



Elementary Spanish I
Prothro-Yeager College of Humanities and Social Sciences
SPAN 1134 Sections 102 and 107
fall 2021

Contact Information

Instructor: Mrs. Sarah Butler

Office: Bea Wood 103

Office hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday 11:00 -11:50 am and 1:00 - 2:00 pm and
by appointment

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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.

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, grades, and general course information. You can log into [D2L](#) through the MSU Homepage.

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. Ability to use technology for e-mail and research of selected topics in Spanish
6. Ability to use the [VHL Central Supersite](#) for oral and written practice of Spanish.

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Specific outcomes of the course are the following:

- Introducing yourself, greeting and saying goodbye to friends, learning courtesy expressions, talking about yourself and others, spelling your name, performing simple math problems, asking, and telling time
- Describing your university and classroom, exchanging information about courses of study, talking about the calendar and dates, asking, and responding to simple questions
- Talking about your family and friends, describing yourself, other people, and things, saying how old you and others are, talking about things that belong to you and others
- Talking about pastimes, weekend activities, and sports, talking about what you are going to do, planning activities, extending invitations, apologizing
- Talking about your vacation plans, describing a hotel, talking about how you and others feel, negotiating and paying for items, describing your daily routine
- Describing and illustrating aspects of the cultures of Spanish-speaking countries and making comparisons between cultures using basic linguistic structures and vocabulary in the target language.
- Evaluating personal values, behaviors, and worldviews on the socio-cultural topics presented and comparing these to those of Spanish-speakers.

Textbook & Instructional Materials

- The following package is required for all courses. These materials will be used for both SPAN 1134 and SPAN 1234 in all subsequent semesters. ***Aventuras***, 5th edition **ISBN 978-1-68004-972-5**: Full color, loose leaf, 3 hole punched (binder ready) version of ***Aventuras*** 5th edition with full [VHL Central Supersite](#) plus & WebSAM technology. Please note the code with this package lasts for 36 months. Please contact your instructor or World Languages & Cultures at 397-4309 if you have any questions.
- 10 Long Scantrons

Study Hours and Tutoring

Approximately one hour of study daily is suggested for success in this course. You are welcome to come to my office or meet with me via Zoom or Skype when you have questions about topics presented in class. Before you visit for me for tutoring, please make sure you have watched the tutorials/presentations at the [VHL Central Supersite](#). Typically, tutoring is also available for free with our departmental tutor and/or with the MSU Tutoring Center (McCullough Hall). As soon as I have information about these tutoring options, I will share them with you.

Student Handbook

Refer to: [Student Handbook 2018-2019](#)

Academic Misconduct Policy & Procedures

Academic Dishonesty: Cheating, collusion, and plagiarism (the act of using source material of other persons, either published or unpublished, without following the accepted techniques of crediting, or the submission for credit of work not the individual's to whom credit is given).

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Additional guidelines on procedures in these matters may be found in the Office of Student Conduct.

Grading

Course Grade: 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	% of Course Grade
Attendance	5 %
Participation (in classroom and/or via optional VHL Central Supersite live and virtual partner chats)	10 %
Homework Assignments (VHL Central Supersite)	7.5 %
Quizzes (in class and via D2L)	7.5 %
Language Lab Quizzes (Bea Wood 128)	5%
Exam 1 (Lessons 1 & 2)	15%
Exam 2 (Lessons 3 & 4)	15%
Exam 3 (Lessons 5 & 6)	15%
Comprehensive Final Exam	20%
Total	100%

Table 2: Total percentages for final grade.

Grade	Points
A	90 - 100
B	80 – 89
C	70 – 79
D	60 – 69
F	Less than 60

Midterm Progress Report

In order to help students keep track of their progress toward course objectives, the instructor for this class will provide a Midterm Progress Report through each student’s WebWorld account. Midterm grades will not be reported on the students’ transcript; nor will they be calculated in the cumulative GPA. They simply give students an idea of where they stand at the midpoint of the semester. Students earning below a C at the midway point should meet with the instructor and/or take advantage of tutoring options.

Attendance

You are required to be in class for the entire 50-minute period. Arrive on time. You may be counted absent if you are more than 10 minutes late for class or if you leave class early.

Absences due to official university functions or illness will be dealt with on an individual basis and should be discussed with the instructor outside of class time. There are no “excused” absences from regular class periods and the instructor will take attendance every day. Each absence lowers your attendance grade. The attendance grade is calculated by dividing the

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number of days that you are in class by the number of days that the course meets. (Example for 2 absences out of a total of 57 class days: $55/57 = .9649... = 96.49\%$). The attendance grade contributes 5% to the final course grade.

This syllabus serves as notice that you may be dropped from the class without further notification if you are absent more than six times. A Conduct and Attendance Referral may be sent to the Dean of Students upon the fourth absence. If you decide to drop the course, you must follow university procedure for dropping a course to receive a W. If the instructor drops you, you will receive a WF or F.


Participation

The participation grade contributes 10% to your course grade and is based upon your use of Spanish in the classroom and via optional recorded chats with classmates or with an online avatar. Don't worry about speaking perfect Spanish. Accuracy will come with practice and repetition. Each week you will complete a participation self-assessment (see example below) based on the frequency that you respond to my questions in Spanish and on your participation in pair activities with another classmate in the classroom. I may change your self-assessment score if I do not feel that you are accurately or fairly assessing your own participation. Please feel free to discuss with me if you disagree with any adjustments that I make.

Weekly class participation self-assessment

Name _____	Class _____				Date _____
	4 Always	3 Most always	2 Sometimes	1 Rarely	0 Never
Answering Questions: I answer at least 2 questions each class					
Work on Pair Activities: I work with my classmates on all pair activities					

You also have many opportunities to earn participation points toward your grade using the [VHL Central Supersite](#) Partner and Virtual Partner Chats. These activities are optional and are intended to supplement your in-class participation. They are due weekly by Monday at the start of your class, but you can complete them any time prior. I will assign partner or virtual partner chats each week. Chats submitted after the weekly due date will not be graded. You can find a list of all partner and virtual partner chats, including references to the textbook pages where they appear, under General Course Documents on our D2L page. These are also viewable in the Calendar view at the [VHL Central Supersite](#)

The **virtual partner chats** are designated with this icon: 

The **partner chats** are designated with this icon: 

The **virtual partner chats** are completed on your own with an online "avatar" asking you questions. The **partner chats** are completed with one of your fellow classmates. Each chat can earn you 5 points toward a 100 for the Participation Grade category. Your Spanish does

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NOT have to be perfect, but please follow the directions and answer all questions in complete sentences in Spanish.

Quizzes in class and in D2L (Desire-To-Learn)

A **weekly** quiz based on homework and class work will be given **either in class, typically on Fridays, or in D2L** (Desire to Learn). If the week's quiz is given in D2L, it will become available **Friday by 5:00 pm and will be due by start of class on Monday**. These quizzes will contribute 7.5% to your course grade. No late work is accepted, and no make-up quizzes are given. Your lowest grade in this category will be dropped at the end of the semester.

Core Curriculum Assessment

One of the D2L Quizzes will also serve as an assessment of the student's performance of the core curriculum objectives in the specific context of this course. The short answer quiz will be based upon a film or article that I will assign around the middle of the semester. The film or article will present the student with an ethical dilemma or issue for resolution. In their responses, students should demonstrate that they have adequately researched and considered the topic in the framework of the core curriculum objectives.

The core objectives for the Language, Philosophy and Culture Foundational Component Area are addressed in this course according to the following descriptions:

- **Critical Thinking Skills:** Students will demonstrate creative thinking, innovation, inquiry and analysis, evaluation, and synthesis of information.
- **Communication Skills:** Students will demonstrate effective development, interpretation, and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication.
- **Personal Responsibility:** Students will demonstrate the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision making.
- **Social Responsibility:** Students will demonstrate intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.

In responding to the topic, students must identify their core beliefs and the origins of those core beliefs, recognize the ethical issue(s) presented and the relationships between issues, state a position on the issue(s) and connect their position to implied actions and consequences¹. More information about this assessment will be given by midsemester at the latest.

Homework Assignments

You will have almost daily homework assignments on the [VHL Central Supersite](#). Some of the assignments are for the presentation of vocabulary and/or tutorials for grammar topics. These assignments include written, audio and video activities. The purpose of these assignments is to help you learn the material, so you should use all the VHL resources (vText, vocabulary cards, etc.) to complete these "homework" type activities.

¹ Modified from AAC&U Ethical Responsibility VALUE Rubric.

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Each assignment is to be completed by **the start of class time on the due date** (see calendar/dashboard in [VHL Central Supersite](#)). Homework completed after the due date will be accepted but with a 5% penalty assessed for each day past the original due date for that assignment. For each lesson in the [VHL Central Supersite](#), **an average of all the homework assignments for that lesson will be recorded in the D2L course gradebook. Once the lesson grade has been recorded in the D2L gradebook, no late work will be accepted.** These lesson grades contribute 7.5 % to your course grade. You are welcome to work ahead in the online program. Your lowest grade in this category will be dropped at the end of the semester.

Language Lab Quizzes

You will take six listening comprehension quizzes in the World Languages Laboratory in Bea Wood 127/128. The quizzes are based on videos related to the vocabulary, grammar and cultural concepts presented in each lesson. You may preview these videos at the [VHL Central Supersite](#) and you will need to access the site in the Language Laboratory to complete your quizzes.

Please show your MSU Student ID to the lab attendant to receive your quiz. You will receive a quiz and a Scantron. You are not allowed to use books, notes, or any other materials when completing the quiz. Also, do not write on the quiz. Please sign out at the lab attendant's desk. Make-up and/or late quizzes are not permitted. Your lowest lab grade will be dropped at the end of the semester. Please note the due dates below. A schedule of lab hours will be posted on D2L as soon as it is available.

Lesson 1:	Lesson 2:	Lesson 3:
Lesson 4:	Lesson 5:	Lesson 6:

Exams

There are three major exams, one every two chapters. Each exam consists of a multiple choice, matching, and/or true false portion and a written/short answer portion. Each portion is worth approximately 50% of the exam grade. Each major exam contributes 15% to the final course grade. You will be allowed one class period (50 minutes) for each major exam.

Final Exam

The comprehensive final exam covers all materials studied during the course. The exam consists of a multiple choice, matching, and/or true false portion and a written/short answer portion. Each portion is worth approximately 50% of the exam grade. The Final Exam contributes 20% to the final course grade. The Final Exam for this course is scheduled for **Tuesday, December 7, 10:30 am – 12:30 pm**. The location for the exam will be announced during the last week of classes.

Extra Credit

No extra credit assignments are given to individuals that are not offered to the entire class. All extra credit assignments will be offered at the discretion of the instructor. However, you can earn a participation grade of up to 150 with any combination of in-class and/or live partner and virtual partner chats at the [VHL Central Supersite](#).

Late Work

No late work is accepted apart from homework assignments completed in the [VHL Central Supersite](#). Individual assignments are accepted with a 5% late penalty per day until the due date for each lesson's assignments. Please see the calendar at the [VHL Central Supersite](#)

Make Up Work/Quizzes/Exams

No make-up work is accepted, and no make-up quizzes will be offered.

If you know you will miss an exam due to an official university function, please plan with your instructor prior to the absence and as soon as possible. If you are absent from an exam, you must present documented proof of illness or university activity to your instructor before an early or make up exam will be scheduled.

Important Dates

Change of Schedule and Late Registration: August 23-26, 2021

Last Day to drop with a grade of "W:" October 25, 2021 (4 pm)

Final Exam: Tuesday, December 7, 2021 (10:30 am – 12:30 pm)

See course schedule for other important dates.

Instructor Class Policies

Please be polite to your instructor and fellow students. Pay attention to the instructor and to your fellow students when they are speaking. Do not engage your classmates in conversation in English during class.

Please silence your devices during class. Text messaging or the use of non-authorized electronic devices is prohibited. Please speak with your instructor if you have questions.

No food or drinks, except for water, are allowed in our classrooms.

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 Northwestern State University (NSU) may be eligible to receive a refund for all or a portion of the tuition, fees and room/board charges that were paid to NSU 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

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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 [Student Life Disability](#).

University 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 Midwestern 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.

Grade Appeal Process

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

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Course Schedule

Dates	Exams	Chapter	Topics
Semana 1: 08/23 – 08/26		Lección 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to the course • Words related to meeting, greeting, and saying goodbye • Courtesy expressions
Semana 2: 08/30 – 09/03		Lección 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultura: <i>Saludos y besos en los países hispanos</i> • Nouns and articles • Numbers 0-30 • Present tense of ser
09/06			No class meeting – Labor Day Holiday
Semana 3: 09/07 – 09/10		Lección 1 y 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Telling time • Words related to people, places, and classes at the university • Days of the week
Semana 4: 09/13 – 09/17		Lección 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultura: <i>La elección de una carrera universitaria</i> • Present tense of –ar verbs • Forming questions
Semana 5: 09/20 – 09/24		Lección 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present tense of estar • Numbers 31-100 • Review of Lessons 1 and 2
09/24	Examen 1	Lecciones 1 y 2	
Semana 6: 09/27 – 10/01		Lección 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Words relating to family and professions • Cultura: <i>¿Como te llamas?</i> • Descriptive adjectives • Possessive Adjectives
Semana 7: 10/04 – 10/08		Lección 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present tense of regular –er and –ir verbs • Present tense of tener and venir
Semana 8: 10/11 – 10/15		Lección 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Words related to pastimes and sports • Places in the city • Cultura: <i>Real Madrid y Barça: rivalidad total</i> • Present tense of ir
Semana 9: 10/18 – 10/22		Lección 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present tense of stem-changing verbs • Verbs with irregular yo forms • Review of Lessons 3 and 4

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Dates	Exams	Chapter	Topics
10/25	Examen 2	Lecciones 3 y 4	
Semana 10: 10/25 – 10/29		Lección 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Words related to vacationing, travel, weather, seasons, months, ordinal numbers Cultura: <i>El Camino Inca</i> Estar with conditions and emotions
Semana 11: 11/01 – 11/05		Lección 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The present progressive Comparing ser and estar
Semana 12: 11/08 – 11/12		Lección 5 y 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Direct object nouns and pronouns Words related to clothing and shopping Colors and other adjectives
Semana 13: 11/15 – 11/19		Lección 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cultura: <i>Los mercados al aire libre</i> Numbers 101 and higher Preterite tense of regular verbs
Semana 14: 11/22 – 11/23		Lección 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indirect object pronouns Demonstrative adjectives
11/24 – 11/26			<i>No class meetings – Thanksgiving Holiday</i>
Semana 15: 11/29 – 12/03			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of Lessons 5 and 6 11/30 Exam 3 Review for Final Exam
11/30	Examen 3	Lecciones 5 y 6	
12/7, 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM	Examen Final	Lecciones 1 – 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comprehensive Final Exam