

Sul Ross State University

Spanish 1411: Beginning Spanish I

Fall 2015 Syllabus

Meets: Monday-Thursday 1:00-1:50 p.m.

Instructor: Filemón Zamora

Office: MAB 103

Phone #: 837-8293

Office Hrs: 8:00-10:00 daily or by appointment

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Resource requirements:

Required text: ¡Hola, amigos! -8th edition –Authors: Ana C. Jarvis, Raquel Lebrede, Francisco Mena-Ayllón. **Publisher:** Heinle Cengage Learning.

Recommended: a good español-inglés; English-Spanish dictionary

GOAL: Students will learn the basic skills they need to create language for communication and they will gain knowledge and understanding of Spanish-speaking cultures. They will practice speaking (and reading) Spanish in the classroom in every class. They will learn Spanish grammar. Students will learn accentuation rules and will apply them when writing in Spanish.

Objectives

Students will:

Engage in conversations, provide and obtain information, express feelings and emotions and exchange opinions.

Understand and interpret written and spoken language on a variety of topics.

Present information, concepts, and ideas to an audience of listeners or readers on a variety of topics.

Reinforce and further their knowledge of other disciplines through learning a foreign language.

Demonstrate understanding of the nature of language through comparisons of foreign language studied and their own.

Show evidence of becoming life-long learners by using the language for personal enjoyment and enrichment.

Learning outcomes:

At the end of the course, students will have a good understanding of the written and oral Spanish language at the basic level. They should be able to discuss concepts and applications in order to get the required basics of life and subsistence.

SPANISH – BA Program Learning Outcomes

Graduating students will demonstrate that they can

1. Communicate orally in standard Spanish
2. Construct effective written discourse in Spanish using a broad range of language structures
3. Demonstrate knowledge of major authors and literary works from Spanish and Spanish-American literature
4. Determine the connections between language and culture, including those within different Spanish-language cultures

Course grading scale:

Chapter exams (2): -grammatical, vocabulary, oral and written comprehension -----	30%
Homework -----	10%
Participation-----	15%
Composition (2) -----	10%
Oral presentation (2) -----	10%
Final exam (comprehensive) -----	20%
Quizzes-----	5%

Homework: there will be homework daily, please turn it in at the beginning of class.

Participation and attendance: your consistent attendance is **extremely important**. I will allow only two absences, after that I will drop 1 percentage points for your third absence of your total grade, in addition you will lose points in participation. After the third absence we need to talk. If you don't miss a class I will add 2% to your final grade, if you miss only one class I will 1%. If you are late 3 times it will count as an absence. In regards to participation you are expected to

Speak Spanish the entire time you are in the classroom. If you speak English it will ruin the goal of this class which is total immersion in the target language. If you cannot say something in Spanish ask (¿Cómo se dice en español “book”? [How do you say in Spanish “book”?]) or ask for permission to ask in English (¿Puedo hablar inglés? Or ¿Puedo decirlo en inglés?).

In every class I will observe your participation and I will keep record of it.

*** Speaking English during small group exercises will make you earn an F in participation. Willingness and participation to cooperate in all activities will make you earn an A in participation. On the other hand reluctance and unwillingness will make you earn a bad grade in participation.

Compositions: you will write two in-class compositions. You will be given the theme/subject at least a week before so that you can practice. You will be graded for proper use of vocabulary, grammar, organization.

Oral presentations: You will present two oral presentations in groups of 3 or 4. They will be in the form of “skits” (dramitas). You will be given the themes/subject at least a week before so that you practice with your group.

Final Exam will be comprehensive up to Lesson 7 and it will include listening, grammar, reading comprehension, dictation, etc.

We may go to the library to use the computers to do additional practice drills, but I’ll let you know.

Classroom etiquette (Comportamiento en el salón de clase):

You can bring beverages, but please **no food**.

Please turn off and keep away cell phone. Backpacks or any bag on the floor, please.

Take care of your needs before class time (go to bathroom, drink water, etc.). Leave classroom only at break time.

Do not chew gum in the classroom.

If you do not follow rules you will lose points in participation or I will call your attention.

The program and important (but tentative) dates:

August 24-25: Course presentation, **Lección preliminar: Saludos y despedidas, presentaciones, expresiones comunes en el salón de clase.**

August 26- September 7: Lesson 1: introducing yourself, greetings and farewell, colors, describe people and classroom, requests and give phone numbers, express possession, give and request information regarding nationality and place of residence.

September 8-21: Lesson 2: Discuss the courses you and your classmates are taking, express possession, order beverages, request and give correct time, name days of the week, months, seasons, present tense to talk about activities.

September 22: Exam of lessons 1 and 2.

September 23- October 6: Lesson 3: talk about household chores, talk about family, talk about how you feel.

October 7-27: Lesson 4: discuss plans for a party, extend, accept, and decline invitations, handle informal social situations such as parties.

October 28: Exam of lessons 3 and 4.

October 29-Nov. 9: Lesson 5: Order meals at restaurants, request and pay your bill, talk about what is going on, describe people and things, make comparisons.

2 de noviembre: composición #1

9 de noviembre: Presentación oral #1

10 a 18 de noviembre : Lesson 6: Shop for groceries in supermarkets and specialty stores, avoid repetitions, contradict what someone is saying, and talk about how long something has been going on.

19 a 30 de noviembre: Lección 7

Primero de diciembre: In-class composition #2, oral presentation #2.

2 de diciembre: Review for final exam, continuation of oral presentations

Dec 10: Final Exam.