



**Elementary Spanish II
Online Course
Prothro-Yeager College of Humanities and Social Sciences
SPAN 1234 X 20
Spring 2024 January 16th. – May 2nd.**

Contact Information

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Course Description

The language teaching community agrees that learning language and culture are inextricably connected. Thus, this course focuses on developing students' Spanish- language proficiency through modes of communication that reflect real life communication in the varied cultures of the Spanish-speaking world. By employing interpersonal, interpretive and presentational communicative modes in Spanish, students will explore the ideas, values, beliefs and other cultural aspects of Spanish-speaking peoples across the world and how these aspects work together to affect human experience.

Skills and Outcomes

By the end of the course, students will have developed solid competencies in each of the five goal areas (the five C's): Communication, Cultures, Connections, Comparisons, and Communities. Main objectives include:

1. Ability to comprehend and respond to basic conversational patterns.
2. Proficiency and knowledge of basic grammatical structures and terminologies.
3. Basic proficiency in reading and writing the language.
4. Knowledge of significant cultural practices and historical events from the Spanish-speaking world
5. Intensive practice of different technologies like d2l, vhl, and zoom.

Required Course Materials

You will need the Vista Higher Learning (**VHL**) **Aventuras, 6 th edition ISBN 978-1-54333-615-3 package with full VHL Central Supersite plus & WebSAM technology**. It's the same book you used for Spanish I if you took the class at MSUTexas. If you don't have the book with the online access to

materials, you can purchase your book here:

<https://vistahigherlearning.com/store/school/midwesternstate>

*Please check the 'Read Me First' section on d2l where you will find more information on how to purchase the materials if you don't have them yet. Since this course is online, I suggest for you to get the digital access only. At the moment of purchase, you will receive a code that you need to enter to access your online textbook and materials.

Instructor Class Policies

The following are rules you will need to take seriously in order to pass this class:

- 1. You are responsible for going over the section 'Read Me First' on d2l to understand how this course is going to work.
- 2. Any kind of **cheating, plagiarism, or collusion** will result in penalties going from zero for a particular activity to zero for the entire course. The decision is at the discretion of the professor: do not risk your grade!
- 3. **On d2l**, there are no make ups for any assignment, once the deadline has passed, d2l automatically will assign you a zero.
- 4. **On Vhl**, you can submit late homework and quizzes up to **three days late** without a penalty, however, **after the third day late your homework will not be accepted, and you will earn a zero for that activity.**
- 5. There will be homework assigned for every day of the week, and the professor will do her best not to schedule homework during a weekend and/or during a break, but sometimes it would be unavoidable; so that you don't have an overcrowded week.
- 6. You are responsible for learning how to use the d2l and the vhl program by following your professor's instructions on the 'Read Me First' section, if you fail an assignment under the excuse that you didn't understand how the technology works, there will be nothing the professor can do to help you. If you have questions always contact her ahead of an exam or assignment due date, never on the day of the exam, because you are risking her not seeing your email on time.
- 7. This class covers one semester of content, prepare your homework and study daily if you want to be successful. The Final Exam is comprehensive; thus, it covers the content of the entire semester.
- 8. Your professor is willing to give you guidance if you are struggling with a particular topic, but she is not going to become your personal tutor throughout the semester. If you need constant assistance with your

Spanish, please consider visiting the tutoring center:

<https://msutexas.edu/academics/tasp/>.

- 9. You are responsible for checking d2l and Vhl daily for assignments and daily communications. You have chosen to take this course online, so please **make sure you have a computer with a camera in place, with a microphone able to record, a speaker able to play sound, and a system that can carry d2l and zoom**. Important to note that **Chromebooks** are **NOT** recommended for this course since they **are not compatible with d2l**.
- 10. In the eventuality of a campus closure due to inclement weather or any other unforeseen situation, students working online should continue to work online, unless there is a state or national emergency that disrupts internet service. Exceptions will be made in a reasonable manner according to individual situations.

If you need to contact the professor, please send her an email to Claudia.Montoya@msutexas.edu

Grading

Course Grade - Please, be aware that you are not allowed to use translation apps or any other kind of help to do ANY type of homework or exam. If your professor suspects you have cheated by using an app or asking for help to someone, she will grant you a zero for that assignment, and if the behavior persists, she will give you a zero for the course. If you challenge the professor's decision, you will have to prove in person via conversation and writing that you have the level of Spanish you claim and for which the professor will recommend you to take the proficiency exam instead of the class. The following components make up the course grade. The number of quizzes and graded homework assignments will vary according to the discretion of the instructor.

Table 1:

| Assignments | Points |
|--|--------|
| Vhl Homework | 15% |
| Vhl Quizzes , D2L Vocabulary Quizzes | 10% |
| D2L Chapter Quizzes (at the end of each chapter) | 10% |
| Speaking Practice (at the end of the chapter) | 10% |
| Writing Activities (at the end of the chapter) | 5% |
| Live Speaking Exams I & 2 (via zoom) | 15% |
| Midterm Exam (Lecciones 6 – 8) | 15% |
| Comprehensive Final Exam (Lecciones 6 – 11.1) | 15% |

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|--------------------------------------|--------|
| Assignments | Points |
| Personal Reflective Essay in English | 5% |

Table 2: Total percentage for final grade.

| Grade | Percentage |
|-------|---------------|
| A | 90% - 100% |
| B | 80% to 89% |
| C | 70% to 79% |
| D | 60% to 69% |
| F | Less than 60% |

Vhl Homework and Tutorials

You will have daily assignments from the VHL Central Supersite. This supersite is the one that comes with your textbook. Once you enter their online activities you will see they divide them in several sections:

Preparación: is the section for vocabulary, each chapter of the book comes with a vocabulary section (your book in the package is called vText, use it to study before you do the homework). Also, for homework a section title 'Tutorial' pertaining to vocabulary where you can practice pronunciation and memorization of words, will be assigned each chapter on vhl, there is nothing to do in these tutorials but to watch them as you were in the class watching your professor repeating vocabulary.

Pronunciación: is the section with some pronunciation activities.

Aventuras: this section is very important, it is a mini-series like a soap opera, and it comes with activities for after viewing each video.

Cultura: is a small reading about a cultural topic.

Flash Cultura: is a brief video about a cultural topic, different than the reading in the previous section.

Gramática: this section please study in the book. The book that comes with your vhl materials is called **vText**, but I have also prepared slides that I have posted under content on d2l. The grammar points are organized by chapters. We start the course with chapter 6, so the first grammar topic of chapter 6 is 6.1, the second one 6.2 and so forth. Each chapter has about two or three grammar topics.

On vhl you can find your homework under 'calendar' so you can see the amount of homework that has been assigned weekly.

Only for the homework you will have a chance to submit the same activity up to three times on the same day. That is, you will have up to three attempts to complete your homework correctly, but make sure you are completing the homework and not the quizzes. The quizzes will allow you only one attempt.

Vhl Quizzes / D2L Vocabulary Quizzes

On Vhl (the online material that comes with the online textbook) you will have quizzes, besides the homework. You will find them the same way you find the

homework, but they will say quizzes. Make sure you have studied and done your homework to practice before you take these quizzes, because you only have one attempt at taking them, if you fail the quiz, you cannot re-take it, unlike the homework.

On d2l (the university platform where I post slides for you to study, quizzes, and exams that I design) you will always have a vocabulary quiz as well, the due date will be just right after you have completed your vocabulary practice on Vhl. These vocabulary quizzes will be designed by your professor, and will be true or false, multiple choice, matching, etc.

D2L Chapter Quizzes

These chapter quizzes will help you to review for the final exam: you will have one chapter quiz per chapter, then one Midterm Exam and then the Final Exam. You will have a total of five-chapter quizzes with a total value of 10 percent. The chapter quizzes will be extensive, they will cover vocabulary and grammar, and culture, they will have multiple choice, matching, true or false, fill in the blank activities, but also will have open questions and writing sentences.

D2L Speaking Practice

The speaking practice will take place on d2l, please make sure you have a good microphone to record, and it will be posted under assignments, you will be given a set of questions based on the Aventuras mini- series that is part of your Vhl package. You will be assigned a video of the mini- series each chapter, for which you will have regular online homework; but also, the questions of the oral practice will be based on that miniseries video- chapter you see. There will be a total of four oral practices: some of the questions will be directly about the mini-series and other questions will be prompted by the mini-series and may be about you and things related to you.

Live Speaking Exams I and II

There will be two Speaking Exams via zoom individually with each student, one right before the Midterm Exam and one right before the Final Exam. You will receive the available times to schedule your appointment before the interviews take place. The questions for the interview will be similar to the ones asked in the practice, but not the same. Sometimes there will be similar topics, but different questions, for example. The meetings will be on zoom and you will find the zoom link on d2l under 'Content' when the time comes.

Writing Activities

At the end of each chapter, you will be asked to submit a small composition related to the content of each chapter. Students at this level will make mistakes and that is fine. If the professor finds the language and the grammar you use to be way more advanced than Elementary Spanish II, your professor may give you a zero for the activity under the suspicion you have used an app to translate/write your work. If you challenge the professor's decision, you will have to write a similar composition in front of her to demonstrate you have the level of Spanish you show in your work. Do not risk it!

Reflective Essay

Towards the end of the semester, you will write a personal reflective essay related to a sociocultural aspect. The cultural topic will present the student with an ethical dilemma or issue for resolution. Students should demonstrate that they have adequately researched and considered the topic in the framework of the core curriculum objectives. The essay will be written in English, and it will be an opinion type of essay of no more, but no less than three pages. It should be typed, and it should follow the guidelines given on d2l. The Personal Reflective Essay serves as an assessment of the student's performance of the core curriculum objectives in the specific context of this course. The essay will be due towards the end of the semester.

Midterm Exam

There is a Midterm exam that covers chapter 6 -8. You will be tested on vocabulary, grammar, writing and culture. Be careful not to use translation apps or any other type of help because if you are suspected of cheating, you may receive a zero for either the section of the exam where cheating is suspected or for the entire exam if the cheating seems pervasive. If you challenge the professor's decision, you will have to write in front of her similar activities than those on the exam to prove you really know the material.

Final Exam

The final exam is scheduled for Tuesday May 7th. From 10:30am to 12:30pm. There are no make-ups, and you will need to use lockdown browser with webcam proctoring. Unlike the previous exams, for the final exam you are assigned a specific day and time, make sure you mark your calendar because if you miss the exam you will receive a zero. You have the date and time in advance, plan ahead to avoid any problem. The final exam covers the content of chapters 6 to 11.1.

Extra Credit

There will not be opportunities offered for extra credit in this course; if at any point in the semester you are concerned about your performance in the class, please contact the professor as soon as possible to help you develop strategies to reach your goals.

Make up Work / Tests

There will be no makeup quizzes, make up exams, or make up homework. However, at the end of the semester, the lowest grade of Vhl quizzes and homework will be dropped.

Important Dates

Last day for term schedule changes: January 13 – 16. [Academic Calendar](#).
Deadline to file for graduation: February 17th. Check date on [Academic Calendar](#).
Last Day to drop with a grade of "W:" March 24th. Check date on [Academic Calendar](#).
Last day of classes: May 2nd.

Final Exam: Tuesday May 7th. From 10:30am to 12:30pm

Refer to: [Drops, Withdrawals & Void](#)

Desire-to-Learn (D2L)

Extensive use of the MSU D2L program is a part of this course. Each student is expected to be familiar with this program as it provides a primary source of communication regarding assignments, examination materials, and general course information. You can log into [D2L](#) through the MSU Homepage. If you experience difficulties, please contact the technicians listed for the program or contact your instructor. **Chromebooks DO NOT work with D2L.**

Counseling

If you think you may be experiencing depression, anxiety, substance abuse or any other situation for which you think counseling may help, please visit the [Counseling Resource Page](#) where you can find great online apps and assistance that can connect you to a real counselor: <https://msutexas.edu/student-life/counseling/online-resources.php>

Online Computer Requirements

Taking an online class requires you to have access to a computer (with Internet access) to complete and upload your assignments. It is your responsibility to have (or have access to) a working computer in this class. ****Assignments and tests are due by the due date, and personal computer technical difficulties will not be considered reason for the instructor to allow students extra time to submit assignments, tests, or discussion postings.***

Computers are available on campus in various areas of the buildings as well as the Academic Success Center. ****Your computer being down is not an excuse for missing a deadline!*** There are many places to access your class! Our online classes can be accessed from any computer in the world which is connected to the internet. Contact your instructor immediately upon having computer trouble. If you have technical difficulties in the course, there is also a student helpdesk available to you. The college cannot work directly on student computers due to both liability and resource limitations however they are able to help you get connected to our online services. For help, log into [D2L](#).

Change of Schedule

A student dropping a course (but not withdrawing from the University) within the first 12 class days of a regular semester or the first four class days of a summer semester is eligible for a 100% refund of applicable tuition and fees. Dates are published in the Schedule of Classes each semester.

Refund and Repayment Policy

A student who withdraws or is administratively withdrawn from Midwestern State University (MSU) may be eligible to receive a refund for all or a portion of the tuition, fees and room/board charges that were paid to MSU for the semester. HOWEVER, if the student received financial aid (federal/state/institutional grants,

loans and/or scholarships), all or a portion of the refund may be returned to the financial aid programs. As described below, two formulas (federal and state) exist in determining the amount of the refund. (Examples of each refund calculation will be made available upon request).

Services for Students with Disabilities

In accordance with Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Northwestern State University endeavors to make reasonable accommodations to ensure equal opportunity for qualified persons with disabilities to participate in all educational, social, and recreational programs and activities. After notification of acceptance, students requiring accommodations should make application for such assistance through Disability Support Services, located in the Clark Student Center, Room 168, (940) 397-4140. Current documentation of a disability will be required in order to provide appropriate services, and each request will be individually reviewed. For more details, please go to [Disability Support Services](#).

College Policies

Campus Carry Rules/Policies

Refer to: [Campus Carry Rules and Policies](#)

Smoking/Tobacco Policy

College policy strictly prohibits the use of tobacco products in any building owned or operated by WATC. Adult students may smoke only in the outside designated-smoking areas at each location.

Alcohol and Drug Policy

To comply with the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989 and subsequent amendments, students and employees of Northwestern State are informed that strictly enforced policies are in place which prohibits the unlawful possession, use or distribution of any illicit drugs, including alcohol, on university property or as part of any university-sponsored activity. Students and employees are also subject to all applicable legal sanctions under local, state and federal law for any offenses involving illicit drugs on University property or at University-sponsored activities.

Campus Carry

Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes has prohibited. The new Constitutional Carry law does not change this process. Concealed carry still requires a License to Carry permit, and openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit [Campus Carry](#).

Active Shooter

The safety and security of our campus is the responsibility of everyone in our community. Each of us has an obligation to be prepared to appropriately respond

to threats to our campus, such as an active aggressor. Please review the information provided by MSU Police Department regarding the options and strategies we can all use to stay safe during difficult situations. For more information, visit [MSUReady – Active Shooter](#). Students are encouraged to watch the video entitled “*Run. Hide. Fight.*” which may be electronically accessed via the University police department’s webpage: [“Run. Hide. Fight.”](#)

Grade Appeal Process

Update as needed. Students who wish to appeal a grade should consult the Midwestern State University [MSU Catalog](#)

Notice

Changes in the course syllabus, procedure, assignments, and schedule may be made at the discretion of the instructor.

Course Schedule

Notice

Changes in the course syllabus, procedure, assignments, and schedule may be made at the discretion of the instructor.

| Dates | Exams | Chapter | Topics |
|-----------------------------|-------|----------|--|
| Week 1: 01/16 – 01/19 | | Chapt. 6 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to the course • Words related to clothing and shopping • Colors and other adjectives • D2L Vocabulary Quiz • Cultura: Los mercados al aire libre • Cultura: comprar en los mercados |
| Week 2: 01/22 – 01/26 | | Chapt. 6 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Numbers 101 and higher • Preterite tense of regular verbs • Indirect Object Pronouns • Demonstrative adjectives and pronouns |
| Week 3: 01 29 – 02/02 | | Chapt. 6 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Video: ¡Eso sí es una ganga! • Chapter Quiz D2L • Writing Activity D2L • Speaking Activity D2L • Words related to personal hygiene and daily routines • Sequencing Expressions • D2L Vocabulary Quiz |
| Week 4: 02/05 – 02/09 | | Chapt. 7 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pronouncing r and rr • Cultura: Tapas para todos los días • Cultura: la siesta • Reflexive verbs |
| Week 5: | | Chapt. 7 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indefinite and Negative Words |

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|------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|---|
| 02/12 – 02/16 | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preterite of ser and ir • Gustar and other verbs like gustar • Video: ¡Tengo que arreglarme! |
| Week 6: 02/19- 02/23 | | Chapt. 7/8 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter Quiz D2L • Writing Activity D2L • Speaking Activity D2L • Words related to restaurants and meals • Adjectives that describe food • D2L Vocabulary Quiz |
| Week 7: 02/26 – 03-01 | Speaking Exam I Via Zoom | Chapt. 8 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultura: desayunos exquisitos • Cultura: La comida latina • Preterite of stem-changing verbs • Double Object Pronouns • The letters ll, ñ, c, and z • Saber and conocer |
| Week 8: 03/04 – 08/10 | Midterm Exam | Chapt. 8 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comparatives and Superlatives • Video: ¡Vamos a comer tapas! • Chapter Quiz D2L |
| Week 9: 03/11 – 03/15 | | (Spring Break) | |
| Week 10: 03/18 – 03/22 | | Chapt. 9 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Words related to celebrations and desserts • Personal relationships and stages of life • D2L Vocabulary Quiz • Irregular preterite • The letters h, j, and g • Cultura: Año Nuevo • Cultura: las fiestas |
| Week 11: 03/25 – 03/29 | Easter Break | Chapt. 9 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Verbs that change meaning in the preterite • Relative pronouns |
| Week 12: 04/01 – 04/05 | | Chapt. 9/10 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ¿Qué? and ¿cuál? • Video: Es mi cumpleaños • Chapter Quiz D2L • Writing Activity D2L • Speaking Activity D2L • Words related to sickness, symptoms, medicine, and the doctor's office • Parts of the body |

| | | | |
|---|-------------------------|---------------------------------|---|
| Week 13: 04/08 – 04/12 | | Chapt. 10 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • D2L Vocabulary Quiz • Written accent marks and word stress • The imperfect tense • Adverbs • Cultura:servicios de salud • Flash Cultura: la salud • Video: ¡Necesitas un médico |
| Week 14: 04/15 – 04/19 | | Chapt. 10/11.1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The preterite and the imperfect • Chapter Quiz • Writing Activity D2L • Speaking Activity D2L |
| Week 15: 04/22 – 04/26 | Speaking Exam II | Chapt. 10/11.1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaking Exam II • Personal reflective Essay writing |
| Week 16: 04/29 – 05/03 | | Chapt. 10/ 11.1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review Final Exam • Personal Reflective Exam Due |
| Tuesday, May 7 th . 10:30am – 12:30pm | Final Exam | Chapters 6-11.1 Gramática | There are no make-ups for the final exam: you have to take it on the established date and time. |

Student Handbook

Refer to: [Student Handbook 2017-18](#)

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Grade Appeal Process

Students who wish to appeal a grade should consult the Midwestern State University [Undergraduate Catalog](#)

