

Respondent	Answer
1293265	I would definitely recommend this course to anyone who wants to improve their Spanish and already is very comfortable with the language. I was exposed to a lot more cultural elements than I thought I would so anyone who comes from a Spanish-speaking household and who needs to review the basics should absolutely take this class.
1293603	To anyone looking to fill in the gaps of their Spanish speaking skills and learn more about latin culture, I would strongly recommend taking this class.
1293705	Yes! Take with Sybil! This will be such a meaningful experience. You really form bonds and relationships with your peers in ways you wouldn't expect from a normal Spanish class.
1295150	Yes! Its a great and unique way to learn spanish for students that grew up with some knowledge of the language. Moreover the professor is really great
1296517	Yes, especially if you're looking to improve your Spanish skills. It is worth the time.
1296920	I would, because its great what more do you want fam.
1308253	I would highly recommend this course for heritage speaker who really want to engage with the Spanish language in a way that goes beyond a textbook and instead immerses them in the culture of various Latino countries through different medium likes news articles, field trips, movies, etc.

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1521729	Strengths: - Prof. Alexandrov - Seminar format - Regular in-class discussion with active student participation - Cultural diversity of students (due to heritage format) allows for nuanced discussion of the differences in vocabulary and grammar across the Spanish-speaking world. - Regular Weaknesses: - 50 minute time slot sometimes feels a bit rushed, 1:20 might be better
1542788	A strength of this course was the comfortable environment we had to speak in. Collaborating with fellow classmates during class was very helpful.
1545617	Very engaging course with a wonderful teacher. She is very understanding and clearly puts the students first. She is also very professional in how she teaches and relates everyone to the course. She made sure to include students in daily conversation and language excercises.
1550151	Prof. Alexandrov is amazing!!!! She's patient, understanding, and she creates a very close-knit, safe community within the classroom.
1550613	I really loved to group work and the final project. I cannot think of any weaknesses.
1553109	I enjoyed the balance of casual conversation for practicing speaking skills alongside more structured grammar review and practice during class. Really manageable workload as well. It's also so clear that Professor Alexandrov cares about making the class interesting as well as the success of her students. I think the course could be improved by including more "listening" exercises into the homework, for vocab and grammar comprehension. Otherwise, no weaknesses.
1555539	Our professor is a great strength. She always was open for feedback and helping us outside of class hours. The collaborative nature of the class was also great. I do wish there was a better understanding of what our grades were throughout the semester.

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1450884	Strengths: Approachable, Available, Kind and Understanding Weaknesses: none
1457650	Strengths include the immense support she gives to each of her students who take the initiative to ask her. She is really good at giving clear feedback when she is talking to the student directly, however, in papers, it is a little unclear at times. Her high-spirited energy was always a delight to see every week. As a weakness, I would say she is also a tough grader when it comes to paper essays which was discouraging at times.
1468633	Professor Alexandrov is a great instructor who really takes the time to make sure students understand the material. The professor is always willing to provide additional resources for students who are struggling with particular topics in order to help improve their understanding. Additionally, the professor provided all the lecture materials on Canvas, which was extremely helpful for review. The professor also always tries to keep the class motivated and engaged. The only suggestion I would have for the professor is to possibly set some time aside once a week to review past material to ensure students are building on the lessons from earlier in the semester.
1471764	Professor Alexandrov is a top notch professor. Out of 5 stars, I would give her 6. She goes above and beyond to ensure her students are learning and understanding the content. In class she provides feedback immediately, and for homework, she reviews and gives feedback in amazing speed. She frequently solicited feedback from her students and displayed a willingness and desire to adapt the course to the needs of her students. I can go on and on, but in sum, Professor Alexandrov is a total rockstar. She has no weaknesses. The only thing I hope is that she acknowledges all that she is doing for her students and realizes how much we as students admire her for all that she does.
1472186	Incredibly kind and a close listener. She takes you seriously and makes herself available. She is serious about her work as an instructor. I think that her warmth makes for an excellent environment. I praise her highly.
1475988	Strengths- - very clear and to the point - always made time in class for questions or concerns - very active on grading and making comments for self-improvement - made an effort to include everyone in the class Weaknesses- - none!

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1450884	I would highly recommended this course to anyone who feels that their Spanish may not be up to par and wants a supportive community and professor who will work with you individually.
1457650	Most definitely. You will learn a lot about yourself and feel supported. You will love going to class especially with Sybil as your professor.
1468633	Yes, I would strongly recommend this class to other Spanish heritage speakers. This class builds on your existing Spanish-speaking ability and improves it throughout the semester. Additionally, the class also provides a strong sense of community among Spanish-speakers from various Latin American communities, which also makes for a more enjoyable learning environment.
1471764	This course was absolutely amazing. Professor Alexandrov has created a robust curriculum that allows for frequent learning and practice. This course is best suited for heritage speakers wishing to refine their Spanish speaking and writing ability. As a native Spanish speaker, I certainly enhanced my Spanish language ability.
1472186	I definitely would. Sybil Alexandrov is a fantastic professor, one of the best language instructors I have had at Yale. She is amazing to work with, but the class can be more structured in terms of vocabulary acquisition and speaking practice. This is not the best fit if you need a lot of the former. It was certainly doable for me, but it required more attention/self-direction than I was able to give it/realized, since I had never taken a language class that demands such self-direction before. Sybil Alexandrov gives so many resources, but you have to use them.
1475988	Yes! The class created a great space for heritage speakers to learn whilst also using our previous knowledge in Spanish.

Among the practices in this course geared toward learning during the COVID-19 pandemic, which succeeded and which could be improved? Please comment on course practices that allowed for virtual engagement.

Instructor: Alexandrov, Sybil

Declined to Answer Question: 4

Respondent	Answer
1450884	I think that all of the practices geared towards learning in COVID-19 succeeded and the use of google slides for peer-work helped a lot.
1457650	Most of the events went well. I think it is just a social aspect that is lost from in-person classes that can not be replicated on an online platform.
1468633	The practices that were most successful were most of the Canvas assignments, whether it was short answer or fill-in-the-blank assignments. Additionally, in-class presentations on Google Drive were also very helpful, especially if instructor feedback was provided before the class. The practices that could be improved on were Perusal, as students often would highlight the same passages and questions sometimes became repetitive, and weekly vocabulary assignments, since after a week or two, students had to rely on finding words that maybe weren't going to be used in their everyday conversations in Spanish.
1471764	The virtual activities through use of google slides was very effective, as well as the interactive components such as hyperlinks to other sites and documents. I also loved the breakout room usage through zoom.
1472186	The breakout rooms were an excellent choice and allowed students to speak the language. More aggressive monitoring would be better, though. I had peers who would sometimes speak English and this was often distracting, especially for someone who does not use Spanish very much and wanted to practice. Online assessments were good, but I generally found them more puzzling than anything. It was hard to see the point of the tests, and I didn't take them all that seriously because they weren't presented as such.
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1450884	Strengths: Good feedback, friendly atmosphere, amazing professor, good pace Weaknesses: Class goes over a lot and could benefit from being longer
1457650	The strengths were that there was a variety of assignments. There were assignments more research-based while some others were more creative writing. Each quiz also focused on a different skill which was very helpful. The format of the lessons was very helpful as well. The grade distribution was fair. Weaknesses probably include not enough time on some assignments.
1468633	Strengths: the professor was very helpful and willing to go over lessons again in order to ensure that students understand the material. Additionally, the professor provided plenty of detailed feedback on essays and other assignments to ensure that students are able to learn from past mistakes on assignments and improve the next time. Weaknesses: due to the transition to online learning, some online components of the class did not always work. or maybe were not as successful as they could have been.
1471764	The course is very strong in striking a great balance of whole class lecture and small group discussion/activities. I always felt that I was able to both learn in class and put to practice what was being taught to us.
1472186	Strengths: Sybil Alexandrov. She is a darling. Incredibly sweet, very kind, and very understanding. Knows how to give students enough distance to learn how to function in the language. I felt she always believed in me, even when I doubted myself (that is, constantly). Weaknesses: The course does not presuppose a lot of knowledge of the language, but the lack of structure (because everyone comes from different places) means one has to be hands-on in speaking practice, learning vocabulary, etc. I found that incredibly difficult. Also, doing this over Zoom did not help in terms of fatigue. The course is also heavy on small assignments, which is overwhelming if you are taking a very heavy course load (I took six courses this semester). I wish there was a lot more guidance about vocabulary and speaking practice, because I found the lack of it really, really upsetting at times. That said, the course is great, but if you need a lot of help in Spanish, it may be a bit of a mismatch.
1475988	Strengths- ~homework blended really well with lectures and elements from the class ~Professor was incredibly kind and very responsive to emails ~assignments did not take much time Weaknesses- ~quizzes would take longer than the time allotted to do them ~sometimes there would have to be a lot of outside studying, but that seems standard for language classes

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1377782	I think that Professor Alexandrov really understands the best ways that her students learn--through a variety of practice with vocabulary, grammar, reading, writing, and projects. Her strength is in caring about each individual student and helping them improve their weak areas of Spanish. She also understands cultural differences and uses them as a learning opportunity within the class. I do not think her teaching could be improved any more.
1383981	One of the strengths of Sybil Alexandrov is that she always gives us detailed feedback on all assignments we turn in so that we can develop our communication abilities in Spanish. She also makes the class very engaging by taking us to museums and libraries to see art and literature in Spanish or with Spanish influence.
1397939	Professor Alexandrov is great, I have no complaints.
1401375	Professor Alexandrov is incredible. She gives great and copious feedback and truly cares about the Spanish abilities of every student.
1402451	Professor Alexandrov is personable and attentive, giving extensive amounts of feedback to each student.
1402498	Cares, a lot. Punctual. Truly listens. Funny!
1402669	Professor Alexandrov is phenomenal in every sense of the word.
1402992	Alexandrov made the class feel very lively and kept students interested in the material. She answered any problems students had and worked with students to improve comprehension. The interactive and adaptive teaching style was very effective and made the learning fun and interesting.
1405556	Professor Alexandrov is an amazing teacher, wonderful person, and very understanding.
1407595	Sybil Alexandrov is a fantastic professor, probably the best I've had in my time at Yale. She genuinely cares about her students and their mental health. I felt comfortable approaching her when I was struggling, and she was so kind and understanding. She's also great at teaching Spanish. My command over the language has increased significantly during the course of this class. I'm very excited to take Heritage L4 with her next semester.

Respondent	Answer
1377782	I would recommend this course to another student because it allowed me to improve all aspects of my Spanish. I really enjoyed how different the course was from a typical language class; it was multifaceted with many overarching themes and projects to keep us engaged.
1383981	I would recommend this to anyone who has grown up speaking Spanish at home but isn't quite comfortable with speaking the language outside of the home or with writing in Spanish.
1397939	If you are a heritage speaker who has never taken Spanish before, it's a good learning experience.
1401375	I'd recommend this class to all heritage speakers who want to improve their Spanish at this level.
1402451	Absolutely! Heritage speakers should take this course.
1402498	Yes, adamantly yes. I was looking at taking regular L3 because, though I could speak fluently, my grasp of grammar etc. wasn't perfect. This is the place to be to challenge yourself in the right areas as a native speaker. I much preferred it to be in this class with classmates in my exact situation. The class challenged me where I needed to be challenged, and allowed me to learn. Sybil is excellent. Get in this class!
1402669	Absolutely. I learned so much from this course and it was catered to Spanish speakers like me, heritage speakers, and it was really important to me to have a class like that.
1402992	I would absolutely recommend this class to other students; the professor makes a genuine effort to ensure that all students are keeping up to the pace of the classroom and provides detailed feedback. The class is taught in a way that makes heritage speakers much more comfortable than a basic Spanish course.
1405556	Yes this was the best Spanish class I've ever taken.
1407595	If you are a heritage speaker, no matter your skill level, absolutely take this class. Sybil is incredible and the class is amazing. The format is much better-suited for heritage speakers than the normal Spanish track.
1413606	Yes, I would and have recommended this course to other students. For any student who is in a similar situation to mine, being a first generation Spanish speaker in the United States who grew up speaking the language but with a desire to have a better mastery of the language, this course is perfect.
Respondent	Answer
1293265	Professor Alexandrov is a great teacher who always engages the class. She answers every student's questions and has effective lesson plans.
1293603	One of the best teachers in giving quick and effective feedback. I think the most important thing to learning Spanish for those who have learned it informally is to constantly point out mistakes and profesora Alexandrov was great at that.
1293705	Sybil is the best! She really cares about all of her students. She'll be working and giving us feedback at all times of the morning or night. She's really funny and brings a wonderful levity to the classroom.
1295150	Very engaged, good feedback, good structure of classes and exercises. No weaknesses
1296517	Very engaging, fun, and open. Makes you feel comfortable in class and makes class feel like a conversation between her and the students.
1296920	Absolutely amazing instructor. She demonstrated effort to connect with her students and did everything in her ability to aid them and help them improve throughout the semester. I can hardly think of any weaknesses for this amazing professor (maybe more food).
1308253	She is extremely kind and dedicated to teaching her students in the best way possible. She gives valuable feedback and is really welcoming to all those who stop by her office for extra help.