

The **Spanish Language and DELE (Diploma de Español como Lengua Extranjera)**

preparation online courses are new to Strathclyde University and are aimed at prospective candidates for the DELE exams.

The **DELE exams**¹ are the official accreditation of the degree of fluency of the Spanish language. They are issued and recognised by the Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport of Spain, and organised by the Instituto Cervantes and the University of Salamanca. The exams take place twice a year (May and November) at Strathclyde University.

The new **Spanish Language and DELE preparation online courses** will cover the different proficiency levels described by the CEFR² (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages): A1, A2, B1, B2, C1, and C2.

Although these courses are aimed at familiarising learners with the format of the DELE exams, they are also conceived to prepare learners for any type of situation where a particular level of proficiency in the Spanish language is required, i.e., working and living abroad, support for other university courses, Spanish for business, Primary school 1+2 languages policy, etc.

These courses will be delivered online, although a number of sessions will require the attendance of learners within the university campus in order to improve their oral skills. They will run twice a year, starting either mid August or beginning of February, and have a duration of 15 weeks.

The learners will be able to choose their own timetable at their convenience, and the only requirement is the use of a computer with access to the Internet.

The computer platform used for these online courses is moodle, which is very user-friendly. This platform allows a frequent and personalised interaction between tutor and learners, and amongst the learners themselves.

All the materials will be provided and available in moodle at the start of the course. These include a variety of exercises and activities: reading comprehension, productive writing, listening comprehension, role-plays, a student forum, external links, etc.

When the course is completed, learners will receive a certificate of attendance; and if they decide to sit the exam at Strathclyde University within the following 6 months, they will receive a 10% discount on the exam fee. These courses will be launched on the 2nd of February 2015.

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1 <http://diplomas.cervantes.es/en>

2 http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/education/elp/elp-reg/cefr_EN.asp