

# KIIS Mexico & The Caribbean Program, Summer 2022



## SPAN 210 Intermediate Spanish Conversation Abroad

Professor: TBA

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*Syllabus subject to change*

### Course Description:

SPAN 210 The students will be introduced to communication in Spanish in all four areas of language learning (listening, speaking, reading, and writing) but will emphasize listening and speaking in class. Different kinds of situations (simple conversations about specific topics, descriptions of pictures, mini-dialogues, interviews, etc.) will be created in class in order that the student uses the language in a Spanish-speaking atmosphere. The student will read about that part of Spanish-Speaking culture which relates to the topics covered to better understand how Spanish is used in an authentic context. By the end of the course, students will be able to use polite expressions; maintain a simple dialogue or write a simple paragraph in present tense on topics related to the classroom, the Hispanic world, the university, Hispanic geography, art, music, the family etc. Students will also be able to describe people in Merida, Mexico and Puerto Rico.

### Overall KIIS Program Student Learning Outcomes:

#### KIIS Study Abroad Mission Statement:

KIIS provides high-quality education abroad programs for students from all diverse backgrounds that promote deep international learning, are integrated into the curriculum, and encourage critical and creative thinking. Our goal is to help students understand the wider world and develop personal and professional skills for lifelong enrichment. We strive to go beyond generalizations and cultural stereotypes to help foster a nuanced appreciation of the world in which we live.

#### Students participating on KIIS study abroad programs aim to:

- 1) Understand contemporary issues of their host country/countries (i.e. KIIS program location).
- 2) Develop skills to interact comfortably in a global setting.
- 3) Understand other cultures.

Prior to your KIIS study abroad program, and again at the conclusion of your program, KIIS will ask each student to a) answer a few multiple-choice questions, and b) write a short reflective essay (two paragraphs in length) related to the elements detailed above. There is no right or wrong answer, and your responses will not affect your grade in any way. The purpose of the exercise is to help KIIS measure the effectiveness of its study abroad programs.

### No required text:

*Place as text-* we will do most of our learning by visiting different places of Merida, Mexico

### Materials needed:

- 1 journal
- pencils
- color pencils or crayons
- small pencil pouch

### Goals of the Course:

1. Communicate effectively by applying skills in reading, writing, speaking, and listening
2. Use appropriate methods of critical thinking and quantitative reasoning to examine issues and to identify solutions.
3. Integrate knowledge that will deepen their understanding of, and will inform their own choices about, issues of personal and public importance.

### Specific objectives:

- Apply knowledge of Spanish to communicate socially in the target language: greet people, count, ask for information, request basic services in Spanish.
- Apply knowledge of Spanish to exchange personal opinions and ideas: discuss family, friends, likes and dislikes.
- Use correct basic structures and appropriate vocabulary in oral and written description and discussion of daily activities: shopping, ordering from a menu, school, and leisure activities.
- Communicate orally with good pronunciation and appropriate vocabulary and sentence structure.
- Analyze Spanish and Latino cultures to permit further exploration and discussion of those cultures.

By the end of the course the student will be able to:

Listening/Speaking:

1. Carry out a dialogue with the teacher, using only that vocabulary and grammar studied in class, with sufficient accuracy in pronunciation, grammar, and word order to be understood. Perfection is not expected.

Speaking:

1. The student will be able to describe a picture relating to topics studied in the course with appropriate vocabulary and basic mastery of major grammar points. Greater accuracy is expected here than in the dialogue situation because the student has more choice as to what he/she says.

2. Student will be given a theme on a topic studied and will be able to say four or five sentences about it.

Listening:

1. The student will be able to pick out specific information previously studied from texts that will include language not previously studied.

2. The student will be able to understand teacher questions to answer them both orally and in writing.

3. Dictation. Students will be able to accurately write down what they hear (spelling counts) using only that vocabulary already studied.

**Pronunciation:**

1. Students will be able to read a text aloud using previously studied vocabulary. They will pronounce vowel sounds correctly and stress the appropriate syllables. The following consonant sounds will also be mastered c/g/h/j/l/q/r/v/z.

Writing: Students will be able to write a simple paragraph or dialogue on one of the topics covered, using a range of appropriate vocabulary and correct spelling, choosing appropriate subject pronouns and present tense verbs forms, and making adjective/article/noun agreement.

Reading: 1. Students will be able to translate Spanish texts to English, which contain previously learned vocabulary and grammar and unseen cognates.

2. Students will be able to identify the main idea and pick out specific information from texts containing previously unstudied language.

Culture: Students will learn names and location of Spanish-speaking countries and of Hispanic groups within the United States. Students will be able to identify similarities and differences between U.S./Hispanic educational systems and family structure. Students will convey cultural information to the class on a topic of their choice.

**Grades will be determined as follows:**

<b>Oral Exam</b>	15%
<b>Oral Presentation (2)</b>	20%
<b>Journals</b>	15%
<b>Homework</b>	20 %
<b>Class participation</b>	20%
<b>Extra curriculum activity</b>	15 %
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<b>Course Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Assignment #1** (*due on the first day of class*) - Write one page, in Spanish, double space, 12 font, times new romans. **Topic: Describe lo que sabes de México y Puerto Rico: ¿Qué te imaginas que hay en esos países?** (Describe what you know about Mexico and Puerto Rico and what do you imagine there being in those countries?)

**Attendance Policy:**

KIIS program participants are expected to be punctual to and in attendance at all classes, presentations, meetings and required excursions, and to remain with the program for the full academic period. Unexcused absences from classes and/or mandatory meetings will result in a lowering of the student's final grade, as will excessive tardiness. Multiple unexcused absences could result in expulsion from the program. Any absence from an academic class session must be excused for medical reasons.

**Disability Accommodation:**

KIIS will make every reasonable effort to provide accommodations for program participants with special needs or disabilities, but we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. Be aware that many foreign countries do not have comprehensive legislation comparable to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). As a result, businesses and other establishments operating in foreign countries may not be able to provide accommodations.

If you have a disability accommodation need, we recommend you contact your KIIS Campus Representative, <https://www.kiis.org/about-kiiis/contact-us/campus-representatives/> early in your program selection process so that s/he has time to discuss any specific needs,

including which KIIS programs may be best suited. You also are welcome to contact KIIS Assistant Director, Maria Canning, [maria.canning@wku.edu](mailto:maria.canning@wku.edu), to discuss your disability accommodation needs (e.g. housing, transportation, excursions, class schedule, etc.).

Immediately after acceptance, notify KIIS Assistant Director, Maria Canning, or KIIS Admissions and Enrollment Specialist, Haley McTaggart, [haley.mctaggart@wku.edu](mailto:haley.mctaggart@wku.edu), if you have a special need or disability that might require any form of accommodation abroad. Failure to notify KIIS may prevent you from participating on your KIIS program.

If you require any accommodations abroad, you must provide KIIS Assistant Director, Maria Canning, or KIIS Admissions and Enrollment Specialist, Haley McTaggart, an accommodation letter from your home campus' disability accommodation office that lists the accommodations you are eligible to receive. Please do not request accommodations directly from your KIIS Program Director or other KIIS Faculty; the KIIS Office will notify your KIIS Program Director and/or Faculty after we have received your above accommodation letter.

In some cases, you may need to make arrangements for a caregiver to join you on your KIIS program, should your physician, campus disability accommodation office, or KIIS make such a recommendation or require it.

### **Title IX / Discrimination & Harassment:**

Recent attention to gender discrimination and sexual harassment at colleges and universities reminds us of the importance of adhering to standards of ethical and professional behavior. KIIS Study Abroad is committed to supporting and encouraging safe and equitable educational environments for our students, faculty, and program directors. Students, faculty, and program directors are required to be civil and treat each other with dignity and respect. As such, harassment and/or discrimination of any kind will not be permitted or tolerated.

Sexual misconduct (sexual harassment, sexual assault, and sexual/dating/domestic violence) and sex discrimination are violations of KIIS policies. If you experience an incident of sex/gender-based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct, you are encouraged to report it to a) KIIS Assistant Director, Maria Canning (+1-859-200-1000) or KIIS Executive Director, John Dizgun (+1-270-227-2288), b) WKU's Title IX Coordinator, Deborah Wilkins (270-745-5396 / [deborah.wilkins@wku.edu](mailto:deborah.wilkins@wku.edu)) or WKU's Title IX Investigators, Michael Crowe (270-745-5429 / [michael.crowe@wku.edu](mailto:michael.crowe@wku.edu)) or Joshua Hayes (270-745-5121 / [joshua.hayes@wku.edu](mailto:joshua.hayes@wku.edu)). Please note that while you may report an incident of sex/gender based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct to a KIIS program director and/or faculty member, KIIS program directors and faculty are considered "Responsible Employees" of Western Kentucky University and MUST report what you share to WKU's Title IX Coordinator or Title IX Investigator.

If you would like to speak with someone who may be able to afford you confidentiality, you may contact WKU's Counseling and Testing Center, <https://www.wku.edu/heretohelp/> at 270-745-3159.

For more information on KIIS Title IX, see <https://www.kiis.org/students/health-safety/title-ix-clery/>; additional Title IX resources can be found here <https://www.wku.edu/eo/titleixbrochure2020.pdf>.

Everyone should be able to participate on a KIIS program, attend a KIIS event, or work in a KIIS environment (e.g. KIIS office) without fear of sexual harassment or discrimination of any kind. Be respectful of each other.