

**INSTITUTO TECNOLÓGICO AUTÓNOMO DE MÉXICO**  
**DEPARTAMENTO ACADÉMICO DE LENGUAS**  
**SPANISH LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION I**

**General Objective:**

Throughout the course, students will acquire the ability to write and develop the essential syntactic elements in order to produce short essays and communicative documents such as letters, emails, and short academic papers. In this course, students will also deliver oral presentations and develop better conversational skills.

**Course Contents:**

**Grammar**

1. Verb Tenses I (indicative mood):
  - Present
  - *Preterite*
  - Imperfect
  - Future
  - Perfect Tenses
2. Verb Tenses II (subjunctive mood)
  - Present
  - Preterite (imperfect)
  - Preterite Perfect
  - Past Perfect
3. The *Tilde*
  - Basic rules
  - Word classification according to the accent rules
  - Special cases and exceptions
4. Prepositions I
  - *Por* and *para*
  - *De* and *desde*
  - *Con* and *contra*
5. Prepositions II
  - *A* and *hacia*
  - *En* and *entre*
  - *Sobre*

**Syntax**

6. The sentence
  - Phrases
  - Sentences (simple and compound)
  - Subordinate and coordinate clauses
  - Connectors
  - Cohesion and Coherence in paragraphs
  - Punctuation rules

The course will also include some Latin American movies that students will watch and discuss for further written reviews.

**Suggested Bibliography:**

*Guía práctica de Redacción (Versión corregida y aumentada)*. Published by ITAM's Academic Department of Languages, Mexico City, 2002.  
Serafini, María Teresa, *Cómo se escribe*. México: Edere 1999.  
Cassany, Daniel y Antonio García del Toro, *Recetas para escribir*. Puerto Rico: Plaza Mayor, 2001.