sistema de Bandas Cambiarias
- 10-El Mercado de Valores

For more information on the programs, please contact spanish@universal-edu.com