

**Spring 2011**

**Spanish 1, Beginning Spanish (52754, 4 units)**

**Instructor:** Norma Yépez

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**Time and Room:**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **MWF****T** **TH** | **11:00 -11:50 a.m.****11:00 -11:50 a.m.** **11:00 -11:50 a.m.**  | **SOC-39****FEM-7****AGR-1** |

**Course Description(catalog):**

Beginning course in conversational and written Spanish for non-native speakers; intended for students without previous exposure to Spanish. Introduction to pronunciation, vocabulary, idioms, grammar, basic composition, and exploration of the cultures of Spain and Latin America and the Hispanic cultures of the US. (See pg. 4 of this syllabus for Student Learning Outcomes and Objectives as per the Reedley College Credit Course Outline, Spanish 1.)

**Spanish 1 Course Description (for this particular section):**

This course stresses *communication skills* in Spanish. Much of the practice work will be done in pairs. The goal is for beginning students to acquire minimal conversational ability in Spanish. By the end of the semester you will have studied the present and past tenses. In the process, you will learn certain cultural details. For example, you will learn that there are two ways of saying "you" in Spanish, and they are not interchangeable. It is assumed that you are in this class because you want to learn how to communicate in Spanish. You will not have developed that ability completely by the end of the semester, but you will be surprised at how many communicative skills you will have acquired!

**Method of instruction:**

Every effort will be made to make this class student-centered. That is, an activity will be modeled, and then you will work in pairs and small groups to assimilate the vocabulary and structures under consideration. You should make every effort to speak only Spanish and to prepare for the classroom learning activities. *Partners who speak English will be separated.*

**Specific course goals and objectives:**

1. To develop your "survival" language skills.

2. To develop sensitivity to differences and similarities in cultural issues.

3. By the end of the semester, you will be able to: a. when shown a drawing of several actions, describe what is happening b. discuss your habits, vacation plans, describe your home, friends/family c. interview other students to find out their experiences d. tell about your daily routine: the 20-30 things you do in a normal day e. describe other persons and things using appropriate adjectives f. tell some important things you did yesterday, or last summer.

**Required Texts and Materials:**

1. Worktext**: ¡*ADELANTE! UNO*** Blanco, José A., Vista Higher Learning, Boston, MA, 2009.
2. Additional handouts from instructor.
3. Three-ring binder or spiral notebook for taking notes, writing homework assignments, and keeping handouts.
4. Audio headsets for use in the computer lab.
5. Spanish/English dictionary.
6. Two/three colored pens: red, green, purple, etc. & one USB memory stick.

**Class Attendance and Participation:**

Attendance is mandatory. You must inform me about absences in advance and make proper arrangements to complete coursework. If you have more than 3 absences, you may be dropped from class. You will be marked absent if you are tardy. So, after class (not during class; please do not interrupt class time with this) be sure to see the instructor and change the absence to a tardy. Also, tardiness is disruptive to the class.

**Homework:**

Classroom and Lab assignments represent 10 percent, and they are due at the beginning of the class period on the date due stated otherwise of class and **will not be accepted late.** Some assignments will be returned in via email or online. Unless other arrangements are made, no credit will be given for homework handed in late. Extra work or makeup work will not affect your grade.

**Oral Performance:**

Participation in class, e-mail and facebook participation is necessary in order to obtain an "A" or "B" grade. Since the emphasis is on development of oral abilities in Spanish, the student must be an active participant. Points are determined by active, on task participation in facebook, in paired group activities, arriving in class with homework prepared, volunteering and being prepared when called on, arriving to class on time, etc. Points will be deducted when students are not on task (i.e.: using English).

**Oral presentations**

Students will prepare an individual oral presentation for their classmates. Details about topics and dates will be announced in advance.

**Written tests, quizzes, and final exam:**

The date for exams and quizzes will be announced in advance. If you are absent on the day of an exam or quiz, you will receive a zero score. You will not be allowed to take the exam on a later day unless you have made arrangements with the instructor before the exam. The final exam is 10% of this total, and it will only cover “Lessons 4 & 5”. The exam may be written or oral, or a combination of both- this will be announced ahead of time. It is your responsibility to be in class to receive this information. Exam may be graded on selected items or all items. Any changes will be announced in class.

**Reading project:**

At the end of the book reading, each student will create a poster, collage, video, or power point presentation etc. to advertise the book and present it to the class. The books will be chosen or announced in advance. You will complete a reading guide and return a summary response for your classmates and other for the instructor. You may do this individually or in pairs.

**Grading scale:** 100-90%= A 80-89%= B 70-79%= C 60-69%= D below 60%= F

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Categories**  | **Weight** |
| Homework | 10% |
| Oral presentation | 10% |
| Oral performance | 10% |
| Tests and final exam | 50% |
| Reading project  | 10% |
| Lab. Work  | 10% |

***No use of cell phones in class***

***Please have them turned off***

**Important Dates**

January 16 (M) Martin Luther King, Jr. Day observed (no classes held)

January 20 (F) Last day to drop a full-term class for a refund

January 27 (F) Last day to register for a full-term spring class

January 27 (F) Last day to drop a fall full-term class to avoid a “W”

February 17 (F) Lincoln Day (no classes)

February 20 (M) Washington Day observed (no classes)

March 9 (F) Last day to drop a full-term class (letter grades assigned after this date)

April 16-20 (M-F) Spring Recess (classes reconvene April 23)

May 14-18 (M-F) Spring 2012 final exams week

**Study Hints**

1. Whenever you study, do it orally. Pronunciation will improve if you practice aloud.

2. Don't feel you have to sit at a desk to study. Try using the new words to describe people and things you see as you walk or drive.

3. As you prepare for class, get to the point where you can say the utterances without looking at the book.

4. Where possible, study with a classmate. Also, at the beginning of the semester you can register for tutorial help.

**Other:**

* Cheating and disruptive behavior are intolerable in an academic environment and may result in an automatic F and/or dismissal from class. Copying someone else’s homework or having someone do your assignments for you is cheating.
* 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. Reasonable efforts will be made to accommodate your special needs.
* Make sure to turn off all cell phones and/or pagers. They are an interruption during class time. In case of an emergency, inform me prior to the beginning of class.
* You will be required to log on to www.vhlcentral.com, our course’s website, for weekly assignments, announcements, exercises, periodic exams, etc. Further instructions will be given in class.

**II. COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

***(Specify major objectives in terms of the observable knowledge and/or skills to be attained.)***

In the process of completing this course, students will:

A. Understand and interact in simple spoken Spanish within the range of vocabulary topics and structures covered in this course.

B. Recognize and employ new vocabulary and grammar structures in order to communicate ideas both verbally and in writing, in the present tense.

C. Understand basic written texts using contextual clues, vocabulary recognition, grammar knowledge, cognates, and inferences.

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

E. Compare and contrast the target language and culture with the language and culture of the U.S.

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

**III TENTATIVE SCHEDULE (subject to change)**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Week 1 | Review activities  |  |
| Week 2-4 | Lesson 1 and test |  |
| Week 5- 7 | Lesson 2 and test |   |
| Week 8-10 | Lesson 3 and test |  Oral Presentation |
| Week 11-13 | Lesson 4 and test |  |
| Week 14-16 | Lesson 5 and test |   |
| Week 17 | Review lessons 4 and 5 | Reading reflection due  |
| Week 18 |  | Final Exam (4-5) |

\*Schedule is subject to change. Test date changes will be announced. It is your responsibility to be in class to receive this information.

Course ID:SPANISH 1 Course Title: Beginning Spanish\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**IV. COURSE OUTCOMES:**

***(Specify the learning skills the student demonstrates through completing the course and link critical thinking skills to specific course content and objectives.)***

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

A. Engage in conversation applying “survival skill” Spanish outside of the classroom in a variety of contexts within the limits of personal language experience. These contexts include meeting people; describing oneself; talking about family, friends, pastimes and habits; making plans.

B. Choose, evaluate and apply the correct usage of basic vocabulary and grammatical structures to express ideas, describe present events, ask simple questions, and be able to respond both verbally and in writing to simple questions.

C. Read and understand specific pieces of information from authentic, graphically-represented text such as ads, short magazine or newspaper articles.

D. Meet and get to know native speakers of Spanish through face-to-face contact, personal correspondence, the Internet, or through travel.

E. Have a greater understanding and appreciation of the diversity of Hispanic cultures and the products of these cultures.