

NORTHERN
ARIZONA
UNIVERSITY



YUMA
Branch Campus

FAQs

about the

Spanish CLEP & Challenge Exams



nau.edu/yuma

FAQs about the Spanish Challenge Exams

What is a Spanish challenge exam?

It is an examination that allows you to prove how much you know about Spanish and to possibly receive college units without taking the course you are challenging.

Who can take a Spanish challenge exam?

Any NAU student who believes that is he/she capable of challenging the subject.

How many Spanish challenge exams can a Northern Arizona University student take in Yuma?

Currently, there are three Spanish challenge exams at NAU-Yuma:

SPA 303 – Intermediate Oral Communications (3 units)

SPA 304W – Intermediate Stylistics and Composition (3 units)

SPA 404 – Advanced Oral and Written Communications (3 units)

How much does a challenge exam cost?

There is a \$90 fee for each exam. All fees must be paid prior to scheduling an exam.

What do Spanish challenge exams consist of?

SPA 303 challenge exam consists of a recorded conversation about your personal life, your job, and your studies while using the present, past and future tenses. The conversation may include a fictitious situation to test how you could handle a complicated situation in real life. It would also require that you give your opinion on basic facts of life and current events.

SPA 304W exam consists of several compositions that you must write to demonstrate that you have an intermediate level of mastery of the Spanish vocabulary, grammar, and mechanics while expressing your ideas in a coherent and cohesive manner.

SPA 404 exam consists of several compositions that you must write to demonstrate that you have an advanced level of mastery of the Spanish vocabulary, grammar, and mechanics while expressing your ideas in a coherent and cohesive manner. These compositions are followed by an oral exposition.

Please be aware that if you are enrolled in a more advanced Spanish course, you will have to take the above exams by the eighth week of the semester in order to receive credit for the exam. Please consult with your instructor to see if you are at right level of proficiency before registering for this exam.

When and where can I take a Spanish challenge exam?

Challenge exams are typically offered on Thursday mornings from 9 am - noon during the Fall and Spring semesters only. Dr. Garzón will let you know what dates are available once you contact her to make an appointment. Exams are usually administered in the Academic Complex building. On rare occasions, students will be sent to the AWC Testing Center. Check in at least 5-10 minutes before the time of your scheduled appointment at the NAU-Yuma Faculty Front Office (AC-256) and indicate to the staff that you have an appointment to take a challenge exam.

FAQs about the Spanish Challenge Exams *(continued)*

What do I have to do to schedule a Spanish challenge exam?

1. Speak with your advisor to determine whether or not taking a Spanish challenge exam may benefit you in the progression of your degree
2. Pay the \$90 non-refundable fee at the NAU-Yuma Enrollment Services, located on the second floor of the 3C building.
3. After you have completed steps 1 & 2, contact Dr. Amalia Garzón, Spanish professor, to make an appointment to take the exam. To schedule an appointment e-mail: amalia.garzon@nau.edu and indicate that you have completed steps 1 & 2.
4. Dr. Garzón will send you a notification through your NAU email indicating when and where you will take the exam. Please arrive at least 5-10 minutes early to take the exam. You must bring a form of identification, your signed application and your fee receipt.

VERY IMPORTANT: The exam fee is non-refundable. Only arrange to take the exam if you are sure that you are at the right level of oral or written proficiency of Spanish

For additional information about challenge examinations, please contact your NAU advisor at (928) 317-6432, or Spanish professor, Dr. Amalia Garzón, at amalia.garzon@nau.edu or (928) 344-7739.

Important Credit-by-Exam Policies

CLEP testing and Challenge Exams fall under the general category of “credit-by-exam”. The policies are listed in the current NAU Academic Catalog under credit-by-exam. The policies for these exams are as follows:

- A student may earn no more than 45 units of Credit-by-Exam. This includes CLEP, Challenge Exam, Dantes, AP, or credit-by-exam earned at another institution.
- A student may not Challenge or CLEP levels 101-202 of his/her native language. This is determined by the primary language spoken in the high school attended, not what language is predominately spoken in the student’s household. [If student completed high school in the US, he/she is eligible to take the CLEP despite the language spoken at home.]
- A student may not repeat an exam within one year of his/her first attempt. Under no circumstances will a student be permitted to take an exam for the same course more than twice.
- Credit earned through an exam must not duplicate credit a student has already earned for the same course.
- A student may not earn credit-by-exam in a course that is equivalent to, more elementary than, or substantially overlaps another course in which the student has already obtained credit. If a student is currently enrolled in a foreign language course and wants credit for a more introductory course(s), he/she must take the exam for the lower course by week eight of the current semester of the course in which he/she is currently enrolled. No exceptions. No refunds.
- Credit earned by Challenge Exam does not transfer to other Universities. Students may take as much credit-by-exam as they want, provided it is under the 45 unit limit. However, it will not become part of the student’s academic record until after he/she complete the first semester. If a student leaves NAU, the Challenge Exam credit will not be recognized by other colleges. CLEP Exam credits do transfer.

FAQs about the Spanish CLEP

What is CLEP?

The College Level Examination Program (CLEP) enables students to receive credit for what they already know by earning qualifying scores on any one of the twenty CLEP exams accepted for credit at NAU.

Is there a Spanish CLEP?

Yes. Depending upon the score for the Spanish CLEP, you may received up to 16 credits (equivalent for SPA 101, 102, 201 & 202).

Is CLEP testing a good option for me?

If passed, the CLEP exam can be taken to fulfill the pre-requisites for students who would like to enroll in SPA 300 or higher at NAU-Yuma but have not completed any lower-division Spanish courses. However, if you are currently enrolled in an upper-division Spanish course, you must take the CLEP exam within the first eight weeks of the semester.

Students considering taking the Spanish CLEP exam should be well-versed in the subject area of the test. Having succeeded in taking honors or advanced courses in Spanish or having extensive knowledge of the course material is suggested.

Why should I take a CLEP test?

Taking a CLEP test will:

- Save you money on tuition and books.
- Save you time. Your time is the most precious thing you have. Testing out of one CLEP test will save you at least three months of class time. That's extra time you can spend with your family, your friends and doing the things you enjoy.

How is a CLEP exam scored?

Exams are scored on a pass/fail basis and do not affect a student's GPA. Your score determines the number of units you will receive credit for. (See table below)

CLEP Score	Credit For	Number of units
68-80	SPA 101, 102, 201, 202	16
66-67	SPA 101, 102, 201	12
55-65	SPA 101, 102	8
50-54	SPA 101	4

What is the fee to take a CLEP test?

Fees for CLEP exams vary by test centers. Consult your local test center for current costs.

What is NAU's school code for the CLEP?

The school code of NAU is 4006

Where and when can I take the CLEP tests?

Students in the Yuma area can schedule a CLEP test at the Arizona Western College Testing Center by calling (928) 344-7641. To find other test center locations, visit www.collegeboard.com/clep.

How is the test administered?

CLEP exams are administered by computer. They are timed at 90 minutes and are administered by appointment during regular testing hours.

FAQs about the Spanish CLEP *(continued)*

How do I prepare for the CLEP exam?

To prepare, it is suggested that you visit the CollegeBoard website at www.CollegeBoard.com/CLEP.

At the website, you can:

- Read exam descriptions
- Order the 'Official CLEP Study Guide' or Individual Study Guides
- Take the 'CLEP Sampler'

It is also suggested to check out local libraries and book stores for various CLEP study guides as well as subject-related college-level textbooks.

What do I need to bring to the test?

Bring two forms of government issued identification and your credit card to pay for the test. You cannot pay for the CLEP test in cash.

What if I've already taken a CLEP exam at another school?

Students who have taken and passed a Spanish CLEP exam at another college/university must contact College Board and request their scores to be sent to NAU's Registrar's Office. CLEP results are not automatically transferred with your transcripts.

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Resources

NAU Academic Catalog

www.nau.edu/aio/AcademicCatalog/academiccatalogs.htm

Select the following sections, in order:

1. Introduction
2. Enrollment, Grading, Academic Policies
3. Credit by exam, Placement, Military, etc

NAU Department of Modern Languages

www.nau.edu/languages

Select "Credit by Exam" under Department Resources in the left sidebar.

College Board

www.collegeboard.com/clep

NAU School Code - 4006

NAU Registrar's Office

PO Box 4103

Flagstaff, AZ 86011

(928) 523-2109

registrar@nau.edu

NAU-Yuma Spanish Faculty

Amalia Garzón, PhD.

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Office: Academic Complex building; room #246



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