

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF SPANISH AND PORTUGUESE
CATALAN LANGUAGE AND CULTURE I
COURSE SYLLABUS
Fall 2018

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is aimed at giving an introduction to the Catalan language and Catalan culture from a wide range of activities focused on the task-based and the communicative approach. The classes will involve a variety of activities, which are designed to develop the learners' listening, reading, speaking and writing skills.

The core objectives of this course are:

- Provide a solid and comprehensive foundation of Catalan grammar that will allow students to have everyday conversations, to read a variety of Catalan texts and to write different types of compositions and dialogues.
- Engage the students in meaningful interactions promoting intercultural communication. The students will be introduced to real-life situations through Catalan conversation. In addition the students will be encouraged to pursue Catalan conversation inside and outside the class (in online and offline environments).
- Culture is conveyed from an intercultural perspective engaging the students in exchanging their perspectives on culture. The cultural topics that will be discussed in the class will be: national identities, newcomers and language policies, contemporary theater and cultural events, the Catalan economy after the crisis, urbanism and gentrification in Barcelona, gastronomy and the collective memory of the Spanish civil war and exile. During the quarter, the students will engage with one of these topics to work on a final project in which they will investigate a cultural artifact through primary sources.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

Materials will be provided in the classroom.

	Language
Week 1 - Identities	Self-introductions, countries and nationalities Grammar: Present, basic questions (languages spoken, place of origin, nationality, names)
Week 2 - Families and communities	
Week 3 - Urbanism	The city (directions, buildings and services) Grammar: There is/there are, present 2nd conjugation, definite article, prepositions (a,de, per)
Week 4 - Cultural events	Theater programs, cultural events, times and dates Grammar: interrogative particles, expression of time and date
Week 5 - Jobs and professions	Jobs, studies, professional status Grammar: Present progressive
Week 6 - Contemporary history	Historical terms Grammar: Past tense, adverbs
Week 7- Gastronomy	Food, traditional dishes Grammar: Imperative and have to + infinitive
Week 8 - Housing	Types of housing, furniture, rooms Grammar: Number and gender adjectives, pronouns, quantity adverbs
Week 9 - Review	Preparation of project and review for final exam (written compositions, oral activities, readings and oral comprehensions)
Week 10	Final project presentations

*This syllabus is subject to change. The dates of the exams are provided in the course schedule.

Overview of one week

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Week 1		Video + quiz	Class (oral practice of vocabulary and grammar structures) Discussion live section meeting	Reading + quiz	Class (oral practice of vocabulary and grammar structures)	Writing activity	Grammar exercises

CLASS DYNAMICS

Class time will be devoted to communicative activities with the focus on learning grammatical structures, vocabulary and pragmatics. The course includes an introduction to Catalan culture with attention to Catalan literature, music, traditions, gastronomy, and geography.

Readings and videos will be assigned to the at home. Every reading and listening will be followed by a comprehension check quiz.

EVALUATION AND ASSESSMENTS:

Evaluation	Due dates	Percentage
Mid-term test	Week 5 - online test	20%
Final test	Week 10 - online test	30%
Final tasks	Final tasks on Canvas at the end of every Module (due dates are posted on Canvas)	20%
Online quizzes	Due dates for the online quizzes are posted on the list of activities	10%

	in every Canvas Module	
Final project	Week 10	20%

Preparation and Practice:

You are required to come regularly to class and complete the online assignments before and after the classes. The tasks and assignments will be posted in the Canvas Page in every Module.

In-Class Participation

Active participation is required to complete the course. You should be willing to engage in paired and group activities, since promoting communication and interaction in Catalan is the core objective in this course.

You are expected to prepare an oral presentation during the term. Further information will be provided during the course.

Written Exams

The precise dates are indicated in the calendar. You are expected to demonstrate the acquisition of the structures taught in class and the ability to communicate at the required course level.

Final project

Students will choose one aspect of the Catalan culture covered in class to develop the final project. The final project will consist of a research of primary sources such as Catalan newspapers, radio stations, interviews or questionnaires to members of the Catalan community. The project will be presented the last week of class in form of a formal presentation.

COURSE GRADE

The final course grade will be based on a percentage system of the points accumulated during the quarter, according to the following scale:

100-98 = A+
97-94 = A
93-90 = A-
89-87 = B+
86-83 = B
82-80 = B-
79-77 = C+
76-73 = C
72-70 = C-
69-67 = D+
66-63 = D
62-60 = D
59-0 = F

Please note below the criteria for passing the course, there will be no exceptions.

For P/NP grading (undergraduates), **P = C (73) or better.**

For S/U grading (graduate students), **S = B (83) or better.**

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

As a student and member of the University community, you are expected to demonstrate integrity in all of your academic endeavors. You are evaluated on your own merits. Be proud of your accomplishments and protect academic integrity at UCLA.

As specified by University policy, violations or attempted violations of academic dishonesty include, but are limited to: cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, multiple submissions, or facilitating academic dishonesty (See *University of California Policies Applying to Campus Activities, Organizations, and Students, 102.01*).

Violations of the academic integrity policy are not acceptable and will not be tolerated. For more information, please visit: <http://www.deanofstudents.ucla.edu/students.html>

Links

Casal Català Los Angeles – community of Catalan speakers supporting the Catalan culture and organizing cultural events

<http://www.casalcatalalosangeles.org/>

Teach yourself Catalan

Parlat.cat Web-based platform to learn Catalan at all levels

www.parla.cat

Materials to learn Catalan in English

http://llengua.gencat.cat/ca/serveis/informacio_i_diffusio/publicacions_en_linia/aprenem_catala_des_de_col/angles_aprenem_cat_general/

Catalan Pronunciation Guides

Guies de pronunciació

<https://www.guiesdepronunciacio.cat/ca/catala-angles-america>

Bilingual dictionaries online

Catalan – English dictionary

www.catalandictionary.org/eng/

Multilingual dictionary English – Catalan – Spanish – French – German

<http://www.grec.net/cgi-bin/mlt00.pgm>

Monolingual Catalan dictionaries

Diccionari Estudis Catalans - <http://dlc.iec.cat/>

Diccionari enciclopèdic - <http://www.enciclopedia.cat/diccionaris>

Diccionari Alcover- Moll - <http://dcvb.iecat.net/>

References

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Catalan gastronomy and its origins

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Nel· lo, Oriol. "The five challenges of urban rehabilitation. The Catalan experience." *Urban Research & Practice* 4.3 (2011): 308-325.

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Serrano, Ivan. "Just a matter of identity? Support for independence in Catalonia." *Regional & Federal Studies* 23.5 (2013): 523-545.

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