

SPANISH PLACEMENT INSTRUCTIONS – Fall 2023

Dear Prospective Spanish Student,

We are delighted that you are interested in taking Spanish classes at Bard. For us to determine the best level in which to place you, please complete the following three steps between now and the end of L&T at your convenience. You will need to have these materials with you for registration advising on August 31st and September 1st; make sure to have them completed before then.:

1. ***Emmersion Speaking Test and the Emmersion Grammar/Reading Test.***

Be sure to complete them both using the link copied below. The Emmersion Speaking Test is placement tool for your listening and speaking abilities that has two parts:

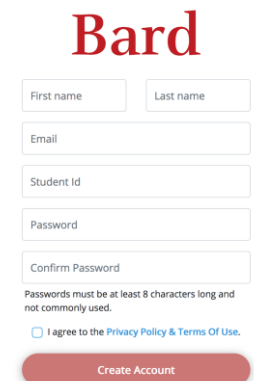
In Part One, you will be asked to listen to about 30 sentences of varying difficulty and complexity. Once you hear a sentence, you will be asked to REPEAT and RECORD as much as you can remember of that sentence, and then to move on to the next sentence. No worries if you don't remember everything—this test is designed around the idea of measuring how well someone can store and retrieve Spanish sentences in their short-term memory, and based on that, estimate their speaking ability. So just concentrate and try your best!

In Part Two, you will be presented with 3 prompts depending on your level (i.e. tell us about your family, your college experience, favorite book, etc.). You will have 30 seconds to think about what you want to say, and then you will be given a minute or so to answer the prompt. Again, don't worry! Simply talk about whatever comes to mind.

For **the Grammar/Reading component**, select the icon and follow the prompts online.

Specific instructions:

- Using the Chrome or Firefox web browser, click the following link to the test
<https://app.emmersion.ai/link/0c518b7944>
- Follow the instructions to sign in
- Ensure you have solid internet connectivity
- Use a headset with a microphone (earbuds that come with most mobile phones work fine)
- RELAX and take the test
- You will know your microphone is working if you see the online indicator around the microphone icon changing with your volume.



Bard

First name Last name

Email

Student Id

Password

Confirm Password

Passwords must be at least 8 characters long and not commonly used.

I agree to the [Privacy Policy & Terms Of Use.](#)

2. **Short writing sample:** It is also very helpful for us to see a sample of your writing *en español*, so please write and print out a brief composition about yourself (200-300 words). You might tell us where you were born and grew up, what your family is like, and what experiences you've had with the Spanish language and/or culture (formal education, trips, work experience, and so forth). If you have studied the past tenses, be sure to include some narration in the past—a trip you took, or some particularly meaningful experience. If you have learned the subjunctive (present and/or past), please try to formulate a couple of sentences using verbs in this mode. (If not, don't worry.) The composition will help us evaluate your level, so *please don't use an online translator or ask for help from anyone*.

3. **Finally, an in-person meeting with Prof. Burns and/or me.** During Registration Advising (Thursday, August 31st and Friday, Sept. 1st) and on the afternoon of Wednesday, August 29th between 2:00-4:00 pm I will be available to have a brief conversation with you in Spanish in person and look over your placement materials to help match you with the appropriate Spanish class. I will post the schedule of when and where I will conduct placement meetings closer to the end of August. For now, you can work on your placement materials. I look forward to meeting you at the end of L&T.

FYI Spanish courses offered this semester are:

- Prof. Melanie Nicholson nicholso@bard.edu: **SPAN 202: Intermediate Spanish II, SPAN 356: Spanish Literary Translation**
- Prof. John Burns jburns@bard.edu: **SPAN 106: Basic Intensive Spanish**
- Prof. Nicole Caso caso@bard.edu: **SPAN 201: Intermediate Spanish I, SPAN 302: Introduction to Latin American Literature**

Gracias y hasta pronto,

Nicole Caso

Director, Spanish Studies Program
Bard College