

IB Spanish B Ab Initio Year

Syllabus 2024-2025

Mrs. Cany Soto Rodriguez, M.Ed.

Room 1301

Email: csoto3@saisd.net

Course Description: Language Ab Initio

Language ab initio is a foundational language acquisition course designed for students with no prior experience or minimal exposure to the target language. Offered exclusively at the Standard Level (SL), this course aims to introduce students to the essentials of the language and culture, providing them with the tools to communicate effectively in both familiar and unfamiliar contexts.

Course Overview:

The course focuses on developing three core communicative skills—receptive, productive, and interactive—through immersive learning experiences. Students will explore a range of topics organized around five prescribed themes, engaging with authentic and adapted texts to build their language proficiency.

Eligibility:

This course is suitable for genuine beginners of the language. Students who already possess a significant understanding of the language and can respond to a range of common topics may not find this course to be an appropriate academic challenge.

Course Objectives: IB Spanish B Ab Initio Year 1**1. Develop Effective Communication Skills:**

Students will learn to communicate clearly and effectively in Spanish across a variety of contexts, including everyday situations, academic discussions, and cultural exchanges. They will be able to express themselves for different purposes, such as sharing information, asking questions, giving opinions, and engaging in conversations.

2. Apply Language in Interpersonal and Intercultural Contexts:

Students will understand and use Spanish appropriately in a range of interpersonal and intercultural contexts. They will develop the ability to interact with different audiences, recognizing and respecting cultural norms and practices in Spanish-speaking communities.

3. Express and Respond to Ideas with Fluency and Accuracy:

Students will gain the ability to express their thoughts and respond to others' ideas in Spanish with increasing fluency and accuracy. They will practice constructing coherent sentences and paragraphs, using correct grammar, vocabulary, and syntax to convey meaning effectively.

4. Organize and Present Ideas on Various Topics:

Students will learn to identify, organize, and present their ideas on a range of topics relevant to the themes of the course. They will develop skills in both spoken and written Spanish, enabling them to structure their ideas logically and communicate them clearly to others.

5. Analyze and Reflect on Diverse Texts:

Students will understand, analyze, and reflect upon a variety of written, audio, visual, and audio-visual texts in Spanish. They will engage with authentic materials, developing the ability to interpret meaning, evaluate perspectives, and respond critically to different forms of media.

Learning Outcomes

Receptive Skills: Students will be able to understand simple to moderately complex spoken and written Spanish related to everyday topics.

Productive Skills: Students will express themselves in basic written and oral forms, using appropriate vocabulary and structures.

Interactive Skills: Students will engage in basic conversations, asking and answering questions, and using strategies to communicate effectively.

Topics and Subtopics:

- Medicines: pharmacies, prescriptions, treatments

Unidad 1: Theme: Identities

Personal attributes

- Physical appearance
- Personality
- Clothes
- Personal details: address, age, nationality, language(s)

Personal relationships

- Neighbours
- Family
- Friends
- Work/Business
- Pets

Eating and drinking

- Cooking: equipment, ingredients, instructions, quantity, utensils
- Healthy diets, junk food, allergies, dietary restrictions
- Shops, Markets and Supermarkets
- Restaurants and menus
- Culinary traditions

Physical wellbeing

- Body
- Health: lifestyle, fitness, diet, stress
- People in healthcare (doctors, nurses, specialists, surgeons, etc)
- Illnesses, addictions, eating disorders, obesity

Unidad 2: Theme: Experiences

Daily routine

- At Home
- At School
- In the Workplace
- Shopping: money, online shopping, shops
- Social interaction: greetings, politeness
- Weekend activities
- Days of the week
- Frequency Adverbs
- Telling the time

Leisure

- Activities & hobbies
- Facilities and venues
- Sport: equipment, events, types
- Sedentarism (video games, binge watching)

Holidays and tourism

- Accommodation

Activities & Excursions

- Holiday types: beach, city, adventure, family
- Local customs, foods, traditions
- Tourist information
- Travel: arrangements, fares, reservations, complaints

Festivals and celebrations

- Family celebrations (birthdays, weddings, etc)
- Festivals (carnival, folk, religious, etc.)
- Holidays: national, public, religious

- Rites of passage
- Traditions

Unidad 3: Theme: Human ingenuity

Transport

- Driving and Rules
- Directions & signs
- Emergencies and Accidents
- Means of transport
- Public transport

Entertainment

- Art
- Celebrities, paparazzi
- TV, Series & Films
- Music & concerts
- Theatre
- Venues

Media

- Advertising
- News and the Press
- Bias
- TV and Radio
- Types of programs
- People in the media
- The internet
- Social media

Technology

- Cyber relationships: bullying, sharing, privacy, dating
- Cyber security

Gaming

- Internet: banking, entertainment, research, shopping
- Mobile phones
- Use of technology: education, leisure, work, entertainment, communication
- Advantages and disadvantages

Unidad 4: Theme: Social organization

Neighbourhood

- Types of housing: flat/apartment, house, cottage, studio
- Facilities: banking, post, recreation, recycling, open spaces, shops
- Municipalities: city, town, village
- Community activities
- Neighbours
- Problems (pollution, rubbish, homelessness, traffic)
- Public transport
- Directions

Education

- Types of schools (private, state, mixed, boarding, home schooling, etc)
- Equipment and supplies
- Examinations and assessment
- Facilities
- Subjects, timetable & extra-curricular activities
- School calendar
- Uniforms
- Rules
- Levels (kindergarten, university, etc)

The workplace

- Jobs and professions
- Qualifications
- Unemployment
- Applications
- Work conditions: co-workers, salary, schedule, stress, perks, promotions

Social issues

- Gender issues
- Discrimination
- Stereotypes and prejudice
- Crime & the justice system
- Homelessne

Marriage & families

- Public health
 - Unemployment
- Theme: Sharing the planet

Climate

- Climate change
- Natural disasters
- Seasons

- Weather; conditions, impact on daily life, forecasts

Physical geography

- Basic geographical features (mountain, hill, valley, river, field, island, etc)
- Rural areas
- Urban areas
- Continents, countries, capital cities, (maps)

Environment

- Endangered species
- Natural resources
- Pollution

- Recycling and reuse
- Sustainability
- Waste

Global issues

- Aid organizations/Charities
- Energy
- Human rights
- Migration: immigration, refugees
- Peace and war
- Population
- Poverty
- Terrorism

Assessment objective:

1. Communicate clearly and effectively in a range of contexts and for a variety of purposes.
2. Understand and use language appropriate to a range of interpersonal and/or intercultural contexts and audiences.
3. Understand and use language to express and respond to a range of ideas with fluency and accuracy.
4. Identify, organize and present ideas on a range of topics.
5. Understand, analyse and reflect upon a range of written, audio, visual and audio-visual texts.

Language Skills Development

The Language Skills Development component of the IB Spanish B Ab Initio Year 1 course is structured to build students' proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing through a progressive and integrated approach. The course emphasizes practical language use and cultural awareness, ensuring that students develop a well-rounded ability to communicate in Spanish.

1. Listening Skills

Objective: To develop students' ability to understand spoken Spanish in a variety of contexts.

2. Speaking Skills

Objective: To enable students to express themselves verbally with increasing fluency, accuracy, and confidence.

3. Reading Skills

Objective: To develop the ability to read and comprehend written Spanish texts, ranging from simple to more complex.

4. Writing Skills

Objective: To develop students' ability to write in Spanish with clarity, accuracy, and coherence.

Activities:

5. Grammar and Vocabulary Development

Objective: To ensure students acquire a solid foundation in Spanish grammar and vocabulary, essential for effective communication.

6. Intercultural Communication

Objective: To foster an understanding of cultural nuances and the appropriate use of language in different social contexts.

Ab Initio:

External Assessment:

25% Written Component- Writing Task (70/150 word min.)

25% Paper1 Receptive Skills 90 minutes

25% Paper 2 Productive Skills 60 minutes

Internal Assessment:

25% Oral Component

25% Individual Oral divided into 3 parts (1)

presentation of a visual stimulus from a choice of two (1\2min. With 15 minutes preparation) (2)

Follow\up questions on visual stimulus (2\3 min.)

and (3). General conversation including at least two questions on the written assignment (4\5 min.)

Non IB Assessment:

In Alignment with the objectives and aims of the course, the following formative assessments will be used in class:

- Quizzes
- Written assignments (article responses, journal entries, essays, blogs, etc)
- Informal oral interaction (dialog, topic discussions, oral presentations, role plays, etc)

In alignment with the objectives and aims of the course, the following are examples of summative assessments that may be used in class:

- Unit Tests
- Written essays
- Presentations (Debate, Skit, Role Play, Spontaneous Conversations, etc.)
- Review assignments

Resources and Materials

Textbooks and Workbooks -

Supplementary Materials: additional resources, online platforms, language apps, videos, and cultural readings. -

Classroom Tools: audio-visual aids, interactive notebooks, Cornell notes, etc.

Classroom Expectations

1. Attendance and Participation- 90% Attendance required; active participation; be prepared to learn and participate and have all your assignments completed On time.
2. Homework and Assignments: Consistent Practice, Submission Deadlines: Assignments must be submitted on time. Quality of Work: Homework and assignments should reflect a student's best effort.
3. Classroom Etiquette: Respectful Communication; Collaborative Learning; Use of Language; Classroom Environment (Students should help maintain a clean and organized classroom.) ; Technology Use (The use of electronic devices should be limited to activities related to the course. **Phones are not allowed in class.**)