

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA UPSTATE
DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGES, LITERATURE, & COMPOSITION
SPANISH 101-1 —SPRING 2015

Instructor: María Francisco Montesó
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Meeting time: 9:00-9:50 HPAC 134
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IMPORTANT DATES:

Tuesday, January 20	Last day to drop without receiving a W
Wednesday, March 26	Last day to withdraw without academic penalty (a grade of WF recorded) Last day to change from credit to audit

REQUIRED TEXTS: *jViva!* (3rd edition) and the access code for the Supersite and WebSAM (known as the Supersite Plus)

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Fundamentals of the language and culture through speaking, listening, reading, and writing. Admission to SPAN 101 is intended for those who have never studied Spanish previously. **This is also a technology-intensive course in which you will use technological tools in many of your activities.**

COURSE OBJECTIVES: Welcome to Spanish 101! In this course students will begin to develop skills in the four areas of listening, speaking, reading, and writing through interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational communicative modes. In addition, students will gain knowledge of Hispanic culture, connect with other disciplines, develop insights into the nature of language and culture, become aware of the multilingual communities that comprise the Spanish-speaking world, and engage in digital storytelling and technology enhanced presentations. By the end of the course students should be able to write simple paragraphs and comprehend short conversations. Students' ability to communicate in and comprehend Spanish will develop along with their knowledge of the vocabulary and grammatical structures of the language. Finally, to encourage the development of proficiency in Spanish, this course is standards-driven, based on the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) and South Carolina Academic Achievement Standards. To encourage the development of proficiency in technologic means, we will use standards as set by USC Upstate's Quality Enhancement Plan STEP-UP program.

ATTENDANCE: Due to the participatory nature of this class, students are expected to attend regularly, to be on time, and to remain until class is over. Circumstances may occasionally arise which might cause you to miss class, but excessive absences, tardiness, and/or occasions of leaving class early will

have a negative impact on your final course grade. Every absence does affect your grade, whether you have missed an assignment or the lesson given by the instructor. **Three absences are allowed**; further absences will have a negative effect on your grade. **Students who miss more than 10 classes will earn an F in the class**, regardless of grades earned on assignments. In case of an absence, you are responsible for determining from another student what went on in class and any assignments missed. As per the *2014-2015 Academic Catalog*, "All matters related to the student's absence, including the possible make-up of work missed, are to be arranged between the student and the instructor. Students should understand that they are responsible for all course content covered during their absences and for the academic consequences of their absences." You may want to find out the names and phone numbers or email addresses of some of your classmates to contact if you are absent. All due dates apply to students who are and are not present in class. Students who arrive to class more than five minutes late or leave more than five minutes early will be considered absent.

CLASS COMUNICATION: Please check your **USC email** and visit **Blackboard** often. These are our forms of communication outside of the classroom. Your Instructor is not responsible for a student's failure to check the USC **email** or **announcements** on BB. Every time you contact your instructor by email **use formal language and add some course information** in order to be recognized (days we meet, course level...)

In addition, be sure to maintain your inbox so that you don't miss messages because your mailbox is full. Students are discouraged from using other forms of email (yahoo, hotmail, etc.) as these sites may compromise our campus email system. I try to return all calls and emails within 24 hours.

STUDENT CONDUCT FOR THE CLASSROOM:

A Member of the USC Upstate Community of Scholars:

Displays personal and academic integrity.

You are honest, truthful, and trustworthy. You do not lie, cheat, or steal. You do not present others' work as your own or collaborate with others without acknowledgement or permission from the faculty member.

Accepts responsibility for actions.

You do not blame others for academic consequences resulting from your own decisions and behavior. You follow established policies and procedures in the USC Upstate Catalog, the USC Upstate Student Handbook, and course syllabi.

Respects the rights and dignity of all persons.

You are courteous and respect the rights and property of others. You do not harass, demean, ridicule, abuse, threaten, or discriminate against others.

Maintains a learning-focused attitude.

You are engaged in the classroom and other learning environments, both on and off campus. You are on time, prepared, and alert. You participate until the faculty member in charge dismisses the class.

Refrains from conduct that adversely affects others.

Your conduct is appropriate for learning. You do not enter the class late or leave early without permission of the faculty member. You follow the instructions of the faculty member regarding talking or using cell phones, pagers, or other electronic devices in class. You do not use threatening, demeaning, or inflammatory language.

Follows the specific requirements of faculty members.

You meet the behavioral and academic expectations of your instructors recognizing that these standards will often vary.

CLASS PREPARATION: Because language learning is essentially communication practice, the class period is devoted primarily to speaking the language rather than speaking about the language.

Therefore, students are responsible for preparing the material before coming to class as outlined on the syllabus. Failure to keep up with the daily assignments and to participate in class will result in the student falling behind very quickly and receiving a low grade for the course. Language acquisition is a skill one must practice daily and the scheduled activities for each day provide such practice. Learning a new language requires a lot of risk-taking on the part of the learner. The professor's attitude towards participation is "voluntario o víctima."

You must Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) in order to complete the majority of class and homework activities. If you do not own a device, you can check out loaner equipment from Information Technology and Services. For more information, please visit http://www.uscupstate.edu/campus_services/it/its.aspx?id=39358.

LANGUAGE LAB: The language lab in HPAC 234 is an integral part of SPAN 101. You are expected to practice online oral and written material in this course. Your instructor will inform you of the procedures for submitting your work. **Free tutoring** is also available in the language lab. Please get help before you encounter difficulty in class.

EVALUATION

TESTS: There will be four chapter tests. The final exam will include also chapter 5. There will be no make-up for missed tests or the final exam unless the student can provide a document explaining the absence for the date in question. All tests and the final exam are indicated on the course schedule. Students are expected to remain in the room during all tests. No extra materials will be allowed for use during evaluation unless indicated by the instructor.

COMPOSITIONS: You will have to complete two compositions this semester during class time and the dates are on the calendar. Your instructor will give you instructions for the compositions that you need to follow. **PLEASE NOTE: There are many online resources out there to assist you with your work (Google Translator, Babel Fish, and etc.). The purpose of this course is for YOU to learn how to communicate/write in Spanish. The use of a translator program to write your composition is NOT acceptable. If I suspect that you have used a translator program or outside help to write your composition, you will receive a 0 for the assignment.**

CLASS HOMEWORK AND PARTICIPATION: Learning a foreign language requires a lot of effort and, consequently, doing homework is essential. Class homework will be assigned in class and randomly collected by the instructor.

The student is responsible for preparing the material *before* coming to class as outlined on the weekly schedule. Language acquisition is a skill one must practice daily. Failure to keep up with the daily assignments and to participate in class will result in the student falling behind very quickly and receiving a low grade for the course.

All students should attempt to speak as much Spanish as possible while in class. This course is student-centered and students will be given many opportunities to use the language. Every time you participate

actively in class, you complete activities, you participate in discussions or you use the language, you will accumulate participation and class activities points.

At times, depending on the chapter and vocabulary covered, you will be asked to create sentences in Spanish about your daily life (supported with an image) using Twitter. You will use the hashtag **#MontesoSpring2015** in order to complete these assignments. Your instructor will give you specific instructions and a deadline for each of these assignments; it is up to you to complete all them by the assigned date. No late work will be accepted.

SUPERSITE: Your instructor will assign activities on the Supersite (on-line workbook) after every class. The due date will be every Monday at midnight. You can always **submit activities before the due date, and this is highly recommended.**

To complete this work is your responsibility. Make sure you check it often, especially before every Monday midnight. If you miss activities your total score will be affected. You will usually have five attempts for each activity but it depends on its category.

Let's face it: technology breaks, servers go down and the power goes out. The list goes on and on. These are not considered emergencies; you have more than enough time to complete your activities. An issue you may have with technology is no excuse for late work. You need to protect yourself by managing your time and not waiting until the last moment to start your labs. **Talk to your instructor** if you missed an activity or submitted it after the due date **only if there are good reasons**. Before the end of the semester, **try to finish all the undone activities even if they are late.**

It is the student's responsibility to make sure that all assignments are submitted properly.

Instructions to enroll in your instructor's course are on Blackboard.

ORAL ASSESSMENTS: There will be two oral assessments during the semester. The **first** will be a mid-semester oral quiz in which two or three of you will be put in a situation that requires you to be able to communicate basic information in Spanish and record it on a video. The **second** will be individual and you will create a digital storytelling video presentation of no less than 2 minutes, and no more than 2 minutes and 30 seconds, about you, your classes, your family, your pastimes, etc.

You will post your first video on a Padlet link provided by your instructor; for the second video you will create a link, and will post it on Twitter using: **#MontesoSpring2015.**

Your instructor will provide you with detailed instructions to follow for these two oral assessments.

Find the due dates on the calendar. **NO LATE ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE PERMITTED!**

CULTURE COMPONENT: There are many cultural events that happen both on and off campus each semester. **In Spanish 101, you will attend one of these events and complete a two-part essay that will be uploaded on "Our Culture Blog", on Blackboard.** First, on a Word document you will write a short description of the event in Spanish (approximately 5-10 sentences). Please note, it is understood that this part will not be in-depth since your knowledge of Spanish vocabulary and grammar is limited at this time. However, find an aspect of the event that you could write about. Please keep it simple. Second, you will write on the same document a more in-depth analysis of your experience in English (approximately ½ - 1 page). Keep your eyes and ears open for events around campus. The library also has an extensive collection of movies in Spanish that could be viewed for this assignment. Ask your

instructor for opinion before you watch a movie. If you have an idea of an event that could count, please discuss it with your instructor. You may upload this assignment at any time during the semester, but the absolute last day is on the last day of class.

USE OF SPANISH IN CLASS: Each student should attempt to express himself/herself in Spanish during the class period.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES: In keeping with University policy, any student with a disability who requests academic accommodations should contact Disability Services at 503-5199 to arrange a confidential appointment with the Disability Services Coordinator. Students are encouraged to seek an appointment as early in the semester as possible, as accommodations are not provided retroactively. Letters of accommodation must be signed and printed on letterhead from the Disability Services office. It is the student's responsibility to provide these letters to professors in a timely manner so that accommodations may be put in place.

GRADING: Grading scale for SSPN 101 is as follows:

90-100=A, 88-89=B+, 80-87=B, 78-79=C+, 70-77=C, 68-69=D+, 60-67=D, 0-59=F

ASSIGNMENTS:

Exams (4)	30%
Final Exam (+Chapter 5)	15%
Oral Quiz	5%
Storytelling video presentation	10%
Supersite	15%
Compositions	10%
Class homework and participation	10%
Cultural component	5%

****PLEASE NOTE:** I would like for each of you to be successful in this course. I am always available by e-mail and during my office hours if you need extra assistance. There are also tutors in the language lab to help. The best way to be successful is to keep up with the assignments. Missing an assignment here and there will be detrimental to your grade. I will not accept late work. I will also not change grades at the end of the semester unless there is an error on my part. Therefore, whatever grade you need in the course, you will need to earn it. If you need a C to keep your financial aid, you will need to earn that C.

Since this is a technologically enriched course, we will be using several tools from the Internet. At times, technology fails or a server crashes; these are not excuses for late assignments as that you should plan ahead of time for these possibilities. Also, there are several additional resources on the Internet that can help you learn Spanish including free podcasts, YouTube videos, and online dictionaries. Your instructor can advise you about these tools. You should take advantage of these free resources; however, you should note that online translators at times are wrong and overuse (more than a word or phrase) constitutes academic misconduct.

NEED A MINOR? INTERESTED IN STUDYING ABROAD? Most majors on campus require that you have a minor. If you enjoy languages, this class could be your first step in getting a minor in Spanish. A fun way to earn college credit is to study abroad. USC Upstate has many study abroad opportunities for you. Some universities abroad even offer general education classes in English. What better way to get some of your coursework completed while learning Spanish? If you are interested in either opportunity, please speak with me. I can direct you to the appropriate contact person.