SPANISH 1~ BEGINNING SPANISH Welcome to class! *¡Bienvenidos a la clase de español!* FALL 2023 / Section# 51357 / 5 Units/ Instructor: Nolberto Sandoval

COURSE OVERVIEW



This is a beginning course in conversational and written Spanish for non-native speakers; it is intended for students without previous exposure to Spanish. Students will be introduced to the pronunciation, vocabulary, idioms, grammar, basic composition, and they will explore the cultures of Spain, Latin America and the Hispanic cultures of the US. ADVISORIES: English 1A or 1AH. (A, CSU-GE, UC, I).

What You Will Learn

Throughout the course, you will develop language skills in Spanish, will gain a sensitivity to differences and similarities in cultural issues, and by the end of the semester, you will be able to: 1. when shown a drawing of several actions, describe what is happening.

2. discuss your habits, vacation plans, describe your home, friends/family.

3. interview other students to find out their experiences.

4. tell about your daily routine: the 20-30 things you do in a normal day.

5. describe other persons and things using appropriate adjectives.

6. tell some important things you did yesterday, or last summer.

Required Materials

• Computer (desktop or laptop). iPad or smartphones support the audio/video exercises as well, but are difficult to use for most exercises.

• Webcam, microphone, and speakers or earphones/pods.

• **E-MATERIALS: *VISTAS: Introducción a la lengua española*** (6th Edition. Blanco & Donley, Vista Higher Learning, Boston, MA, 2020) Supersite Plus w/ vText (6 Month Access) and Online Student Activity Manual Workbook (WebSAM).

• You will be prompted to create an account; be sure to remember your username and password as you will need these to access all of the course materials.

• You will also need to check Canvas for class announcements, links, and resources. •

• Once you have the materials, follow the instructions on Canvas for enrolling in the course.

Grading and Evaluation

**This course is not self-paced**. All assignments, discussions, oral activities, quizzes, etc. are to be completed no later than 11:59pm PST/PDT on the date indicated.

Amount of Work

This is a 5-unit course and the workload reflects that. For every unit, about three hours of work are required. You will be reviewing grammar tutorials and completing various activities online to reinforce what you are learning. You will also spend time completing compositions, discussions, lesson quizzes, and preparing for oral presentations, the final exam; this will require on average about **15 hours a week.** Depending on your computer skills and understanding of the materials, the amount of time spent on the class may vary, as you become acquainted with online procedures.



*Figure 1 Amount of Work*

| **Assignment**  | **Percentage of Total Grade** |
| --- | --- |
| Compositions / Discussion Boards  | 25% |
| VHL Central Assignments  | 25% |
| VHL Central Oral Assignments  | 20% |
| Lesson Quizzes  | 20% |
| Final Exam  | 10% |
| **TOTAL**  | **100%** |

*Table 1Grading Scale*

Grading scale

| A = 90-100%  | B = 80-89%  | C = 70-79%  | D = 60-69%  | F = 59% and below |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |

VHL Central Assignments 

Each lesson in VHL Central will have formative activities that will assess your listening, reading and writing assignments. You will also watch cultural videos and read articles, and you will answer comprehension questions. More specifically, VHL Central includes the following sections: Presentation and Tutorials, Practice, Workbook, Video Manual and Lab Manual Practice, that will take you step-by step through each lesson. This process is fundamental to your success and includes a short introduction to the broad content; lively presentations of key topics and content; brief comprehension checks; abundant opportunities for practice and for using the content in context through chat and finally an opportunity to self-evaluate using the *Recapitulación (*practice exam), that specifies what you are expected to be able to accomplish after completing the chapter.

• Your weekly VHL Central Assignments **need to be submitted every Sunday night by 11:59 pm PST/PDT** and new ones will be assigned every Monday morning.

VHL Central Oral Assignments 

Every lesson in VHL Central has required **speaking/video assignments** to be completed individually or with a partner. These assignments will be scaffolded to help you communicate using the newly acquired language skills. They will be graded with a rubric that evaluates task completion, comprehensibility, pronunciation, intonation, as well as vocabulary and grammatical accuracy.

**IMPORTANT!** Try your own personal best in oral assignments. It is very easy to tell when someone is cheating on camera. It is easy to see eyes moving across a screen or looking down or side to side to check your notes, so please don’t try it. There is a zero tolerance for cheating. Prepare for the assignments and look directly into the camera. I do not want to have to give anyone a zero if I suspect that you are cheating. Check Modules for VHL Central Oral Assignments due dates.

• **Failure to complete these oral assignments will result in an F in the course regardless of the other points earned!**

**IMPORTANT!** The Oral Assignments, which require you to record your voice, will receive a grade of zero (0) if you record surrounding noise such as music or other people speaking in the background, rather than your own voice with appropriate responses. Additionally, if your recording demonstrates that someone in the background helped you with an assignment or if you record vulgar language, disciplinary actions will be initiated for academic dishonesty and/or misconduct done on your part.

Canvas Compositions / Discussion Boards 

Compositions / Discussion Boards will be assigned in Canvas throughout the semester. Your grade will be based on the breadth and accuracy of grammar and vocabulary, and your correct use of punctuation and accents.

**IMPORTANT!** The use of machine translators for graded assignments is prohibited and constitutes academic dishonesty unless expressly allowed for a particular assignment by the instructor. Please

consult the grading rubric on each assignment. Check Modules for Compositions / Discussion Boards due dates.

VHL Central Quizzes 

You will be taking Quizzes at the end of each unit. These are designed to match the objectives and student outcomes, and may include listening comprehension, vocabulary, grammar, reading comprehension, culture, and/or writing. You will take these quizzes on VHL Central. These are timed quizzes, and you will have only one attempt to complete during assigned days (please see calendar). If you don’t complete the quiz by the deadline, you will receive a grade of 0 on the quiz. **I do not allow students to make up quizzes.** Check the full semester schedule for VHL Central Quizzes dates.

VHL Central Final Exam 

At the end of the semester, you will complete a final exam on VHL Central that will cover Module 1 to Module 5, and only part of Module 6. **I do not allow students to make up the Final Exam.** Check the full semester schedule for VHL Central Final Exam date.

There are three ways to contact me:

• Email nsandvoal@dinuba.k12.ca.us I’ll try to respond to your email within 24 hours. •

• After school: if no one shows up by 3:30 I will be leaving to cross country practice.

Late Work Policy

You will know the due dates of assignments and exams for this class well in advance. All work, however, must be completed on time. Extra work or makeup work will not affect your grade. For VHL Central Assignments *only* you have a one-day grace period. You may submit those assignments one day late, but will receive a 10% deduction on those grades. After that date, grades will be entered on Canvas. No exceptions. Please do not ask. No late Quizzes or Final Exam accepted. If you have an emergency, contact me *before* the due date. Examples of emergencies constitute a car accident or a heart attack. A planned vacation or a birthday party do not fall into an emergency category.

In need of a tutor?

You may always talk to me during office hours. I am here to help you learn, but you can also work with a tutor from [www.tutor.com](http://www.tutor.com)

Disabilities 

If you have special needs as addressed by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and/or need course materials in alternate formats, notify me immediately. We have Disabled Student Programs and Services on campus. Reasonable efforts will be made to accommodate your special needs.

Assignments and Academic Honesty

• Usage of English: For assignments, you should only use English when it is EXPLICITLY requested. If a language is not specified, use Spanish.

• Accented Characters: Make sure to use accent marks when needed. They are within the VHL Central exercises and they constitute an important part of the language.

• Original Work: The assignments represent opportunities for you as a student of Spanish to demonstrate your acquired knowledge of the material we have covered. Your work should be wholly original, and only your instructor should provide feedback and corrections on it. While you may use online dictionaries to look up words and expressions, you may NOT use online translators to translate whole sentences. Assignments that contain structures that have not been covered in the course or phrases that have been copied from elsewhere will only receive partial credit. In some cases, if appropriate, you will be asked to redo the assignment. Academic dishonesty also includes cheating or using unauthorized devices during quizzes, exams or the preparation of writing projects. Egregious cases will be forwarded for disciplinary action. Penalties for academic dishonesty range from an “F” on an assignment to dismissal from the course.

Equity Is Important

My goal is for all students to feel welcome, have their needs met, and feel respected both in and outside of this class. I will work to create a classroom atmosphere of trust and safety to meet this goal. But I will need your help in this work. It is critical that each of us show respect for all worldviews expressed in class whether it be by a classmate or via class materials, even and especially when we may not agree or may not feel comfortable with those views. Please let me know if something is said or done in or out of the classroom, by myself or other students, that is troubling or causes discomfort or offense. We should never ignore these situations and in some cases, we can use these situations as a learning experience. If you’re not comfortable talking with me directly, please feel free to email me or contact your counselor or another trusted faculty member to help with the conversation.

Please remember that this does not mean that this is a safe place for hate speech, racism, prejudice, stereotyping, sexism, ableism, ageism, or other comments/actions that intentionally hurt people. These comments will not be tolerated and may be reported.

SPANISH 1 COURSE OUTCOMES:

After the completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. recognize and comprehend basic spoken Spanish within a limited range of contexts at the low beginner level of competency.

2. orally produce comprehensible sentences and phrases in Spanish to respond appropriately to questions, initiate and sustain simple conversations, or describe people, places and activities at the low beginner level of competency.

3. read, identify and comprehend specific pieces of information from selected short readings and authentic, graphically-represented text such as ads or short magazine articles.

4. construct simple sentences and compose basic paragraphs applying correct usage of basic grammatical structures to express ideas at a low beginner level of competency. 5. demonstrate knowledge and appreciation of the diversity of Hispanic cultures and the products of these cultures.

SPANISH 1 COURSE OBJECTIVES:

In the process of completing this course the student will:

1. comprehend and interact in simple spoken Spanish within the range of vocabulary topics and structures covered in this course. These topics include meeting people; describing oneself and others; talking about family, friends, daily activities and pastimes; and making plans.

2. recognize and employ new vocabulary and apply the correct usage of basic grammatical structures in order to communicate ideas, describe events, ask simple questions, and respond, both orally and in writing, to questions in the present tense.

3. comprehend basic written texts using contextual clues, vocabulary recognition, grammar knowledge, cognates, and inference.

4. review, recall and use previously learned vocabulary and grammatical structures while continuing to augment and expand this base of knowledge.

5. compare and contrast the target language and cultures with the language and cultures of the U.S.

6. demonstrate a low beginner level of competency in the five skills as mandated by the proficiency guidelines of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL): listening comprehension, speaking, reading, writing and a basic knowledge and appreciation of the people and cultures of Spanish-speaking countries.

**Welcome to class! You will enjoy learning Spanish and about the Hispanic cultures. *¡Bienvenidos!***