

Fall 2024 New Student Orientation Program (NSOP)

Spanish Language Placement Exam Information

Department of Latin American and Iberian Cultures, Columbia University

General Information

Welcome to Columbia! We look forward to having you in our courses and in our department!

- 1) Our exams help us to place you in a course that best reflects your abilities.
- 2) These exams will be supplemented by your instructor's evaluation during the first and second week of classes during which your instructor may recommend a change in registration.
- 3) You **must take** one of our two (2) online placement exams before registering for a course **or** before placing your name on a waiting list **or** you must submit proof of your exemption by having received a score on any of the exams listed [here](#) that you took during high school.
- 4) You can take our online Spanish language placement examinations **at any time** using your **Columbia email address** from [this webpage](#).
- 5) You can take Columbia and Barnard Spanish language courses.

Questions? Please feel free to contact [Lee B. Abraham](#) (by email) **and/or** please feel free to schedule a meeting from [this webpage](#) before and/or when you are on campus.

Which of the two (2) online placement exams should I take?

- If you have been exposed to Spanish to some (even to a very small) extent at home or in your community from an early age, please take the Spanish as a Heritage Language Placement Exam described on page 2 (below).
 - **All other students**, please take the Spanish as a Second Language Placement Exam described on pages 1 and 2.
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About the Spanish as a Second Language Placement Exam

Part I: Take the online Spanish as a Second Language Placement Exam from [this webpage](#) using your **Columbia email address**.

- This exam consists of multiple-choice questions about vocabulary, grammar, and reading comprehension.
- There are **no** speaking, listening, or writing components on the exam.
- You will immediately receive your score and the Spanish language course to take after you complete the exam. If you **score above 625**, you are eligible for exemption from the requirement and must schedule a second exam as described in Part II on page 2 (below).
- Information about placement scores and courses is available on [this webpage](#).

– **Continues on page 2** –

Part II: If you score above 625 on Part I of the Spanish as a Second Language Placement Exam (please see page 1), you qualify for a possible exemption from the language requirement.

- The second exam, which has the **same format as Part I** (multiple-choice questions about vocabulary, grammar, and reading comprehension), will be offered **in-person** in Columbia's [Language Resource Center](#) located in Room 352 of the International Affairs Building **during the New Student Orientation Program (NSOP)**.
- Please complete [this online form](#) to register for Part II with your available dates and times during NSOP **using your Columbia email address** and authenticating with [Columbia's Duo Multifactor authentication \(MFA\)](#) , preferably by Wednesday, August 21, 2024.

About the Spanish as a Heritage Language Placement Exam

Please take this exam if you have been exposed to Spanish to some (even to a very small) extent at home or in your community from an early age; otherwise please take the Spanish as a Second Language Placement Exam described above.

Part I: [The Spanish as a Heritage Language Placement Exam](#) consists of writing as well as multiple choice and fill-in the blank items about your exposure to the language, grammar, vocabulary, and reading comprehension. There is a short listening/dictation section but there is **no** speaking section on Part I. [Dr. Francisca Aguiló-Mora](#) will contact you and provide you with the course for which you will register **or** will notify you if you qualify for possible exemption by competing Part II as described below.

Part II: If your score on Part I of the Spanish as a Heritage Language Placement Exam qualifies you for a possible exemption, [Dr. Lee B. Abraham](#) will contact you to schedule Part II, which consists of writing and an oral/speaking component.

The two (2) Spanish as a Heritage Language courses are as follows*:

1. Spanish UN 1108 – Elementary Spanish for Heritage Speakers ([Fall 2024 schedule](#))
2. Spanish UN 2108 – Intermediate Spanish for Heritage Speakers ([Fall 2024 schedule](#))

*You can take Columbia and Barnard Spanish language courses.

Questions? Please contact [Lee B. Abraham](#) (by email) and/or please feel free to schedule a meeting from [this webpage](#) before and/or when you are on campus.

Information about placement exams, courses, and registration can **also** be found at:



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or <https://laic.columbia.edu/content/language-placement-examination>