



Elementary Spanish I
Prothro-Yeager College of Humanities and Social Sciences
SPAN 1134 Sections 203 and 204
spring 2023

Contact Information

Instructor: Mrs. Sarah Butler

Office: Bea Wood 103

Office hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday 10:00-10:50 am and 1:00 - 2:00 pm and by appointment

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Instructor Response Policy

I will respond to emails and voicemails sent to me during regular working hours on weekdays as soon as possible the same day. On weekends, I check my email regularly but not as often, so my response time may be delayed up to 48 hours. I do not check my voicemail over the weekend.

Textbook & Instructional Materials

The following textbook options are available for this course. These materials will be used for both Elementary Spanish I (1134) and Elementary Spanish II (1234). Materials are available at the MSU Texas bookstore in Clark Student Center or at the following websites:

<https://www.bkstr.com/midwesternstatestore/shop/textbooks-and-course-materials>,

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

- *Aventuras*, 6th edition, Vista Higher Learning
 - Print & Digital Access
 - Option 1: ISBN 978-1-54333-615-3 student edition loose-leaf textbook + Supersite Plus with vText + WebSAM (24 months)
 - Option 2: ISBN 978-1-54333-873-7 student edition loose-leaf textbook + Supersite Plus with vText + WebSAM (5 months)
 - Digital Access Only
 - Option 3: ISBN 978-1-54333-616-0 Supersite Plus with vText + WebSAM (24 months access)
 - Option 4: ISBN 978-1-54333-875-1 Supersite Plus with vText + WebSAM (12 months access)
 - Option 5: ISBN 978-1-54333-871-3 Supersite Plus with vText +WebSAM (5 months access)
- 10 long Scantrons

Course Description

A beginning course in the develop of fundamental speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills in the Spanish language and an introduction to Hispanic cultures. 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.

Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes/Course Competencies

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.

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.

Study Hours and Tutoring Assistance

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](https://vhlcentral.com). Tutoring is also available for with the Tutoring & Academic Support Program’s Learning Center located on the 1st floor of Moffett Library. Please [visit https://msutexas.edu/academics/tasp/on-campus.php](https://msutexas.edu/academics/tasp/on-campus.php) for their most up-to-date schedule.

Student Handbook

Refer to: [Student Handbook-2021-22](#)

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

[Office of Student Conduct](#)

Grading/Assessment

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. You can monitor your grades throughout the semester in the D2L gradebook.

Table 1: Percentage allocated to each element of the course.

Elements of the Course Grade	% of Course Grade
Attendance	5%
Class Participation	10%
Homework Assignments (VHL Central Supersite)	7.5%
Quizzes (in class and on D2L) & writing assigns.	7.5%
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: Percentages for final grade.

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

Homework

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.

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.

Quizzes & Writing Assignments

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. You will also have short writing assignments in Spanish, approximately every two lessons. These quizzes and writing assignments 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(s) that I will assign around the middle of the semester. The film or article(s) will present students 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.

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. Please do not write on the quiz. After you complete 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 Language Lab Hours for fall 2022 will be posted on D2L and in the classroom by the beginning of the second week of classes.

Lesson 1: February 4	Lesson 2: February 18	Lesson 3: March 4
Lesson 4: March 25	Lesson 5: April 5	Lesson 6: April 29

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, May 9, 2023, 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.

¹ Modified from AAC&U Ethical Responsibility VALUE Rubric.

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/Tests

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

Important Dates

Last day for term schedule changes: January 20, 2023

Deadline to file for graduation: February 20, 2023

Last Day to drop with a grade of "W:" March 27, 2023

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

Final Exam: Tuesday, May 9, 2023, 10:30 am – 12:30 pm

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.

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 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. Don't worry about speaking perfect Spanish. Accuracy will come with practice and repetition. Active participation in class in Spanish will be awarded by the instructor in the form of *puntos de participación* (participation points). At the end of the semester, you should have 100 points for a 100% in participation. *Puntos de participación* are awarded for your active participation in classroom activities in Spanish and for your interaction with the instructor in Spanish. You will keep track of your participation points on a card that I will give you during the first week of class. I will

record points earned each week as well as post them in the D2L gradebook so that you can monitor your progress.

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 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, Midwestern 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](#).

University Policies

Campus Carry Rules/Policies

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

Smoking/Tobacco Policy

University policy strictly prohibits the use of tobacco products in any building owned or operated by MSU TEXAS. 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.

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

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 and/or as required by the university.

Course Schedule:

Dates	Exams	Chapter	Topics
Semana 1: 17-20 de enero		Lección 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to the course • Preparación: Words related to meeting, greeting, and saying goodbye • Preparación: Courtesy expressions • Pronunciación: The Spanish alphabet
Semana 2: 23-27 de enero		Lección 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultura: <i>Los saludos y el espacio personal</i> • Gram. 1.1: Nouns and articles • Gram. 1.2: Numbers 0-30 • Gram. 1.3: Present tense of <i>ser</i>
Semana 3: 30 de enero – 3 de febrero 4 de febrero – Lab Quiz 1 DUE		Lección 1 y 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gram. 1.4: Telling time • Preparación: Words related to people, places, and classes at the university • Preparación: Days of the week • Pronunciación: The vowels in Spanish
Semana 4: 6-10 de febrero		Lección 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultura: <i>La elección de una carrera universitaria</i> • Gram. 2.1: Present tense of <i>-ar</i> verbs; the verb <i>gustar</i> • Gram. 2.2: Forming questions
Semana 5: 13-16 de febrero 17 de febrero 18 de febrero – Lab Quiz 2 DUE	Examen 1	Lección 2 Lecciones 1 y 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gram. 2.3: Present tense of <i>estar</i> • Gram. 2.4: Numbers 31-100 • Review of Lessons 1 and 2
Semana 6: 20-24 de febrero		Lección 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparación: Words relating to family and professions • Cultura: <i>¿Como te llamas?</i> • Gram. 3.1: Descriptive adjectives • Gram. 3.2: Possessive Adjectives
Semana 7: 27 de febrero – 3 de marzo 4 de marzo – Lab Quiz 3 DUE		Lección 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gram. 3.3: Present tense of regular <i>-er</i> and <i>-ir</i> verbs • Gram. 3.4: Present tense of <i>tener</i> and <i>venir</i> • Preparación: Words related to pastimes and sports • Preparación: Places in the city
Semana 8: 6-10 de marzo		Lección 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultura: <i>Real Madrid y Barça: rivalidad total</i> • Gram. 4.1: Present tense of <i>ir</i> • Gram. 4.2: Present tense of stem-changing verbs, e→ie, o→ue • Gram. 4.3: Present tense of stem-changing verbs, e→i
13-17 de marzo			No classes – Spring Break

Dates	Exams	Chapter	Topics
Semana 9: 20-23 de marzo 24 de marzo 25 de marzo – Lab Quiz 4 DUE	Examen 2	Lección 4 Lecciones 3 y 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gram. 4.4: Verbs with irregular <i>yo</i> forms • Review of Lessons 3 and 4
27 de marzo			<i>Last day to drop with “W” – 4:00 pm</i>
Semana 10: 27-31 de marzo		Lección 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparación: Words related to vacationing, travel, weather, seasons, months, ordinal numbers • Cultura: <i>El Camino Inca</i> • Gram. 5.1: Estar with conditions and emotions
Semana 11: 3-4 de abril		Lección 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gram. 5.2: The present progressive • Gram. 5.3: Comparing <i>ser</i> and <i>estar</i>
6-7 de abril			No classes – Easter Break
Semana 12: 10-14 de abril 15 de abril – Lab Quiz 5 DUE		Lección 5 y 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gram. 5.4: Direct object nouns and pronouns • Preparación: Words related to clothing and shopping • Preparación: Colors and other adjectives
Semana 13: 17-21 de abril		Lección 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultura: <i>Los mercados al aire libre</i> • Gram. 6.1: Numbers 101 and higher • Gram. 6.2: Preterite tense of regular verbs
Semana 14: 24-27 de abril 29 de abril – Lab Quiz 6 DUE		Lección 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gram. 6.3: Indirect object pronouns • Gram. 6.4: Demonstrative adjectives
Semana 15: 1 de mayo 2-5 de mayo 5 de mayo	Examen 3	Lecciones 5 y 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review for Comprehensive Final Exam • Core curriculum Assignment Due
9 de mayo 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM	Examen Final	Lecciones 1 – 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comprehensive Final Exam