

# Course syllabus

## Beginning Spanish 2 AY21-22 Semester 1

Miércoles y viernes, 10:30am-12:00pm; Jueves, 10:00-11:00am

**Classroom 18** (<https://www.yale-nus.edu.sg/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/campus-map-20150814.png>)

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- **Office:** Saga 01-03B
- **Office hours:** Tuesday 11:00-12:00pm; Thursday 2:00-3:00pm or by appointment

### Texts:

- ***Tu Mundo: Español Sin Fronteras 2nd edition*** by Andrade, Egasse, Muñoz & Cabrera Puche. *NOTE: we will be using the eBook edition in this course via the CONNECT platform (Chapters 8 – 15)*
  - To purchase your access code, read [these instructions](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1h7o2qeLR1w8ZK3WBTgBZus_Re00qTxXD/view) ([https://drive.google.com/file/d/1h7o2qeLR1w8ZK3WBTgBZus\\_Re00qTxXD/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1h7o2qeLR1w8ZK3WBTgBZus_Re00qTxXD/view)) and then visit <https://connect.mheducation.com/class/yale-nus-ay21-22-s1-spb2-elo> (<https://connect.mheducation.com/class/yale-nus-ay21-22-s1-spb2-elo>) to register your information and join the course

### Course Description:

Basic Spanish 2 is the second part of the Beginning Spanish sequence. By enrolling in this course I assume that you have successfully completed Beginning Spanish 1 or that you have some prior experience with Spanish. If that is not the case, you should discuss this with me to ensure this is the appropriate module for you. You may be required to take a language placement exam at the beginning of the course. **NOTE: You are highly encouraged to review what we covered in the first 7 chapters in the eBook.**

**Language Peer Tutoring:** As part of the course, you will be meeting with a Spanish peer tutor once a week for 30 minutes. This is part of the course and attendance is mandatory.

By emphasizing conversation, grammar and vocabulary building this course will help you further

By emphasizing conversation, grammar and vocabulary building this course will help you further develop the four basic language skills: listening, reading, writing, and speaking, plus some level of cultural competence. The course is designed so that you can reach the A2 level<sup>[1]</sup> by the end of the semester. This means that you should be able to understand the main points during conversations encountered in familiar settings. You will be able to handle spoken language while traveling and be able to describe events and experiences with attention to details and different views.

## Objectives:

This course has several inter-related objectives. By the end of the term, you should be able to:

1. **understand** instructions, questions and the discussion of everyday topics in Spanish;
2. **comprehend** short, authentic reading selections in Spanish (with the occasional help of a dictionary);
3. **produce** simple sentences and questions in written and oral form using a wide range of vocabulary and accurate grammatical structures when responding to different scenarios (asking for directions, narrating in the past, expressing desires, etc.); and
4. **demonstrate** a deeper understanding of the culture, history, and politics of Spanish-speaking countries.

**NOTE ON COMPUTER USE:** This course will use technology to present content and give you many opportunities to practice Spanish in context. Most assignments will be done on the computer and you are expected to be, or quickly become, proficient with the various online components of the course. If you have any questions, please contact me immediately. **You are expected to use technology in a professional and responsible manner, refraining from checking Facebook, e-mail or surfing the Web during class time unless it is directly related to class work. Inappropriate behavior may result in a lower grade.**

## Methodology and Teaching Philosophy:

In class we will speak Spanish as much as possible, using English to explain grammatical points, clarify instructions, describe new technology tools, or discuss course-related topics when necessary. You are expected and encouraged to speak in Spanish at all times. Remember, you will only learn by trying and making mistakes. The more you speak, the faster you'll improve. You will also meet with a **language peer tutor** once a week for 30 minutes. These sessions are mandatory and they help you improve your proficiency faster.

Following the *Communicative Approach*, the emphasis will be on language practice and we will not devote too much time to grammar instruction. **To this end, you are expected to actively participate in class activities and discussions in order to deduce grammar usage. In**

participate in class activities and discussions in order to achieve grammar goals. In addition, you must read the “**Infórmate**” section of the eBook (which contains grammatical explanations). Although we may do some grammar exercises in class, it is important that you practice as much as possible on your own. To that end, there will be assigned exercises each week from the CONNECT “Cuaderno de Actividades” or Workbook. These will include practice exercises as well as graded work.

### A note on class participation

My aim is to create and maintain a **positive class atmosphere** at all times. Since much of your learning depends on participation and class interactions, an open and relaxed class atmosphere is of great importance. You should feel comfortable speaking and performing in Spanish at all times.

## Course Structure: Targeting the Five C's<sup>[2]</sup>

The structure of the course will revolve around the following standards:

- **Communication**
  - This course will focus on uses of Spanish in “real life” and what you can do with Spanish to communicate in a Spanish-speaking culture.
- **Cultures**
  - During the course, culture will be an integral part of instruction. We will work towards a greater understanding of the Hispanic world vis-à-vis your own culture.
- **Connections**
  - Although language learning is the basis of this course, the topics discussed will make connections with other subject areas such as history, art, economics, or politics.
- **Comparisons**
  - Through various tasks and class activities, you will be encouraged to make connections, compare and contrast, and gain a deeper understanding of your own as well as Hispanic culture in general.
- **Communities**
  - The course may include activities that will reach out to other groups interested in Spanish and the Hispanic world. Activities may include field trips, campus activities, etc.

## Requirements:

### a) Class Attendance and Participation (15%):

- Attendance: You are expected to come to class every week and

Grade Distribution		Grading Scale	
Attendance & <u>Active</u> Participation	15%	A+	100-98

class every week and

arrive on time. Given the limited amount of time we have during

the semester to master a fair amount

of material, it is important that you

avoid missing any sessions. Absences

will only be excused in the event of an

emergency when appropriate documentation is

provided (e.g. an Assistant Dean's Note or a medical certificate).

Unexcused absences will lower your final grade.

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Keep in mind the following Academic Policies:

1. *Students are expected to attend all classes. Students must request the permission of the faculty member to be absent from classes.*
  2. *Students are generally entitled to miss one class meeting of a course for the purposes of required fieldwork for another course. Students must nevertheless still request and agree this absence with the faculty member teaching the course they will be absent from.*
  3. *Permission to be absent from class for reason of extra-curricular activities is not automatic and is at the discretion of the faculty member.*
  4. *Faculty members may permit a student to be absent for a reason other than fieldwork, but is entitled to apply grading penalties. Faculty members determine their own practices in this respect and these will be clearly stated on the course syllabus.*
  5. *Faculty members may penalize students for unauthorized absence.*
  6. *Penalties for both authorized and unauthorized absence will normally be on a sliding scale of severity.*
- **Preparation:** You should come to class prepared and ready to engage. This means that you should have completed the assigned workbook activities and reviewed the corresponding grammar section at the end of each chapter ("Informe").
  - **Participation:** You are expected to participate actively in class by asking questions, making comments, and answering the instructor's or another student's questions. Remember, practice makes perfect.

Homework - (workbook activities, portfolio development)	20%
Quizzes	25%
Midterm Project	15%
Final Oral Presentation (Recorded)	15%
Final Portfolio Reflection	10%
Total	100

<b>A</b>	97-95
<b>A-</b>	94-90
<b>B+</b>	89-87
<b>B</b>	86-83
<b>B-</b>	82-80
<b>C+</b>	79-77
<b>C</b>	76-72
<b>D+</b>	71-67
<b>D</b>	66-60
<b>F</b>	59-0

## b) Homework (20%):

The assigned eBook exercises for each chapter should be **fully completed and submitted by the due date** as indicated on the CONNECT website. In order to receive credit, **all assigned exercises** must be completed. Pay special attention to the Listening and Pronunciation exercises.

At the beginning of each class, there will be a short task to check comprehension and mastery of different grammatical concepts. These exercises will be reviewed and made available via Canvas.

## d) Quizzes (25%):

Much like Beginning Spanish I, this module will use the continuous assessment model. Short quizzes (“pruebas”) will be used throughout the semester to assess your mastery of the material. Some of the questions will be from the workbook but they may also include other activities. The dates for these quizzes or “*pruebas*” will be indicated on the Connect website.

## e) Midterm Oral Assessment or Exam (15%):

In this assessment you will get a chance to use the vocabulary and grammatical structures learned throughout the first half of the semester. It is very important to study by practicing with classmates and online friends in order to improve your language fluency and accuracy. More details will be provided at that time.

## g) Final Oral Presentation (recorded) (15%):

This assessment will give you an opportunity to show your oral mastery of the Spanish language. You will select a topic related to the Spanish-speaking world, research it, and develop a presentation in Spanish. You are encouraged to use your creativity and expected to include vocabulary and grammar learned throughout the semester. More details about this project will be given in class and via Canvas.

## h) Final Portfolio Reflection (10%):

The final written task will consist of a short essay **in Spanish** talking about your work during the semester with the **Language Portfolio**, in particular your **Intercultural Journal** and **Language Dossier**. There will be time in class to go over this to address any questions.

## Note on Grades:

A, A+	Excellent work. Above expectations
B+, B, B-	Good work. Meets all the course goals and fulfills all the course requirements

C+, C	Fair. Meets some of the course goals and requirements
D+, D	Poor. Barely passing work of low quality
F	Fail

## Note on Academic Integrity:

Academic Integrity Policy Yale-NUS College expects its students to abide by the highest standards of academic integrity as a matter of personal honesty and communal responsibility. Acting with academic integrity requires that (a) students do their own work, (b) students not interfere with the work of others, (c) students accurately and honestly represent the content of their work, and (d) students properly attribute others' work. Violations of the College's academic integrity standards undermine both the community and the individual growth of students. Accordingly, they will be addressed with the utmost seriousness and sanctions ranging from grade penalties to expulsion. Examples of violations of academic integrity include plagiarism, copying or sharing homework answers, submitting work completed for one course as 'new' work for another course, or fabricating or falsifying research data. For more information please visit the Student Services website, Policies and Procedures section: <https://studentlife.yale-nus.edu.sg/policies/academic-integrity/> (<https://studentlife.yale-nus.edu.sg/policies/academic-integrity/%20>)

The Yale-NUS Library provides resources on citations and plagiarism here: <https://library.yale-nus.edu.sg/avoiding-plagiarism/> (<https://library.yale-nus.edu.sg/avoiding-plagiarism/>)

## Note on Late Submissions:

All homework and assignments must be submitted on the **due date**. Late homework **MAY NOT** be accepted or graded. If accepted, its grade will be lowered by 10% per day.

If you miss class due to illness or any other valid reason, you **must contact me asap** to make arrangements to hand in any missed assignment.

Your assignment will be considered late if it misses the deadline without a AD note or Medical Certificate from a Doctor. For every late assignment, you will pay a penalty, as your grade will go down by 5 points if you do not submit by the deadline. The grade will fall by 5 points (or a 1/3 of a letter grade) per 24 hours after the deadline. Please note the following from the Academic Regulations (p.19): "Students are expected to plan and manage their workloads, and to ensure they do not lose work through IT malfunction. Students are expected to submit work on or before the deadlines specified in the syllabi or as advised in class. Faculty members may penalise students for work submitted after a deadline in accord with their policy, which will be clearly stated on the course syllabus."

# Health and Wellness Contacts

If you are experiencing undue stress or feel you might benefit from private counseling, please contact the Yale-NUS Health and Wellness Centre. The wellness centre also offers a wide range of enriching workshops and events. You may also wish to reach out to Vice Rector within your residential College. For this and other kinds of support. <https://studentlife.yale-nus.edu.sg/wellness/>

[1] [http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/linguistic/source/framework\\_en.pdf](http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/linguistic/source/framework_en.pdf)

[2] <http://globalteachinglearning.com/standards/5cs.shtml>