

Spanish for Animal Health and Care Series

There is increasing awareness of the need for field-specific communication skills in Spanish on the part of animal science and veterinary professionals. Animal well-being is at stake when English-speaking professionals encounter a monolingual Spanish-speaking workforce. Currently, between 80% and 90% of the work force on livestock farms is made up of Spanish-speakers. Additionally, small animal veterinarians increasingly need the communicative skills to interact with Spanish-speaking pet owners about animal care.

Our Spanish language program addresses this workplace communication gap. Starting in the Fall of 2018, the CSU Languages, Literatures and Cultures Department began offering a unique series in Spanish for Animal Health and Care. The program is based on a triangulated language needs analysis and aims to develop intermediate to advanced-level communication skills in Spanish in large and small animal care. The program focuses on the basic terminology and the linguistic skills necessary to successfully complete relevant every-day tasks in Spanish. All targeted linguistic forms, communicative activities and assessments are task-based and practical in nature.

SPANISH FOR ANIMAL HEALTH AND CARE PROGRAM OUTLINE

A series of four courses

LSPA340 Spanish for Animal Health & Care

- Identifying and describing animals, stages of life, behavioral patterns, and facilities
- Comparing species, breeds, behavioral and physical traits
- Describing daily routines and giving instructions
- Describing preventative care routines: vaccination, feeding, watering, and sanitation
- Describing symptoms of common illnesses
- Comparing normal versus abnormal behavior/appearance

LSPA343 Spanish Terminology-Animal Health/Agriculture

- Word classes
- Meaning relations in animal healthcare terminology
- Building lexical cohesion in paragraphs-towards intermediate-level Spanish skills
- Animal care related complex words/understanding word derivation
- Suffixation, prefixation, and word composition: the most productive word formation processes in the relevant field

LSPA342 Spanish for Animal Health & Care II

- Identifying and describing specific ailments
- Explaining treatment procedures
- Using past-time frames to describe evolving health conditions
- Asking questions to obtain animal health histories
- Discussing causes of illnesses and justifying treatment practices
- Discussing proper animal handling practices
- Narrating past accidents due to improper handling

LSPA444 The Intercultural Workplace-Animal Health/Ag

- The nature of cultural displacement: causes of migration, social and economic effects, and impacts on workplace cohesion
- Cross-cultural differences: roles, rights, and obligations, work processes, handling of products and equipment
- Stereotypes
- Personal distance and power: ethnic relations, gender, age, and the role of the interpreter

Additional Information

Certificate Prerequisites: 3 semesters of Spanish instruction or equivalent, contact course instructors for more information (mvelaz@colostate.edu, Shannon.zeller@colostate.edu)