

SPANISH 1 BEGINNING SPANISH (5 UNITS) SCHD# 53389 Fall 2022

Course Syllabus/Instructor Information

From 8/8/22 to 10/07/22WEB

PROFES0RA:Sara Aguirre

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**Office Hours and Communication Policy**

My office hours are a time that is reserved for you. You can make and appointment or just contact me at these times. Mon. Wed. 2:00-3:00p.m. Annex3. Web. Tues. 8:00-9:00 a.m., Thurs. 6:00-7:00 p.m. test Office hour.

Email sara.aguirre@reedleycollege.edu I’ll try to respond to your email within 24 hours.

* Canvas Inbox. Like email, I’ll respond to you within 24 hours, usually less.
* Zoom Office <https://cccconfer.zoom.us/j/2651761592> Log in and I’ll join you so we can talk face to face on our screens.

**Course Overview**

**Spanish 1 Course Description :**



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

This course stresses *communication skills* in Spanish. 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:** We will meet via Zoom -I let you know through Canvas announcements -on Mondays and Wednesdays for practice activities, reviews, and clarifications from 9:00-10:50 am. On Thursdays from 9:00-9:50 a.m. we will meet through Zoom for oral and written tests. I will also provide a pm option at 5pm and or by appointment. Please notify me ASAP before to schedule a test time. Test dates are outlined on the syllabus as tentative depending on completion of material so please keep checking announcements in canvas. Joining as a class in Zoom is highly recommended and necessary to develop oral communication skills and turning in your work and tests on time will also count as participation. If you missed a zoom meeting, I suggest you watch the video recording for which I will provide a link for you under announcements in canvas. This will also help you as you type weekly assigned activities. via zoom lecture video recordings with the grammar explanations and cultural segments which will be made available to you in announcements through canvass. Some other course activities and assignment will be posted under announcements in Canvas so always check announcements. **First week** you will be assigned to **watch zoom video recording available through files in Canvas, and follow instructions as you are completing the typed assignments for Paso A, read syllabus and complete the contract.** Please include a picture of yourself. I would like to get to know you better. **Thursday** you will have your **first quiz at 9:00 a.m**. All quizzes are via zoom. (see tentative class schedule and I suggest you print and post it.)

**Homework and Preparation**

This is a 5-unit course and the workload reflect that. For every unit, about three hours of work are required per week. You will be practicing via zoom then watching recorded zoom meeting videos for instruction and help in completing homework and preparation for your tests and projects. There is a tentative schedule listed in this syllabus should you want to work ahead when you have time. Assignments: Each Paso or unit will have formative activities that will assess your listening, reading, writing, and speaking skills. You will also watch zoom videos and answer comprehension questions. More specifically, zoom videos include a carefully designed "learning path" 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 and translating the content as you are completing the assignment for the chapter, don’t get behind on this schedule because learning a language is the result of cumulative efforts. Trying to “cram” this week to make up for what you didn’t do last week is not an effective way of learning a language and will make your future progress more difficult. (**Homework will not be accepted late**). No exceptions. Please do not ask. **No late Quizzes or Final Exam accepted. Contact me in advance if an emergency arises** that prevents you from completing your work on time, please email me as soon as possible so that arrangements can be made for you to keep up in the class. The late policy may be waived at the instructor's discretion in case of an emergency. Emergencies are defined as anything which is serious and unexpected. Emergencies cannot be written on the calendar in advance. Examples of emergencies are: heart attacks, car accidents, a serious health crisis of the student or in the student's immediate family. Examples of non-emergencies are: appointments, family weddings, vacations, conferences or any other event which can be planned around. Excused Makeup Work - If a late submission has been requested in advance of the due date and the instructor grants an extension, no points will be deducted from the assignment grade. The use of machine translators for graded assignments is prohibited and constitutes academic dishonestly unless expressly allowed for a particular assignment by the instructor**. It must be completed and turned in complete by the night before test date.**

## 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

### Attendance Policy

### During the first week of class, you must complete the assignments by the due date, or you will be dropped from the class. In an online class, attendance means that you regularly engage in course activities. Most of the work in this class will be completed on Canvas and via Zoom. If you don’t engage in the course work for more than a week, you will be considered absent and will be dropped from class. Please communicate with me if you have concerns about your attendance.

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**Daily work and participation**

**Class Procedures**

*Se habla español*

Spanish in the language of communication here, and I expect you to make every effort to use Spanish and avoid English in this class. **Please follow appropriate etiquette while participating in class, be respectful of others as you would have them be with you.** Don’t worry if you don’t understand everything I say. If you already knew Spanish, you wouldn’t be in this class! Learning a new language requires opening your mouth and taking risks. We are all here to support you and each other in this new endeavor.

**Daily work for the full duration of the class and participation for test periods is mandatory and will affect the outcome of your final grade.** Active and oral participation and class preparation are essential to meet the goals of this class, you must be present during oral sessions and tests. Homework and compositions will be assigned throughout the semester. **Some other course activities and assignment will be posted in Canvas. We will meet via Zoom (-I let you know through Canvas announcements) every Monday/Wed. for practice activities, reviews, and clarifications from 9:00-10:50am, and test on Thursdays either 9:00-1000 a.m. or 5:00 p.m. by arrangement. This will also count as participation. Assignments are to be typed and all work submitted through canvass**. Your homework and composition 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 dishonestly unless expressly allowed for a particular assignment by the instructor. E mail me regarding emergency situations or illness. Make sure you link up with a reliable classmate to practice the oral dialogues with. If you arrive tardy or are not present during scheduled test zoom hour, you probably have already missed a part of the test. We will not do over and there are **no make-ups allowed**. This is your responsibility.

**Excused Makeup Work** - If a late submission has been requested in advance of the due date and the instructor grants an extension, no points will be deducted from the assignment grade.

##### Communication Policy

##### Announcements will be posted in Canvas on a regular basis. They will appear on your Canvas dashboard when you log in and/or will be sent to you directly through your preferred method of notification from Canvas. Please make certain to check them regularly, as they will contain any important information about upcoming projects or class concerns.

I will post the assignments regularly after zoom meetings so please check regularly

My office hours are a time that is reserved for you. You can make an appointment or just contact me at these times. Mon. Wed. 2:00-3:00p.m. Annex3. Web by appointment Tues. 8:00-9:00 a.m., Thurs. 6:00-7:00 p.m. test Office hour.

Email sara.aguirre@reedleycollege.edu I’ll try to respond to your email within 24 hours.

* Canvas Inbox. Like email, I’ll respond to you within 24 hours, usually less.
* Zoom Office <https://cccconfer.zoom.us/j/2651761592> Log in and I’ll join you so we can talk face to face on our screens.

 • Make certain to check your messages frequently.

Remember to expect at least 24 to 48-hour turnaround time for emails.

Twice a week I will be available for virtual office hours – using Zoom.

If you are struggling with something, contact me immediately. I will have office hours Monday from 10:00-11:00am. and Thursday from 5:00-6:00 pm. Please make an appointment, and I’d be happy to help you.

###### Required text and materials

***Dos Mundos*; Terrell, Andrade, Egasse, Muñoz; McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc.; Seventh edition (2010)**

Need one **blank flash drive**. Please have and label with your name and class hour by 2nd week for class or completion of project.

**Three-ring binder with loose leaf-paper** or spiral notebook for taking notes, writing, keeping homework assignments and handouts; Homework will be turned in weekly before taking tests, and two red pencils, with erasers, to make corrections to your work**.**

**Computer Readiness**

 This online Spanish course **requires you to watch videos, record videos, make voice recordings and many other things that require an updated computer**. The last thing I want is for you to be frustrated by technology, so **before beginning this course**, if you don’t have one with these capabilities please see about checking one out through computer services in the library. You will also need a flash drive to store projects assigned.

**Optional Materials and Library Resources**

* An interactive CD-ROM program to accompany *Dos Mundos* is available for your use in the library.
* *Dos Mundos* Web Site: http://www.mhhe.com/dosmundos6 online tutor is available.
* English/Spanish dictionary is recommended and available in our bookstore information and image of the cover page. 

This course is not self-paced. All assignments, discussions, oral activities, quizzes, etc. are to be completed no later than the date and time indicated.

Your **final grade will reflect your daily class participation, daily preparation (i.e. homework) performance on tests, quizzes and oral assessments, and the final exam/project. There will be a vocabulary and or a comprehensive test for each chapter** and approximately one every week. 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 and/or writing. **You will take these quizzes via Zoom and submit through Canvas**. These are **timed quizzes and you will have only one attempt to complete** during an assigned day (please see tentative test schedule for date and front of syllabus for time). 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. Test dates will always be announced in advance, but quizzes and oral assessments may not be. Be prepared! If you must be absent on a test date make arrangement to take it during the 2nd hour available that week, to be taken within one day of test date, **otherwise you will receive a zero** for the missed test. Missed **quizzes cannot be made up.** Grading in this class is based on a system of points earned for taking a test, quizzes, or performing an activity. Your grade will be based upon the number of points you have earned taken as a percentage of points possible, and then measured against the following scale. **You will also be required to meet via Zoom on test dates during the semester with the instructor for the purposes of oral and written evaluation**. See tentative schedule for specific dates.

IMPORTANT! **Try your own personal best in oral assignments and tests.** 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 or tests and **look directly into the camera**. I do not want to have to give anyone a zero if I suspect that you are cheating.

Daily Participation

and Homework = Approximately 25% 90-100%A

 80-89 %B

Quizzes/oral 70-79%C

Assessments/projects = Approximately 10% 60-69 %D

 Below 60 % F

Tests = Approximately 50%

Final Exam/Project = Approximately 15%

 =100%

\*The instructor reserves the right to modify this syllabus as necessary. All changes will be communicated to students.

**It is the student’s responsibility to get officially registered by deadline date if you are on a waiting list, and also to drop by final drop date if so desired.**

**Final exam date: Thurs.October 6 , 2022 9:00am.**

**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.

# Extra Help

Please know I am here to help you learn Spanish and to achieve your academics goals. If you have concerns about the class or your progress, do not hesitate to ask for clarification when needed, talk to me, sooner instead of later. The college generously provides peer tutors at no cost to the student. You may wish to take advantage of this service. Please contact the tutorial center a.s.a.p. In need of a tutor?

You may always talk to me during office hours, but you can also work with a tutor from the Learning Center. Watch this video on information about **online tutoring**. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xvRD7kSJNhs](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xvRD7kSJNhs%20%20%20%20%20%20%20%20%20%20%20%20%20%20%20%20%20%20%20%20%20%20%20%20%20%20%20%20)

This is the Tutor Matching Service. that connects you with online tutors. Check it out! We are here to help you. [https://tutormatchingservice.com/#/marketplace?school\_name=Reedley%20College](https://tutormatchingservice.com/%23/marketplace?school_name=Reedley%20College)

**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<https://www.reedleycollege.edu/student-services/disabled-student-programs-and-services/index.html>

**Comportment and Netiquette**

 Cheating and disruptive behavior are intolerable in an academic environment and may result in an automatic F and/ or dismissal from class.

Inappropriate use of English or Spanish during class is also cause for dismissal.

Online etiquette is extremely important. We must show respect to one another at all times. Rudeness and disrespect will not be tolerated in this course. Please recognize that communication is rather "flat" online where we cannot see and hear each other. So be cautious when using sarcasm or negative statements. Familiarize yourself with "smileys," online icons that show emotion, so that you lessen the risk of offending the person you are trying to communicate with. Whenever possible, give constructive criticism and **treat others the way you would like to be treated**

**No use of cell phones in class during a test (**Please have them turned off). Computer link may be used if you are using it to look at your book online during class but may notbe used while takinga test**. I must be able to see and hear you during a test session.**

**General Notes on 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 accents marks when needed. They constitute an important part of the language. **Original Work**: The assignments represent opportunities for you as a student of French 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 and/ or the college**

\*Schedule is subject to change. Test date changes will be announced. Be sure that your Notification settings are correct in your Canvas account so that you will be notified when I make an announcement in this course

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**TENTATIVE SCHEDULE- FALL 2022**

(Test dates may be according to the progress and completion of units.)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| TESTS DATES(SP-1) Thursdays 9:00-10:00 a.m./ preapproved 6:00 p.m.by arrangement | LESSON TEST | Assignments due as posted and must be completed and turned in before test is taken.  |
| Thursday, Aug 11 | Paso A A.1 test Naming and describing: verbs llamarse and llevar A.2 Spelling A.3 Subject pronouns and the verb ser A.4 Gender A.5 Commands. | All exercises in blue pages must be typed in complete sentences in Spanish and translated to English. # ‘s spelled in Spanish.3 times each. |
| Thursday, August 11**Friday, Aug 19- Last day to drop for full refund** | Paso B test B.1 Addressing others: Informal and polite. politeB.2 Use of hay B.3 Describing People and things Negation B.4 Negation B.5 Adjective-noun agreement and placement of adjectives | **All exercises in blue grammar pages must be typed in complete sentences in Spanish and translated to English. # ‘s spelled in Spanish 3 times each.** |
| **Aug 26** | **Last day to drop a full –length class to avoid a “W” or add a full-term class** |  |
| Thursday, Aug 18 | Paso C test C1 Expressing possession: the verb tener and ser de C2 Possessive Adjectives C3 Expressing age: the verb tener C4 Adjectives of nationality. C5 Present tense of regular ar ending verbs |  All exercises in blue pages must be typed in complete sentences in Spanish and translated to English. # ‘s spelled in Spanish.3 times each. |
| **Mon. September 5th** | **Labor Day – NO CLASS** |  |
| Thursday, Aug. 25 | Capítulo 1 Vocab. Test p. 74 | 1st 4 sections. Type a sentence using each vocab. word in Spanish. |
| Thursday., August 25 | Capítulo 1 test 1.1 Numbers 100-1000 and dates. 1.2 Present tense of regular er and ir verbs | All exercises in blue pages must be typed in complete sentences in Spanish and translated to English. # ‘s spelled in Spanish.3 times each. |
| **September 9** | **September 9 Last day to change class to or from Pass/NC grading basis** |  |
| Thursday, September 1 | Capítulo 2 Vocab. Test p. 106 | 1st 4 sections. Type a sentence using each vocab. word in Spanish. |
| Thursday., September 1 | Capítulo 2 test 2.1 ir+a + infinitive to express future actions. 2.2 Ordinal adjective. 2.3 Stating preferences and desires: preferir and querer + Infinitive.2.4 Demonstrative adjectives 2.5 Describing the weather: Common expressions. | All exercises in blue pages must be typed in complete sentences in Spanish and translated to English. # ‘s spelled in Spanish.3 times each. |
| Thursday, Sept. 8 | Capítulo 3 vocab. Test P 138 | 1st 4 sections. Type a sentence using each vocab. word in Spanish. |
| Thursday., Sept. 8 | Capítulo 3 Test 3.1 Present tense of regular verbs. 3.2 Irregular verbs: hacer, salir jugar 3.3 Impersonal direct object pronouns lo, la, los, las 3.4 Asking and answering questions 3.5 talking about location and origin: estar en, ir a and ser de. | All exercises in blue pages must be typed in complete sentences in Spanish and translated to English. # ‘s spelled in Spanish.3 times each. Actividades assigned in white pages Spanish only. |
| **Friday, October 7** | **Last day to drop a full-length class** |  |
| Thursday, Sept.15 | Capítulo 4 vocab. Test p. 168 | 1st 4 sections. Type a sentence using each vocab. word in Spanish. |
| Thursday, Sept. 15 | Capítulo 4 test 4.1 Stem changing verbs in the present tense 4.2 Irregular verbs 4.3 Reflexive verbs 4.4 Ordering events: Infinitives after prepositions. 4.5 Describing states: estar + adjective and tener + noun. | All exercises in blue pages must be typed in complete sentences in Spanish and translated to English.# ‘s spelled in Spanish.3 times each. Actividades assigned in white pages Spanish only. |
| Thursday, Sept. 22 | Capítulo 5 vocab. Test p.204  |  |
| Thursday, Sept. 22 | Capítulo 5 test Capítulo 5 test 5.1 Indicating to Whom something is said: Indirect Object Pronouns with verbs of informing. 5.2 Expressing Abilities: saber and poder+ infinitive 5.3 Referring to actions in progress: Present Progressive 5.4 Expressing Obligation and duty: tener que, deber, necesitar, hay que, es necesario 5.5 Expressing plans and desires: pensar, quisirera, me gustaría, tener ganas de. | All exercises in blue pages must be typed in complete sentences in Spanish and translated to English.# ‘s spelled in Spanish.3 times each. Actividades assigned in white pages Spanish only. |
|  |  |  |
| Monday, Sept. 26 |  power point due (70 different labeled items in Spanish include counted number of items please. |  |
| Wed. Sept. 28 | Essay Due (typed double space and 14 Font with word count). Oral Presentations begin please be ready. | Power point must be saved and ready to be shared on screen.  |
| **Thurs. Sept. 29** | **Final Draft Due and Oral Presentations** | **Please set proof read to Spanish and make corrections before turning it in.** |
|  |  |  |
|  Wed. Oct. 5  | Chapter 6 Quiz 6.1 Making comparisons of Inequality 6.2 Making comparisons of equality 6.3 preterit tense of regular verbs 6.4 conocer and saber 6.5 Referring to people already mentioned: personal direct object pronouns. | All exercises in blue pages must be typed in complete sentences in Spanish and translated to English. # ‘s spelled in Spanish.3 times each. Actividades assigned in white pages Spanish only. |
| Thurs. Oct. 6 | Cultural Unit |  |
| **Thursday, Oct. 6** | **Oral and written testing** |  |
| Friday Oct. 7  | Cultural, Reading and Listening Quiz/**Final**  | **9:00 a.m**.  |
|  |  |  |

**Important Dates**

**DROP DEADLINE: FRIDAY, Aug.19- LAST DAY TO DROP or register for A SEMESTER LENGTH CLASS GRADING.**

**OPTION: FRIDAY, Sept. 9th LAST DAY TO CHANGE CLASS TO Pass/No pass.**

August 19 (F) Last day to drop a Fall 2020 full-term class for full refund August 28 (F) Last day to register for a Fall 2020 full-term class in person August 28 (F) Last day to drop a Fall 2020 full-term class to avoid a “W” in person August 2 (SU) Last day to drop a Fall 2020 full-term class to avoid a “W” on Web Advisor October 7 (F) Last day to drop a Fall 2020 full-term class: (letter grades will be assigned after this date). See pg. 3 on the Academic Calendar 2020-2021 for additional information

**FINAL EXAM:**

**Thursday Oct. 6, 9:00am. 2022** via Zoom

\*Schedule is subject to change. Test date changes will be announced. Be sure that your Notification settings are correct in your Canvas account so that you will be notified when I make an announcement in this course.

COURSE OUTCOMES:

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

 1. recognize and comprehend basic spoken Spanish within a limited range of contexts atthe low beginner level of competency. 2. orally produce comprehensible sentences and phrases in Spanish to respondappropriately to questions, initiate and sustain simple conversations, or describepeople, places and activities at the low beginner level of competency. 3. read, identify and comprehend specific pieces of information from selected shortreadings and authentic, graphically-represented text such as ads or short magazinearticles. 4. construct simple sentences and compose basic paragraphs applying correct usage ofbasic grammatical structures to express ideas at a low beginner level of competency. 5. demonstrate knowledge and appreciation of the diversity of Hispanic cultures and theproducts of these cultures Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

 COURSE OBJECTIVES:

In the process of completing this course, students 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.

CONTRACT

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, have read carefully and fully understand the syllabus and expectations for this course.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(signature) (date)

Questionnaire

Phone number\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Email\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Have you taken any Spanish classes before? (Choose one)

---never before\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 ---in high school\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ how many years?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 ---speak Spanish at home\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Do you speak any languages other than English?

Why have you chosen Spanish now? (Please be frank.)

What are your career objectives?

What are your hobbies or special interests?

What are your expectations for this course? What would you like to gain from it?

Do you have any special needs or circumstances, or is there anything else you would like me to know about? Keep in mind this is a five-unit course and requires a considerable investment of time outside of class (two hours of study for every hour of class time).