

## Foreign Languages FAQs

The following information pertains to all Foreign Language classes at UC San Diego Extension. For additional information regarding the Spanish Language Certificate and Spanish for Healthcare Certificate, please see the FAQs listed on their respective certificate pages.

These classes are part of the UC San Diego Extension Arts, Humanities, Languages and Digital Arts department. For questions regarding our classes and certificates, please contact us at: [ahl@ucsd.edu](mailto:ahl@ucsd.edu) or (858)534-5760

If you are ready to enroll in a course, please contact Student Services at (858)534-3400. You can also enroll online or in person with Student Services.

### **What languages do you offer?**

We offer language classes in Arabic, Chinese (Mandarin), French, German, Italian, Japanese, Portuguese (Brazilian), and Spanish.

### **What language related certificates do you offer?**

We offer two language learning related certificates:

- Spanish Language (Professional Certificate)
- Spanish for Healthcare Professionals (Specialized Certificate)

We also offer certificates in Spanish/English Translation and Interpretation for students who are already completely fluent in Spanish and English.

### **What is your average student demographic?**

Our classes typically attract a diverse student population. Students range from high school age to retirees, though the majority of our students are working adults.

### **When does enrollment open for each quarter?**

Our classes post to our website and become open for enrollment about two months prior to the new quarter starting.

### **When should I enroll in a class?**

We recommend enrolling as soon as possible. Each quarter we offer an early enrollment discount of \$25 if you enroll by the discount deadline (usually 4-6 weeks prior to the start of the new quarter). Additionally it is good to enroll early because occasionally classes will reach capacity. \*Note: The \$25 early enrollment discount does not apply to For Travelers workshops.

### **When does enrollment close?**

Enrollment in a class may be blocked due to the following three situations:

- The class is at capacity. If the class is at capacity you will only be able to join the waitlist. Students on the waitlist are contacted in the order they joined the waitlist.
- The class has already met for two class meetings. We close enrollments the morning after the second class meeting for all language classes. Students are expected to enroll and attend no later than the second class meeting.
- The class is cancelled due to low enrollments.

For all three of these reasons we recommend students enroll early in the class they are interested in.

## **When is the refund deadline?**

The refund deadline for the language courses is typically two days after the first class meeting. This allows students to enroll in a class, attend the first meeting and then if needed either transfer their enrollment to a higher or lower level or submit a drop request if they do not feel the class is a good fit for them. The exact refund deadline for each section is listed in the section notes. \*Note: The refund deadline for For Travelers workshops is the day before the workshop starts.

## **Where are the foreign language classes held?**

All of our foreign language classes are held at our La Jolla Extension complex at 9600 North Torrey Pines Road, La Jolla, California 92037.

## **Do you offer any language classes online?**

At this time all of our language classes are held exclusively on-campus. We do not offer any language learning classes online. Some classes may utilize an online component such as Blackboard or Connect for students to submit homework, but all of the class meetings are on-campus.

## **What are the grading options?**

Students can take classes for one of three options: Letter grade, Pass/No Pass, or Not for Credit. Students taking a class towards the Spanish Language Certificate or Spanish for Healthcare Professionals certificate need to complete their classes for credit (i.e. Pass/No Pass or Letter grade) and receive a C-/Pass or higher grade. Grades below a C-, No Pass, and Not for Credit do not count towards certificate requirements.

## **What are the attendance and participation requirements?**

Students are expected to attend all class meetings, participate in class, and complete all homework assignments. Typically students can miss one class meeting without it impacting their final grade as long as they still complete their homework. Missing more than one class meeting can result in a lower grade or a non-passing grade. Students who know in advance that they will have to miss two or more meetings are encouraged to either take the class Not for Credit or wait until a quarter in which they will be able to attend all class meetings. Students who miss a class meeting should always reach out to their instructor regarding late work and homework.

## **What level should I enroll in?**

If you are unsure what level you should start with the following is good to know:

- The refund deadline for the language courses is typically two days after the first class meeting. This allows students to enroll in a class, attend the first meeting and then if needed either transfer their enrollment to a higher or lower level or submit a drop request if they do not feel the class is a good fit for them. The exact refund deadline for each section is listed in the section notes.
- Most of the language series use the same textbook and cover different chapters, therefore you can look at the course description to see what chapters are covered and then either go to the bookstore or find the textbook elsewhere and review those chapters to determine if you already know the grammar and vocabulary covered in that level.
- Self-placement exams are available for the Spanish series only. Within the course description page for each Spanish for Communication course there is a link to a self-placement exam. This exam is self-graded (answers are at the end of the PDF) and is meant to be a guide to assist students in placing themselves in the correct Spanish level. The exams test some of the vocabulary and grammar points covered in each level. Students scoring an 80% or higher are recommended to advance to the next level. For example, if a student completes the exam listed under Spanish for Communication 1 and scores a 90%, they should then review the exam listed under Spanish for Communication 2. If they then score a 60%, then Spanish for Communication 2 should be a good starting point in their language learning.

## **Are these classes transferable?**

UC San Diego Extension is not a degree granting institution, however many UC San Diego Extension courses can be transferred to other colleges or universities.

The transferability of credit is determined solely by the receiving institution. Students should discuss how their individual courses will transfer with the Office of the Registrar at the receiving institution prior to enrolling.

## *Quarter to Semester Unit Conversion*

If the receiving institution operates on a semester system, credits will be converted to semester hours during their evaluation. As a general rule, quarter credits are converted to semester credits by dividing the number of quarter credits by 1.5. For example, if the student completed a course worth 4 quarter credits at UC San Diego Extension, the course would be worth  $4 \div 1.5 = 2.66$  semester credits.

## **I am in high school. Can I take any of the UC San Diego Extension language courses?**

If you are interested in taking courses at UC San Diego Extension you will need to obtain written approval from your school principal or counselor. The approval must be signed and printed on school letterhead and must be included with your registration. If you are homeschooled, your approval needs to be signed by your contact in your local school district. The letter should verify that you, the student, have the maturity and academic readiness to attend a post-baccalaureate level or college-level course.

Approvals can be faxed to 858-534-8527, emailed to [unex-reg@ucsd.edu](mailto:unex-reg@ucsd.edu), or mailed to:

UCSD Extension Student Services  
9500 Gilman Dr., Dept. 0176-H  
La Jolla, CA 92093-0176

We are unable to accept letters signed by your parent, even if your parent is your teacher and/or school administrator. If you have taken community college courses, an official transcript from that college verifying coursework will be accepted in lieu of a letter from your high school or district. College transcripts must reflect a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher.

\*\*Please note that the advanced Spanish Conversation courses may contain adult themes and the Spanish Film class may use rated R movies.

## **Do I need to pay for parking?**

If your class is on a weeknight and you plan to drive to campus you will need to pay for parking. We recommend purchasing a quarterly night parking permit (~\$43). If you are taking a 9-10 week class it is more affordable to buy this permit rather than use the hourly permit machines (\$2 per hour). Quarterly night permits can be purchased online at: <http://ow.ly/DnTP302mth0> Parking on Saturdays is free.

## **Why don't you offer classes in X language?**

If we do not offer the language you are looking for, please let us know what language you would like to learn so that we can gauge demand for new programs. Also, if you let us know what classes you are looking for that we do not currently offer we may be able to point you in the direction of other local educational institutions that do offer the language you are looking for.

## **Additional questions?**

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