Certificate in Essential Spanish- Course Content

Essential Spanish 1			
Language Structure	Pronunciation	Culture	Theme
 Nouns and articles Numbers 0–30 Present tense of ser Telling time 	The Spanish alphabet	Highlight: About greetings and kissing in hispanic countries Profile: The main plaza	Greetings and leave-takings Identifying yourself and others Expressions of courtesy
 Present tense of -ar verbs Forming questions in Spanish Present tense of estar Numbers 31 and higher 	Spanish vowels	Highlight: Choosing a college career Profile: The University of Salamanca	The classroom and academic life Fields of study and academic subjects Days of the week Class schedules

To be eligible to take Essential Spanish 2, it is recommended that you have complete mastery of the topics on Essential Spanish 1

Essential Spanish 2			
Language Structure	Pronunciation	Culture	Theme
 Descriptive adjectives Possessive adjectives Present tense of -er and -ir verbs Present tense of tener and venir 	Diphthongs and linking	Highlight: What's your name? Profile: The Spanish royal family	The family Identifying people Professions and occupations
 Present tense of ir Stem-changing verbs: e > ie, o>ue Stem-changing verbs: e > i Verbs with irregular yo forms 	Word stress and accent marks	Highlight: Real Madrid and Barça: total rivalry Profile: Miguel Cabrera y Paola Espinosa	Pastimes Sports Places in the city
 Estar with conditions and emotions The present progressive Ser and estar Direct object nouns and pronouns 	Spanish b and v	Highlight: Iguazú Falls Profile: Punta del Este	Travel and vacation Months of the year Seasons and weather Ordinal numbers
 Saber and conocer Indirect object pronouns Preterite tense of regular verbs Demonstrative adjectives and pronouns 	The consonants d and t	Highlight: Outdoor markets Profile: Carolina Herrera	Clothing and shopping Negotiating a price and buying Colors More adjectives

To be eligible to take Essential Spanish 3, it is recommended that you have complete mastery of the topics on Essential Spanish 2

Essential Spanish 3			
Language Structure	Pronunciation	Culture	Theme
Reflexive verbsIndefinite and negative wordsPreterite of ser and irVerbs like gustar	The consonant r	Highlight: La siesta (the nap) Profile: El mate (infused drink)	Daily routine Personal hygiene Time expressions
Preterite of stem-changing verbsDouble object pronounsComparisonsSuperlatives	II, ñ, c, and z	Highlight: Fruits and Vegetables of America Profile: Ferrán Adrià: art in the kitchen	Food Food descriptions Meals
 Irregular preterites Verbs that change meaning in the preterite ¿Qué? and ¿Cuál? (What and Which) Pronouns after prepositions 	The letters h, j, and g	Highlight: Semana Santa (Easter)-holiay and tradition Profile: Viña del Mar Festival	Parties and celebrations Personal relationships Stages of life
 The imperfect tense The preterite and the imperfect Constructions with se Adverbs 	Diacritical marks (accents) and strong syllables	Highlight: Health Services Profile: Healers and Shamans	Health and medical terms Parts of the body Symptoms and medical conditions Health professions

To be eligible to take Essential Spanish 4, it is recommended that you have complete mastery of the topics on Essential Spanish 3

Essential Spanish 4			
Language Structure	Spelling and Grammar	Culture	Theme
 Familiar commands Por and para Reciprocal reflexives Stressed possessive adjectives and pronouns 	Use of accents on similar words	Highlight: Social Networks Profile: Texting	Home electronics Computers and the Internet The car and its accessories
 Relative pronouns Formal (usted/ustedes) commands The present subjunctive Subjunctive with verbs of will and influence 	Capital letter and lowercase	Highlight: Central patio Profile: Floating Islands on Lake Titicaca	Household chores Table settings
 The subjunctive with verbs of emotion The subjunctive with doubt, disbelief, and denial The subjunctive with conjunctions 	Punctuation	Highlight: The Andes Move! Profile: Santa Marta's Sierra Nevada	The environment Recycling and conservation
 The subjunctive in adjective clauses Nosotros/as commands Past participles used as adjectives 	Abbreviations	Highlight: Traveling by metro (subway) Profile: Luis Barragán: architecture and emotion	City life Daily chores Money and banking At a post office

To be eligible to take Essential Spanish 5, it is recommended that you have complete mastery of the topics on Essential Spanish 4

Essential Spanish 5			
Language Structure	Spelling and Grammar	Culture	Theme
Present PerfectPast PerfectPresent Perfect Subjunctive	The letters b and v	Highlight: Natural spas Profile: La quinua	Health and well-being Exercise and physical activity Nutritions
FutureFuture PerfectPast Subjunctive	The letters y, II, and h	Highlight: Employment Benefits Profile: César Chávez	Professions and occupations The workplace Job interviews
ConditionalConditional PerfectPast Perfect Subjunctive	Spelling cheats	Highlight: Caracas Contemporary Museum of Art Profile: Fernando Botero: unique style	The arts Movies Television
Si clausesSummary of the uses of the subjunctive	Neologisms and anglicisms	Highlight: Social Protests Profile: Two new leaders in Latin America	Current events and politics The media Natural disasters

To move on to Intermediate Spanish it is recommended that you have complete mastery of all the Essential Spanish topics (Essential Spanish 1-5 or equivalent knowledge)

