

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE SPANISH PLACEMENT EXAM

- 1) I only took one year of Spanish in high school more than two years ago. Do I need to take the Placement Exam?

NO, If you only took one year of Spanish in High School and were not exposed to spoken Spanish at all, you do not have to take the Placement Exam, but instead shop directly for a Level 1 Spanish class or SPAN 110a or the Intensive Beginning SPAN 125a this fall.

- 2) I took one or two years of Spanish in grade school or middle school but not in high school. Do I need to take the Placement Exam?

NO, If you only took one or two years of Spanish in middle school and have been distanced from the language for more than four years, you do not have to take the placement exam but rather enroll in a Level 1 Spanish class or Spanish 110a.

- 3) I took the Placement Exam last fall 2010, but then decided not to take Spanish right away. Now, I want to take Spanish. Do I still have to go to the level that I was placed in back then or do I need to take the Placement Exam again?

YES, Placement exam results are only valid for one year. If you waited more than a year to take Spanish, the placement results from fall 2010 are no longer valid and you need to take the Placement Exam again in the fall of 2011.

- 4) Where do I go to obtain my Placement Exam results?

All placement results will be posted on the Spanish and Portuguese Departmental Website on Tuesday, August 30 before 2:00pm.

- 5) I can't find my Placement exam booklet number. How can I find out where I was placed if I don't know my booklet number?

If you misplaced your booklet number and do not know it, please email the Language Program Director and send her your name and Yale ID so she can give you your result. You can email her at sonia.valle@yale.edu.

- 6) I was placed in a level that I think it is too high for me. I truly feel very uncomfortable with my knowledge of Spanish at this point. Could I attend a lower level instead?

NO, you must remain and attend the level you were placed in. Then schedule an appointment with the Language Program Director to study your situation.

- 7) I was placed in either L1 or L1/L2. What's the difference?

Level 1 (L1) is Spanish 110a/b and it is worth only 1.5 credits. Level L1/L2 or SPAN 125a is equivalent to two semesters of intensive beginning Spanish and it represents Spanish 110 and 120 together. This intensive beginning course meets every day for two hours each day and it is worth 2 credits.

8) I was placed in a particular level, but I attended several sections during shopping period and they were all full. Where can I go?

Stay in the class until a lottery is drawn and you are told whether to stay or leave. You can always take L2, L3 or L4 in the spring term 2012.

9) I would like to see how I did in my Placement Exam and what the errors were. How can I see it?

Please schedule a meeting with Dr. Sonia Valle, the Program Language Director, to review your exam. Dr. Valle will have signup sheets outside her office in room 210 in the Spanish and Portuguese Department at 82-90 Wall Street on the second floor.

10) I took L2 here at Yale two years ago but now I feel I have forgotten everything and don't feel ready to go to L3. Should I take the Placement Exam to check my level? Should I take L2 again?

NO, you have already received credit for L2 therefore your choice is to continue to L3. Nevertheless, you should schedule to meet with a tutor and attend office hours as often as possible to help you catch up and improve your Spanish.

11) I've already fulfilled my foreign language requirement and now would like to take Spanish for the first time for fun. Do I need to take the Placement Exam?

NO, if you are a true beginner of the language you do not need to take the placement exam, but rather enroll in a beginning Spanish class in the fall of 2011 if there is room in it.

12) I want to audit Spanish for free. Do I need to take the Placement Exam?

Unfortunately, due to our large student population, we do not allow auditors in our beginning or intermediate language classes.

13) How long does the Spanish Placement Exam last?

The Spanish Placement Exam is scheduled to last one hour and a half.

14) Do you need to take the Spanish Placement Exam if you have an AP 4 in Spanish?

YES, you need to take it. Only AP 5s are exempted from taking the exam.

15) I forgot to take the Placement Exam in the fall, can I take it in the spring term?

NO, the Spanish Placement Exam is only offered once a year during the fall term right before classes start.

16) I have never taken Spanish. Could I take the intensive course L1/L2 instead of just L1?

YES. Nevertheless we recommend that the intensive beginning Spanish be taken by false beginners and not true beginners of the language due to its fast pace.

17) Do I need to pre-register for Spanish classes?

NO. There is no official pre-registration for language classes and if there are any, these are not binding.

18) I was placed in L3. Can I take the intensive L3/L4 course instead?

YES. Nevertheless, we recommend that the intensive intermediate Spanish course be taken by students who have had more than two years of the target language in High School.

19) I want to learn Spanish because it will be useful in my career as a doctor some day.

Do you offer Medical Spanish classes?

YES. We offer Medical Spanish at the L5 or Advanced Level. If you need beginning Medical Spanish please consult with the Center for Language Studies at Yale.

20) I am a senior and I just realized that I need to fulfill my foreign language requirement before I graduate. What can I do?

First, you need to take the Spanish Placement Exam to see where you place. If you place in L1, then you need to take the Intensive Beginning Spanish class in the fall term and L3 in the spring. IF you place in L2, then you need to take L2 in the fall and then the Intensive Intermediate class L3/L4 in the spring. If this is not possible, you may need to take Spanish classes during the summer months to fulfill your requirement.

21) Do you offer Spanish classes in the summer?

YES, please check the listing of courses offered during the summer with Yale Summer Sessions.