



DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES

DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS FOR IDENTIFYING APPROPRIATE COURSE LEVEL IN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Recommendations for foreign language courses are based on the student's:

- **language background**
- **prior formal training (school, language courses, college, university)**
- **life experience related to the target language of study**

Department of Foreign Languages offers the following foreign languages:

Arabic (ARA)	Chinese (CHI)	French (FRE)	German (GER)
Hebrew (HEB)	Italian (ITA)	Japanese (JPN)	Latin (LAT)
Korean (KOR)	Portuguese (POR)	Russian (RUS)	Spanish (SPA)

In one semester (including Summer Sessions I and II), a student may enroll in any of the following courses, but NOT in TWO courses of the SAME LANGUAGE and LEVEL. All 100-level (except for SPA151-152) and SPA 201-202 are sequential courses, i.e. they must be taken in *direct* order. Contact our main office (Nassau Hall, 3rd floor; tel. 516.572.7414) if during the registration you receive a “pre-requisite error” that requires an override.

To ensure that students be placed in the appropriate level, we ask that you adhere to the placement guidelines enforced by the Department of Foreign Languages. Students who have taken a target language in High School NEED NOT begin with 101 at NCC.

Course #	High School or Heritage Learner Language Background
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- 101 Beginning level. 1-2 years of the target language in HS or taken the language 3+ years prior to enrolling at NCC. 12 languages are offered. 101 courses are NOT intended for native, heritage, bilingual speakers
- 102 Second semester of the Beginning level. 2-3 years of the target language in HS or native, heritage, bilingual speakers
- SPA151-152 Beginning Spanish for Medical Personnel. Similar to SPA101-102, but within medical context
- 201-202 Intermediate level. 3-4 years of the target language in HS or instructor's permission. Currently offered - French, Italian, Spanish
- SPA 205-206 Intermediate level for native, heritage, bilingual speakers of Spanish. 205 and 206 can be taken instead of 201- 202, but not in addition to 201- 202. Courses are non-sequential.
- 261-262 Advanced level. 4+ years in HS, or successful completion of 201-202, or 205-206, or instructor's permission. Currently offered - French, Italian, Spanish. Courses are non-sequential.
- SPA 271, 272, 273, 274 Spanish Literature in Spanish. 4+ years in HS, or successful completion of Spanish 201-202, or 205-206, or 261-262, or instructor's permission. Courses are non-sequential.

Advisement Guidelines for French Courses

1. **French 101** is for true beginners or students who have recently taken no more than two years of high school French. Students who have been exposed to the French language for 3 or more years should register for **French 102**, **French 201** in the Fall or **French 202** in the Spring. *Haitian students* who have been educated in French in their native country may not register for **FRE101**.

2. If a student has some formal training in French and can understand the following exchanges, s/he belong in **French 102**:

Est-ce que vous allez souvent au cinéma?

-Oui, j'y vais souvent.

-Non, je préfère regarder la télé.

Qu'est-ce que vous faites le dimanche?

-Je fais mes devoirs.

-Je me repose.

3. If a student has some formal training in French and understands the following sentences, s/he belongs in **French 201** or **French 202**. Please note that French 201 is offered only in the Fall and French 202 only in the Spring. However, French 202 may be taken right after French 102.

*« Oh ! Je voudrais tant que tu te souviennes
Des jours heureux où nous étions amis... »*

.....

*« Depuis longtemps mon cœur était à la retraite
Et ne pensait jamais devoir se réveiller... »*

Advisement Guidelines for Italian Courses

1. **ITA 101** is for true beginners or students who have recently taken no more than two years of high school Italian.

2. If a student understands the following exchanges, s/he belongs in **ITA 102**:

Hai fame?

No, ho sete.

Che cosa studi a NCC?

Studio l'italiano.

Dove vai in vacanza?

Vado in Italia.

Che tempo fa oggi?

Fa bello!

3. If a student understands the following exchanges, s/he belongs in **ITA 201 or 202**. Please note that ITA 201 is offered only in the Fall and ITA 202 is offered only in the Spring. However, ITA 202 make be taken right after ITA 102.

Che cosa hai fatto ieri?

Ho letto un libro.

Ti piace il latte?

No, non mi piace.

Da bambino che cosa mangiavi?

Mangiavo la pizza.

Advisement Guidelines for 100-level Spanish Courses

NATIVE or HERITAGE SPEAKERS

Native or heritage speakers of Spanish SHOULD NOT take SPA101. Students who have not studied Spanish formally but grew up hearing and speaking Spanish or who have had listening and/or speaking practice in the home setting but limited experience in writing Spanish should take **either**:

- Spa 201/202 - Intermediate Spanish level (sequential courses – must be taken in direct order!) **or**
- Spa 205/206 - Spanish for Bilingual Speakers (non-sequential courses; both are specially designed for Heritage learners)

It is recommended that the student consult with the Department for help in making the decision about Intermediate Spanish or Spanish for Bilingual Speakers. Contact our office (Building M, Room 300, 516-572-7414) if during the registration you receive a “*prerequisite error*” that requires an override.

A student **should enroll in Spa 205/206 if s/he recognizes and can answer** the following questions:

- a. ¿De qué país son tus padres?*
- b. ¿Con quién hablas español?*
- c. ¿Estudiaste el español alguna vez?*

NON-NATIVE SPEAKERS

1. The student **should only enroll in SPA 101** if s/he:
 - never took Spanish language courses before
 - studied Spanish for no more than 2 years in high school
 - took SPA 101 before but did not earn a passing grade
2. The student **should NOT enroll in SPA 101** if s/he:
 - is a native or heritage speaker of Spanish
 - earned a passing grade in any prior college-level Spanish classes
 - has recently taken more than 2 years of high school Spanish
3. The student **should NOT enroll in Spa 101** if s/he understands the following statements and can answer the following questions (then register to **SPA102**):
 - a. Yo vengo a la Universidad en autobús*
 - b. Los estudiantes están escribiendo las notas en la clase*
 - c. ¿Te gusta la pizza?*
 - d. ¿Trabajas en el restaurante?*
4. Students with intermediate-high proficiency who are confident in writing and speaking about past, present, and future events, listing daily activities, asking questions, and describing themselves and family **should enroll in Spanish 201 or 202** (see pages 5-6).

Advisement Guidelines for 201-202 and 205-206 level Spanish Courses

- Students who have taken 3-4 four years of high school Spanish, should enroll in **SPA 201/202**. **Note:** SPA201 and SPA202 are for students that are **NOT** native speakers or near-native speakers.
- **Students who are native speakers or near-native speakers** should be placed in SPA 205 or 206.
- Students who do not remember the past tenses (preterite & imperfect: comí, estudió, trabajé, fueron, pensaste, jugaba, trabajaba, escribías, llegabas) should take **SPA102** rather than a 200-level course.

If a student is not sure which is the appropriate level Spanish course, **it is recommended that s/he consult with the Department of Foreign Languages before making the decision. Building M, Room 300, 516-572-7414.** Contact our office if during the registration you receive a “*pre-requisite error*” that requires an override.

Spanish 201

In SPA201 the focus is on the present subjunctive. We will review different aspects of the Spanish culture as well as history and geography of Spanish-speaking countries.

Students **should be able to answer or correctly conjugate** the following before enrolling in SPA 201: (Answers appear below)

- ¿Viajaste a Florida el año pasado?*
- ¿Jugabas con tus amigos en el parque cuando tenías 10 años?*
- Cuando estás enfermo, ¿vas al médico?*
- ¿Te gusta ir de compras con tus amigos o con tu mamá?*
- Yo pedí un café, pero mi amigo _____ (pedir: past tense/ preterite) agua.*
- Nosotros nos vestimos en cinco minutos, pero mis padres _____ (vestirse: past tense/ preterite) en media hora.*

Correct answers:

- Sí, viajé a Florida. No, no viajé a Florida.*
- Sí, jugaba con mis amigos cuando tenía 10 años. No, no jugaba con mis amigos cuando tenía 10 años.*
- Sí, voy al médico. No, no voy al médico.*
- Sí, me gusta ir de compras con mis amigos/mi mamá. No, no me gusta ir de compras con mi mamá/mis amigos.*
- Pidió*
- se vistieron*

Spanish 202

In **SPA202 the focus** is to continue practicing the present subjunctive and learn different tenses (future, conditional, past subjunctive among others.) We will review different aspects of the Spanish culture as well as history and geography of Spanish speaking countries.

Students **should be able to answer or correctly conjugate** the following before enrolling in SPA 202: (Answers appear below)

- a. *¿Es importante que tu casa tenga una piscina?*
- b. *¿Te encanta cocinar para tu familia?*
- c. *¿Qué deporte practicas en tu tiempo libre?*
- d. *¿Recomiendas a tus amigos que tomen clases interesantes?*
- e. *¿Prefieres viajar en avión o en barco?*
- f. *Pon el verbo en su forma correcta del presente de subjuntivo:*
Yo quiero que mi padre _____ (comprar) un coche nuevo.
Es interesante que las clases _____ (ser) en español.
Dudo que nosotros _____ (entender) al profesor.

Correct answers:

- a. *Sí, es importante que tenga una piscina.*
No, no es importante que tenga una piscina.
- b. *Sí, me encanta cocinar para mi familia.*
No, no me encanta cocinar para mi familia.
- c. *Me gusta practicar (béisbol, baloncesto, yoga, natación, etc.)*
- d. *No, no recomiendo que tomen clases interesantes.*
- e. *Prefiero viajar en avión (en barco)*
- f. *} compre, sean, entendamos*