

Important Vocabulary



Asignatura anual – Year-long class: a class that starts in October and ends in June or July.

Asignatura cuatrimestral – Semester-long class: a class that starts in October and ends in at the beginning of February; or one that starts in February and ends in June or July.

Plan de Estudios – Study Plan: classes established by law in accordance with the prerequisites necessary to obtain a degree in a particular major.

Primer Ciclo – First Cycle: normally corresponds to a 1st, 2nd, and 3rd year class in a major.

Segundo Ciclo – Second Cycle: normally corresponds to a 4th or 5th year class in a major. In some majors, the 3rd year of study may be considered a part of the Second Cycle because the classes are more specialized. Please check the special requirements of each major to make sure.

Tercer Ciclo – Third Cycle: corresponds to a doctorate or postgraduate class.

Licenciatura – undergraduate/bachelor's degree: a degree obtained after four or five years of study.

Diplomatura – Diploma: a degree conferred after three years of study.

Grupos A, B, C, etc. de un año de estudios – Groups A, B, C, etc. of a class year: corresponds to dividing a class that has a large number of students signed up; the professors of each of these groups may be different, as well as the class times.

Asignaturas troncales – Core classes: these are the common classes required in each Study Plan as determined by the Spanish Ministry of Education at the state level.

Asignaturas no troncales – Non-core classes: the study plan content determined freely by each Spanish university and these are divided into the following types of classes: obligatory, electives within the major and electives outside the major.

Asignaturas obligatorias – Obligatory classes: classes which the university has determined to be obligatory for students in each major.

Asignaturas optativas – Elective classes within majors: classes which the university offers in all majors and which students may select freely as counting to major degree graduation requirements.

Asignaturas de libre elección/libre configuración – Elective classes outside the major: classes a student may select outside the major according to his/her own criteria; credits earned count towards satisfying graduation degree requirements.

Revisión – Exam review: the only chance for the student to talk with the professor about his/her grade on the exams and overall performance in class. The time and the date of the exam reviews are published and posted in the department and it is the student's obligation to attend these one-on-one meetings. It is the only chance that the student will have to understand why he/she received a particular grade. These meetings also allow students the opportunity, if necessary, to negotiate either retaking the exam or doing additional work in order to receive a better grade. If you do not attend the exam review before leaving Seville, you will not be able to contest your final grade when you return home.

