

STUDENTS

Frequently asked questions:

- What nationalities are represented?
- How old are the students?
- How many students are there on average?

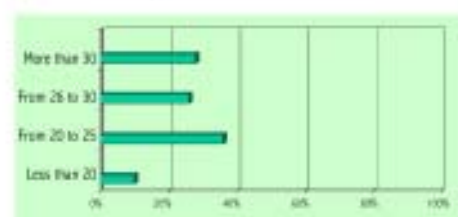
Student nationalities



Students per month



Age of students



FEEDBACK OF STUDENTS

As an indication of students' opinions of their experience at Castila, we offer below an example of the sort of emails we receive from past students:

To whom it may concern:

I would like to express my personal thanks (in my own language!) for my experience in Castila whilst revisiting the city of my student days.

As a customer service teacher (as well as a language teacher) I am always aware and always observing practices of positive customer service. With Castila, I found that I was made feel welcome- for example, your staff impressed me by knowing the students' names very quickly. I also found that the teachers were helpful, patient, friendly whilst at all times remaining professional with the students. The teachers were prepared and brought their respective personalities into their teaching, the classes were never dull and our interest and enthusiasm rarely waned (unless tired from the night before!).

I would like to congratulate you (and Cristina) on your organisation of the trips and excursions. They were interesting, varied and highly organised (whilst also allowing for flexibility as the need arose). Having been involved in running summer camps for a number of years, I was delighted by the trips and the degree of effort and enthusiasm shown by Cristina, the guides and Rafa (for his choice of Spanish films) and how well they interacted with the students.

Regarding the accommodation, Antonio, I personally was very happy and believed it to be well organised.

I will, and already do, miss my time in Granada. I fully intend returning for a longer period next summer (si Dios quiere!) and will happily recommend your program to my colleagues. I wish you continued success with both Granada and Mojácar and hope to see you in the near future.

Go raibh mile maith agaibh (gracias en irlandes!)

Regards, Afra Murphy
Ireland
aframurphy@yahoo.com

CASTILA — a resume of key facts.
Most important characteristics.

Centre: Castila, Centro Internacional de Estudios Hispánicos
Founded in: 1988

Owners: Sociedad Andaluza de Estudios Hispánicos S.L.
Membership of Associations: ELITE, FEDELE, AEEA
Accreditations: CEELE, CSN (Sweden), Bildungsurlaub (Germany)

Activities of the Centre:

- The teaching of Spanish as a foreign language (E/LE).
- Courses with specific objectives: Commercial Spanish, Literature, Culture and Society, Language Teacher Training (E/LE), Spanish and Skiing, Spanish and Horseback Riding, Summer Teenage Campus, Courses for groups. Research, documentation, publications.

Complementary activities:

- Development of cultural and leisure activities.
- Optional courses like salsa, flamenco, guitar, history, cooking...
- Management of accommodation.

Other interesting facts:

- Maximum of 6 students per class;
- 47 extracurricular activities;
- Located in a *carmen* in the Albaicin;
- Preparation for official diplomes D.E.L.E. (more than 95% passed) and Certificate in Business/Commercial Spanish.

City where the courses are given:

- Granada, C/Aljibe del Gato, 1
- See our website <http://www.castila.es> for details.



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Spanish Courses in Granada



Instituto Cervantes
Centro Acreditado

castila

Castila is a world in its own. *Amelia Earhart*

an intensive learning experience in and out of the classroom. *Ally Ludha, USA*

www.castila.es

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

These are a fundamental part of Castila's teaching method. Activities are changed every 2 weeks. This provides opportunities for students to demonstrate, reinforce and enjoy what they have learned in the classroom.

There are currently 45 different social and cultural activities in a program developed by Castila over the past 15 years. The program also includes events of general interest such as theatre trips, concerts, exhibitions, parties and sports which take place in Granada. The program changes every two weeks.

For updated details, please look at www.castila.es.



ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation is a fundamental part of enjoying a positive learning experience. Castila works hard to offer good conditions so that the students will be able to reach their main goals: to study, practice Spanish and enjoy their stay.

Students can choose with absolute confidence a single or double room in:

- Shared flat with other students
- Shared flat with Spanish people
- Individual apartment
- Living with a Spanish family, full or half board



GENERAL

All accommodation is situated within a maximum of 15 minutes walking distance from the school and is located in the best residential zones of the centre of Granada, including the historic districts of the Albaicín and Realejo.

SHARED/INDIVIDUAL APARTMENTS

Apartments have:

- 2 or 3 bedrooms
- Kitchen, bathroom and living room
- Washing machine
- Heating
- Weekly cleaning
- Sheets, gas and electricity are included
- Access to private swimming pool in summer
- Many have TV and telephone

LIVING WITH A SPANISH FAMILY

Normally only one student is lodged with each family but, if students request it, families can also host two students.

OTHER ACCOMMODATION

Castila can also provide information on other types of accommodation in Granada, such as hotels, and on request will make a reservation for you.

GRANADA

Granada is a city of 250,000 inhabitants but when the whole metropolitan area is taken into account this rises to 600,000. Almost a quarter of the population of the city (some 60,000) are students which contributes to the city's cosmopolitan feel. Granada is also widely regarded as the cultural capital of Andalusia. Situated between the mountains and the sea, Granada is only 50 km from the Mediterranean's Costa Tropical and 35 km from the Sierra Nevada ski resort. It also boasts the Alhambra, Spain's most visited historic monument, and the Albaicín.

ALBAICÍN

There are people who think the Albaicín is the most beautiful neighbourhood in the world. As the Spanish writer Antonio Gala once said: "It is as beautiful to see the Albaicín from the Alhambra, as the Alhambra from the Albaicín." UNESCO declared the whole neighbourhood a World Heritage Site in 1995.

Apart from its historical status, perhaps the most valuable aspect of the Albaicín is that it still maintains its customs and its traditional ambience as well as offering the beauty of its many carmens, narrow streets, spectacular views, flea markets, Arab quarter etc. Those who decide to spend some time here will enjoy the privilege of living in what seems to be a little village right in the heart of a cosmopolitan city. The Albaicín is situated on a hill directly facing the Alhambra and is also close to the gypsy quarter of Sacromonte, made famous in so many flamenco songs.

Since 1988 Castila has been located in the Albaicín in the beautiful Carmen de los Gatos.

THE SCHOOL

The "Carmen de los Gatos": A *carmen* is an independent house situated in its own walled environment, usually with a garden and fruit trees. The Carmen de los Gatos has 500m² of garden and views of the Alhambra.

Location in the city: In the Albaicín district, close to the city centre, in a traffic-free cobbled street.

Views: The Alhambra, the Sierra Nevada and the rest of the Albaicín can be seen from the first floor and tower. From other rooms there are views of the garden and the white houses of the Albaicín.



Classrooms: 8. Equipped with Video, DVD, Hifi.

Library: 800 titles. There are also access agreements with nearby libraries.

Movie collection: 200 Spanish titles. Spanish Music collection: CDs - 300. Vinyl and cassettes - 600. Also didactic recordings (video and audio) on learning Spanish, appropriate to all competence levels.

Rooms and material available for students: From 8:00 until 22:30.

Other services exclusively available for the students: Access to Internet and e-mail, telephone, fax, bar, kitchen, swimming-pool (in summer).

Intercambio: Castila offers an intercambio service with Spanish people interested in practising the native language of the students of Castila (English, German, Dutch, French, Danish, Japanese etc). Together with frequent participation in the activities organised by the Centre, this offers an excellent way to practice Spanish and to understand the Spanish way of life better.

TUITION

Maximum number of students per class: 6

Duration of lessons: 50 minutes

Method: The starting point is a comprehensive planning of goals and content according to the linguistic needs of the student, his/her competence level and the number of weeks he/she will stay at the Centre. There is a co-ordinated rotation of teachers to give the widest possible experience of spoken Spanish. Courses are interactive and emphasis is placed on participation in the classroom through the use of didactic materials written by the school as well as other books, video, audio and written materials. Participation in extracurricular activities is also encouraged.

Teachers: In the selection of teachers at Castila, our basic requirements include a University Degree (minimum 5 years at University), a Teaching Certificate (C.A.P.) and specific training in the teaching of Spanish as a foreign language. The teachers also attend training seminars that focus on both academic and practical aspects of teaching. In these the style, teaching method and general working of Castila are taught. All teachers have several years experience in Castila's particular method of teaching.

Courses: See schedule.



COURSES

Course	Kind of course, goals and contents.	General information
1) INTENSIVE LANGUAGE COURSES		
A GENERAL (A)	An intensive language course developed for anyone interested in commencing their studies or in improving their communicative skills in Spanish. Content, goals and teaching methods are geared to the communicative needs and the competence level of the student. The school uses a well structured theoretical guide—developed in line with the most advanced theories of language study— which includes several kinds of practical exercises designed to encourage the constant participation of the students, thereby improving and updating their language skills in speaking, listening, writing and reading.	Levels: 6, from absolute beginner to advanced. 4 classes/day. Monday to Friday, from 9:30 to 13:40. 50 minute lessons and coffee break of 30 minutes. Duration: from 1 to 48 weeks
B GENERAL (B)	Like General (A), but with an additional 2 hours daily. Developed for students who are more ambitious and wish to take advantage of additional classes, and for those who have less time at their disposal.	Levels: 6, from absolute beginner to advanced. 6 classes/day. Monday to Friday, from 8:30 to 14:30. 50 minute lessons and coffee break of 30 minutes. Duration: from 1 to 48 weeks.
2) SPECIFIC PURPOSES COURSES		
C COMMERCIAL AND BUSINESS SPANISH	The purpose of this course is to familiarize the student with this particular aspect of the Spanish language by continued practice-analysis, exercises and conversation based on material, and hypotheses, taken from real situations in the economic and business world. This will include business correspondence, specialized vocabulary, texts and conversation. Most students combine this course with a General Course or another Specific Purposes Course.	2 classes/day. 10 classes/week. 50 minute lessons. Monday to Friday, from 9:30 to 11:15. or from 11:50 to 13:35 Duration: from 1 to 8 weeks
D SPANISH CULTURE AND SOCIETY	Contents: history, art, politics, society, film, music, fashion, sports, etc. This course is designed to provide information about present day Spain and South America, taking into account the particular interests generated through discussion by students who already possess a good knowledge of Spanish. The ideology that guides us is a desire to explore all ideologies and to offer a vision of all visions.	
E SPANISH LITERATURE AND LITERARY CRITICISM	This course is an introduction to the History of Spanish and South American Literature.	
Ñ COURSE FOR SPANISH TEACHERS	Designed for those who are teaching, or planning to teach, Spanish in their home countries. The objective is to improve the didactic and linguistic content of their teaching and to provide an opportunity for intensive discussion of trends in teaching as well as offering practice in the Spanish language and discussion of Spanish culture.	2 classes/day. 10 classes/week. 50 minute lessons. Monday to Friday, from 9:30 to 11:15. or from 11:50 to 13:35 Duration: from 1 to 4 weeks
3) COMBINED COURSES		
F A + C, D, E or Ñ	It is possible to combine a General (A) Course with one of the Specific Purposes Courses.	
G C,D, E ou Ñ + C,D, E or Ñ	It is also possible to combine two or three Specific Purposes Courses.	
4) COURSES AND OFFICIAL EXAMS		
H DIPLOMA IN SPANISH AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE (D.E.L.E.)	Awarded by the Ministry of Education and Science and organised by the Cervantes Institute, the exams take place in Granada and at other examination centres throughout the world, in May and November. Examination registration can be handled by the school. The course is designed and prepared to enable students to obtain the D.E.L.E.'s diploma in all three levels: beginner, basic and superior. Since 1994, 98% of Castila trained students successfully passed their exams.	Option I: Complete preparatory course. 5 classes daily. 25 classes a week. Option II: Complementary course. 1 class daily. 5 classes a week. Duration: Option I, from 4 weeks. Option II, from 1 week.
I CERTIFICATE IN BUSINESS/ COMMERCIAL SPANISH	Organised by the Chamber of Commerce of Madrid, in collaboration with accredited language centres such as Castila. The exams take place in Castila after the course. Please ask for examination dates. Examination registration is handled by the school.	2 classes/day. 10 classes/week. 50 minute lessons. Monday to Friday, from 9:30 to 11:15. or from 11:50 to 13:35 Duration: from 1 to 4 weeks.
5) PRIVATE AND SEMI-PRIVATE COURSES		
J PRIVATE CLASS: ONE PERSON	Specifically structured and designed to cater for the special needs of individual students and professionals: executives, airline personnel, businessmen, secretaries, translators, teachers and anyone who prefers individual tuition. Private lessons are available to complement any of the above courses.	Duration, classes/day and schedule: according to individual student's needs.
K SEMI-PRIVATE CLASS: TWO PERSONS		
L HOME LANGUAGE TUITION	The student both lives and receives classes in the teacher's home.	
6) FOR GROUPS ORGANIZED IN THEIR COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN		
M SCHOOL GROUPS	Open programs organized by Spanish teachers who wish to arrange a course for their students abroad. Accommodation in families, residences or shared flats.	Duration: from 1 to 4 weeks
N SPANISH TEACHERS GROUPS	Developed for organisations or groups of Spanish language teachers who work in other countries. The objective is to improve the didactic and linguistic content of participants' teaching and to provide the opportunity for intensive discussions of trends in teaching as well as offering practice in the Spanish language and discussion of Spanish culture.	