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SPNS 101.07: Elementary Spanish I

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SPNS 101: Elementary Spanish I, Fall 2022

Instructor: Caroline Lonski

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Phone: 406.243.2597

Office hours: MT: 4-5, WTh: 11-11:50, and by appointment. I am frequently in my office outside of office hours; stop by or call and if I am able to assist you, I will. ☺

Course Description:

The purpose of this course is to begin developing proficiency in Spanish in all four skills (listening, speaking, reading, and writing). While grammar topics are covered, the importance of using language for communicative purposes is emphasized. Since acquisition cannot take place without input in the target language, instructors will use Spanish *almost exclusively*.

Learning Outcomes:

The successful student will be able to:

1. Understand spoken and written Spanish in the context of common situations and in a basic range of grammatical structures and expressions, specifically, those emphasized in *Portales*.
2. Produce comprehensible spoken and written Spanish, including short paragraphs and brief verbal responses to a range of communication topics, also specified by *Portales*.
3. Acquire knowledge of the geography, culture and people of regions where Spanish is spoken, as indicated by the cultural units provided in *Portales*.

Your responsibilities in this class:

*Spanish 101 is a cumulative and fast-paced course, therefore, your success in grasping the material presented one week will depend on your having mastered material presented in previous weeks. It is *essential* for you to keep up with the topics covered and assignments. (For those of you with executive function disorder or procrastination tendencies, please see me for assistance.) Do not leave everything for the last minute before a deadline. Succeeding in a language course requires utilizing your organizational skills at their best, and showing up prepared benefits all.

*Keep in mind that any classroom is an artificial simulation of the natural foreign language environment most conducive to learning the target language. To build communicative fluency, you must take responsibility for out of class learning. In addition to completing all assignments on time, we recommend that you read Spanish-language magazines or stories, watch TV/movies/series, or converse with native speakers one to three times weekly. Take every opportunity to use your new skills in Spanish: read bilingual product labels; start a journal in Spanish; write notes and lists to yourself in Spanish; visit a Spanish-speaking country if possible; spend time speaking Spanish outside of class with other students studying Spanish... Above all, make your extra activities fun and incorporate them into your daily life.

Required Class Materials:

- **Textbook:** Blanco, J. *Portales I*. Only the electronic version is required (eCompanion). We will use the Supersite that contains the ebook and activities. Your textbook is used for both SPNS 101 and 102. You can purchase the access code (or both access code + print copy) at <https://vistahigherlearning.com/school/umontana>

Recommended Materials:

- A Spanish-English Dictionary (<https://www.wordreference.com/> is an excellent online dictionary)

- 501 Spanish Verbs
- Cards for flashcards that you can carry with you and use offline
- Any content in Spanish of interest to you such as music, news, movies, TV, radio, podcasts....

Accessing the course on VHL Central:

I have posted on Moodle how to log on to the course on VHL Central (Supersite). Please note that a good part of the Spanish 101 course is hosted by Vista Supersite and NOT Moodle. However, we will be using Moodle as the main communication platform, where you will find the syllabus, daily instructions, and other documents and links pertaining to the course. It is essential that you check both Moodle (first) and VHL (second) every day after class.

Grading:

- Homework: 25%
- Participation/Preparation/Attendance: 15%
- Quizzes: 20%
- Oral Final Exam: 10%
- Midterm and Final Exams (15% each): 30%

Grading scale * Be sure you know what grade you need for your major

Letter grade	Number grade	Letter grade	Number grade
A	94-100	C	73-76
A-	90-93	C-	70-72
B+	87-89	D+	67-69
B	83-86	D	63-66
B-	80-82	D-	60-62
C+	77-79	F	0-59

*For CR/NCR grading option, you must earn a D- or above to receive credit.

- Please note that your instructor is not permitted to share grading information with you via email.
- Please arrange an appointment with your instructor if you would like to discuss your grade.
- All email communication with your instructor must take place through official UM email addresses.

Homework:

Supersite assignments: Use the CALENDAR tool on the Supersite to find out which assignments are due each week. Although deadlines for Supersite exercises will be at 11:59 PM on Fridays, you are expected to complete assignments every day, and be familiar with the topics covered in class according to the course calendar. Most of the assignments are automatically graded. Be aware of these **weekly deadlines**.

Writing Assignments: You will be assigned written work at home to bring to the next class. These are opportunities to practice Spanish with the physical act of writing, a crucial practice in language acquisition.

Participation, Preparation, and Attendance:

Preparation: A satisfactory preparation grade assumes that you come to class each day prepared to be actively engaged in all class activities. If you would like to succeed and feel confident in class, I highly recommend that you read over a new grammar point or learn new vocabulary on your own *before* we go over it in class, so that class time can be used to answer questions and practice rather than simply reiterate what is explained in the book. *This also allows you to create a “scaffold” of the content in English before you learn about it in Spanish.* If you are assigned textbook activities, these must be completed prior to class so that you arrive ready to ask questions and review. You should have access to your textbook during class on some portable device..

Participation:

-To receive participation points, students must demonstrate an attentive, alert, and engaged attitude during class as well as respect for others by contributing to a classroom atmosphere conducive to learning. Come prepared so that you are able to comfortably participate in partner and class practice in a manner that befits a university student. You will be graded on a “pass/no pass” basis with most participation assignments or group activities, which I generally choose randomly. Students who demonstrate that they were ready and able to participate will receive full points, provided that they give their best and remain in class throughout the entire activity or assignment.

-Please note that these assignments cannot be made up, so if you miss class and miss these assignments, you will not receive credit for them.

-Be advised that late arrivals, early departures, bathroom breaks, phone breaks etc. will result in a lowered attendance/participation score.

-Electronics: Please mute your cell phone and keep it packed away during class unless specifically requested by the instructor. You may use a laptop or tablet in class *exclusively* for *Portales* access.

Attendance: Arrive to class on time, and take care of bathroom visits before or after class. Attendance will be recorded daily, typically at the very beginning of class. More than four absences will result in a lower participation grade, as will unexcused late arrivals or early departures. If you miss class, it is YOUR responsibility to check Moodle or contact a classmate to learn what you missed. Lessons, interactions, conversations and discussions in class are impossible to make up, which is why it is crucial to be in class every day. Find an accountability partner now. Exchange contact information with at least two other classmates for this purpose.

Four absences or fewer are allowed for personal use/illness and considered perfect attendance (100%); you will want to “spend” them wisely. If you become ill with COVID or another serious illness, please contact your instructor as soon as possible; we make exceptions for reasonable health complications. See chart below for score equivalencies.

ATTENDANCE CALCULATOR

Absences:	Attendance grade %:	Absences:	Attendance grade %:
0-4	100%	10	60%
5	95%	11	50%
6	90%	12	40%
7	85%	13	30%
8	80%	14	20%
9	70%	15-20	10% (21+ = 0%)

Quizzes:

There will be frequent quizzes on the material covered in each of the lessons. All electronic devices (including smart watches) must be packed away for the duration of the quiz. Bathroom breaks, baseball caps, or hats with visors are strictly prohibited.

One missed quiz is allowed if you contact me prior to the quiz with an excuse I find acceptable. In most cases the subsequent quiz grade will be entered in the grade book in place of the missed quiz grade, however, you might also be to make up certain quizzes should you prefer; some may not have that option.

Midterm & Final Exams:

There will be two exams: Midterm and Final. For official UM-sanctioned absences, you must take the exam before the exam date; there will be no makeup exams for absences without official UM status. All electronic devices (including smart watches) must be packed away for the duration of the exam. Again, baseball caps or hats with visors are strictly prohibited and cannot be worn during any of the exams. Bathroom breaks are not allowed during exams.

Oral Final Exam:

There will be one final interview with your instructor toward the end of the semester. More details will be provided in class.

Office hours:

One of the best ways to take full advantage of learning in this course is by coming to my office hours. I love supporting students in their academic pursuits, and truly care about your success. Please take advantage of the hours listed at the top of page one, or email me for an appointment if those times do not work for you.

Academic honesty:

Students are morally compelled and required to practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the [Student Conduct Code](#).

It's easy to make a mistake when learning another language, so keep in mind that turning in work that you did not write, for which you had considerable direct help from someone else, or which a translation service or computer program has translated (like Google,) *are all examples of academic dishonesty*. Computer-aided or assisted translated work is highly awkward and obvious. If the instructor suspects this kind of work, the instructor reserves the right to additionally interview and/or retest the student, or arrange for proctored testing.

Course withdrawal:

Monday, Sept. 19, 2022 is the last day to withdraw from the course with a partial refund. For a detailed listing of important University dates and deadlines, please see the [Registrar's Calendar links online](#).

Accessibility:

The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and the Office for Disability Equity (ODE). If you anticipate or experience barriers based on disability, please contact the ODE at: (406) 243-2243, ode@umontana.edu, or visit www.umt.edu/disability for more information. Retroactive accommodation requests will not be honored, so please, do not delay. As your instructor, I will work with you and the ODE to implement an effective accommodation, and you are welcome to contact me privately if you wish.

My office is on a floor without elevator access; please call me if you need to meet with me in private and I can arrange a space that is accessible, typically within a matter of a few minutes.

Computers and Course Website Information

Students are expected to be familiar with computers and the Internet. Students are responsible for their own software and computer equipment maintenance and setup as recommended by the University of Montana.

<http://umonline.umt.edu/student-support.php>

Class-Specific Computer Requirements:

- Students are expected to have a 'back up plan' if personal computers become compromised.
- The University of Montana maintains several computer labs on campus:

<http://www.umt.edu/it/support/computerlabs/default.php>

- Students are expected to download copies of course information as necessary and to check email for class announcements.
- Students should **access the Supersite regularly**. Technical support for the VHL supersite can be found at <http://support.vhlcentral.com/> or by calling Student Tech Support: (800) 248-2813.
- For questions or additional support with orders from VHL's online store, please contact VHL Customer Service directly at (800)-269-6311 or at info@vistahigherlearning.com.
- Oftentimes computer issues are easily solved by clearing your cache; here are instructions: <https://support.vhlcentral.com/hc/en-us/articles/360013059154-How-to-Clear-Cache-PC-Mac->
- [Support Resources For Students](#)
- For technical support for using Moodle, please contact UM IT support: <http://www.umt.edu/it/support/default.php>

Did you know that...?

- The United States has the second largest Spanish-speaking population in the world after Mexico. In the US there are over 50 million Spanish speakers (41 million native speakers, 11 million fluent 2nd language speakers).
- Spanish is the third most widely spoken language in the world after English and Mandarin.
- Spanish is the official language in twenty-one countries.
- There are over 400 million Spanish speakers worldwide.
- Hispanics are the largest minority in the US, and Spanish is the second most spoken language in the US. In fact, Spanish is currently spoken by 16% of the US population.
- Experts predict that by the year 2050, there will be 530 million Spanish speakers, of which 100 million will be living in the US.
- Latin American countries are some of the US's most important trading partners.
- Being able to speak Spanish greatly enhances your resume, no matter your major. If you are bilingual, you are more competitive in the workplace.

COVID-19 Considerations:

- Please stay home if you feel sick and/or if you are exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms! Additionally, please contact the Curry Health Center at (406) 243-4330
- Up-to-Date COVID-19 Information from the University of Montana can be found at:
UM Coronavirus Website: <https://www.umt.edu/coronavirus>
UM COVID-19 communications: <https://www.umt.edu/coronavirus/communications/default.php>

CALENDARIO DEL CURSO SPNS 101 FALL 2022

SEMANA 1				
1	M	8/29		Presentación del curso
2	T	8/30	2-5	L1: Introductions, pronunciation, alphabet
3	W	8/31	8-11	Alphabet, pronunciation, saludos
4	Th	9/1	12-15	Nouns and articles, saludos
SEMANA 2				
	M	9/5		Labor Day No Classes
5	T	9/6	12-16	Nouns and articles, numbers
6	W	9/7	16-18	Numbers 0-30
7	Th	9/8	19-23	Subject pronouns and present tense of Ser
SEMANA 3				
8	M	9/12	19-24	Uses of Ser/ Telling time
9	T	9/13	24-27	Telling time
10	W	9/14	28-29, 30-31, 36-37	Recapitulación, Lectura, and Spanish in the US
11	Th	9/15	40-43	L 2: Classroom vocabulary, en la universidad
SEMANA 4				
12	M	9/19	42-43, 47	Days of the week, pronunciación
13	T	9/20	50-54	Present tense of regular -ar verbs
14	W	9/21	50-54	-ar verbs and the verb gustar
15	Th	9/22	50-54	-ar verbs and gustar
SEMANA 5				
16	M	9/26	55-61	Forming questions and present tense of estar
17	T	9/27	55-62	Questions/ uses of estar with prepositions and adverbs
18	W	9/28	62-63	Estar/ numbers 31-100
19	Th	9/29	64-65, 68-69	Estar/ numbers 101 and higher, Lectura
SEMANA 6				
20	M	10/3	66-67, 68-69, 74-75	Recapitulación, Lectura, and España
21	T	10/4	78-84	L 3: Family Vocab
22	W	10/5	85, 86-87	Pronunciación, Cultura; la familia y los apellidos
23	Th	10/6	88-92	Descriptive adjectives
SEMANA 7				
24	M	10/10	88-92	Descriptive adjectives (position)
25	T	10/11	93-95	Possessive adjectives
26	W	10/12	96-99	Adjectives, present tense of -er & -ir verbs
27	Th	10/13	96-99	Present tense of -er and -ir verbs
SEMANA 8				
28	M	10/17	100-103, 112-113	Present tense of tener and venir verbs /Ecuador
29	T	10/18	100-103	More practice: -er, -ir verbs & idiomatic expressions
30	W	10/19	100-103	More practice: -er, -ir verbs & idiomatic expressions
31	Th	10/20	104-105	Recapitulación

SEMANA 9

32	M	10/24		Review for midterm
33	T	10/25		Midterm Exam
35	W	10/26	116-119	L 4: Pastimes vocab, places vocab
36	Th	10/27	123-126	Vocab, Pronunciación/ cultura/ the verb IR

SEMANA 10

37	M	10/31	126-128	Present tense of ir
38	T	11/1	129-132	Stem-changing verbs e-ie, o-ue
39	W	11/2	129-132	Stem-changing verbs e-ie, o-ue
40	Th	11/3	133-135	Stem-changing verbs e-i,

SEMANA 11

41	M	11/7	136-139	Verbs with irregular yo forms
	T	11/8		Election Day. No class
42	W	11/9	136-139	Irregular yo forms, verbs ver and oír
43	Th	11/10	140-141, 148-149	Recapitulación, México

SEMANA 12

44	M	11/14	152-157	L5: Vacation vocabulary, Seasons/months/weather vocab
45	T	11/15	152-157	Seasons/months/weather vocab
46	W	11/16	164-165	Estar with conditions and emotions
47	Th	11/17	164-167	More practice with estar, The present progressive

SEMANA 13

48	M	11/21	166-167	The present progressive
49	T	11/22	170-173	Uses of ser and estar (General Concept)
	W	11/23		Thanksgiving. No Class
	Th	11/24		Thanksgiving. No Class

SEMANA 14

50	M	11/28	170-173	Ser and estar w/ adjectives (specific differences)
51	T	11/29	164-171	More practice with ser and estar
52	W	11/30	178-179	Recapitulación, Review for Oral Exam
53	Th	12/1		Oral Exam + review work for final

SEMANA 15

54	M	12/5		Oral Exam
55	T	12/6		Oral Exam
56	W	12/7		Oral Exam
57	Th	12/8		Review for Final Written Exam

FINAL EXAM comprensivo: martes 13 de diciembre 5-7 o 6-8.
(Time and location to be announced)