



# Proficiency Levels Chart

Updated for 2024–25

For the National Spanish Exam (NSE), level placement is at the instructor’s discretion. Students are not allowed to repeat Levels. Determining the appropriate LEVEL to administer the NSE should be decided by the teacher.

Please use the following chart as a tentative comparison guideline:

AATSP Exams	ACTFL	CEFR	DESCRIPTION
<b>Level 01</b>	Novice Low/Mid	<A1	Recommended for entry-level beginners The course content is equivalent to the first half of the Spanish 1 syllabus.
<b>Level 1</b>	Novice Mid/High	A1	Students whose course content is equivalent to the second-half of the Spanish 1 syllabus or entry-level for any program where the course content is equivalent to a full year of Spanish 1.
<b>Level 2</b>	Novice High/Inter. Low	A1/A2	Students whose course content is equivalent to the Spanish 2 syllabus.
<b>Level 3</b>	Intermediate Low/Mid	A2/B1	Students whose course content is equivalent to the Spanish 3 syllabus.
<b>Level 4</b>	Intermediate Mid/High	B1/B2	Students whose course content is equivalent to the Spanish 4 syllabus.
<b>Level 5</b>	Intermediate High/Adv. Low	B2	Students whose course content is equivalent to the Spanish 5 or AP Spanish* syllabuses.
<b>Level 6</b>	Advanced Low/Mid/High	B2/C1	Students whose course content is equivalent to the Spanish 6 or AP Literature* syllabuses.

<b>*AP Language / IB-SL</b>	Students enrolled in a course labeled AP Language or IB-SL should be registered to take the current year’s NSE at one level higher than the course in which they were enrolled the previous year. For example, an AP Language/IB-SL student who sat for the exam at Level 4 in 2023–2024 should be placed in Level 5 in 2024–2025. Under no circumstance should an AP Language/IB-SL student take the NSE at lower than Level 4.
<b>*AP Literature / IB-HL</b>	Students enrolled in a course labeled AP Literature or IB-HL must take the NSE at either Level 5 or 6. These students should be enrolled to take the current year’s NSE at one level higher than the course in which they were enrolled the previous year. Under no circumstance should an AP Literature/IB-HL student take the NSE at lower than Level 5.