

SPA 201 SECOND YEAR SPANISH I

Credits: 4

Texts and Required Materials:

1. Blanco, J., & Donley, P. (2012). VISTAS. Introducción a la lengua española. 5th edition. Vista High Learning.
2. Material provided by the instructor.

Recommended:

1. A good Spanish/English – English/Spanish dictionary.

Course Objectives: Students will increase their levels of proficiency via the everyday use of the target language. By continuous practicing of the target language, it is expected that students will be able to spontaneously create with the language, initiate, sustain and close intermediate-level exchanges, ask and answer questions and possess the skills necessary to circumlocute when faced with a more difficult communicative task.

Student Learning Outcomes: Active engagement with the content of this course will allow students to:

1. Understand the main idea and some of the supporting details of spoken Spanish intended for beginning college students regarding topics related to their daily life.
2. Initiate and respond verbally to simple statements, ask and answer questions and participate in simple conversations about familiar topics with sufficient accuracy in pronunciation and grammar so as to be understood by persons accustomed to interacting with learners of Spanish.
3. Read simple, edited written material on topics related to everyday uses of the Spanish language and the Hispanic culture.
4. Write short, coherent compositions on familiar topics with sufficient accuracy in grammar, spelling, punctuation, and vocabulary so as to be understood by persons accustomed to interacting with learners of Spanish.
5. Understand some significant cultural traits of the Spanish-speaking world (customs, lifestyles, attitudes, geography, famous people, etc.) and show cultural competence.

Please keep in mind that Spanish classes are designed to present the basic tools necessary for learning Spanish. To be successful in the achievement of the course goals, students should actively participate in the learning experience in class (e.g., by participating in class discussions, being productive in group work) and outside class (speaking the majority of the time in Spanish). Students do not automatically become either fluent or proficient by completing the introductory Spanish courses as language acquisition must also occur outside of the classroom.

Evaluation Criteria:

Tareas y participación	10%
Quizzes (4)	10%
Exámen(1)	20%
Blog (4)	15%
Examen Oral (3)	15%
Examen de Comprension	10%
Examen final	20%
Total	100%

Grading Criteria: 90-100 = A; 80-89 = B; 70-79 = C; 60-69 = D and anything below 60 = F

Assessment of Learning Outcomes:

Homework and participation: Students are required to participate in all class activities (group work, asking and answering questions, etc.) and come prepared to class (bring books, homework, etc.). Students will be given participation points for each day of class. An absence, for any reason, will result in the permanent loss of participation points for that given day.

Quizzes: (4) There will be periodical quizzes (except on the days where there is a composition or test scheduled). Quizzes will cover vocabulary, grammar, and any information covered in class. You will be given details about the date and content of each quiz ahead of time when necessary. **NO MAKE UPS.**

Exam (1): There will be 1 exam which will assess listening comprehension, grammar, vocabulary, reading comprehension, and writing. **NO MAKE UP EXAM** will be given.

Blog (4): This is a writing project to be completed during the semester individually. You can start working on your pieces as soon as you want and you can submit your pieces for correction before presenting the final entry to your instructor (there are due dates for the different drafts along the course). Please be creative, include not only text, but also pictures in your blog.

Your blog should include at least four tabs:

- a) Present yourself. (name, age, where are you from, etc). Should also introduce the country in which you are studying (Costa Rica).
- b) Research about 2 important places inside the Universidad Fidelitas. Describe each one physically and explain why it is important that place.
- c) You need to research and choose among some of the most important celebrations, countrywise and prepare yourself to explain about the topic in front of the class.
- d) Write an article or report about free time activities and vacation destinations for Costa Rica. Please describe places you have visited and activities you have been part of.

You may have designed a blog before in other classes, if you do not have experience in designing blogs, a good start is to use <http://www.blogger.com/>

Listening exam: Because the development of your ability to understand spoken Spanish is one of our primary goals and because it is essential for success in subsequent courses, you will complete an exam that assesses your ability to understand the main ideas and supporting detail in spoken discourse. This exam will be given near the end of the course. In this sense, the exam will be comprehensive, requiring you to remain acquainted with the vocabulary and structures studied throughout the course.

Oral assessment (3): A major assessment of your speaking abilities will be conducted three times during the course, providing you with an opportunity to demonstrate your abilities to communicate about every-day topics and situations in Spanish. This assessment may be conducted as an interview between you and the instructor, as role-plays performed between you and a classmate, or as a short presentation about the topics covered during the segment of the course.

Final Exam: The final exam will be comprehensive. **NO MAKE UPS WILL BE GIVEN.**

Attendance: Daily attendance to class is required, not optional.

Students are expected to attend every class session and to make up all missed work because of legitimate absences. In case of an absence, the student is responsible to seek the information and/or materials from fellow students before seeking it from the instructor. After 1 unexcused or unexplained absence, your final grade will be automatically lowered by 10%, after 2 absences 20%, after 3 absences 30%, and after 4 absences 40%. Instructors are under no obligation to make special arrangements for students who have been absent or who miss assignments, deadlines and/or examinations. Attendance to the conversation workshop is mandatory.

Cellphones are not allowed out of your backpacks unless we are using them for an activity. The use of cellphone during class time (unless it is an emergency) will result in the loss of participation points.

Plagiarism: Any use of electronic translators will result in a ZERO. Any use of family, friends, or others to do homework will result in a ZERO.

SENSITIVE COURSE MATERIALS

University education aims to expand student understanding and awareness. Thus, it necessarily involves engagement with a wide range of information, ideas, and creative representations. In the course of college studies, students can expect to encounter—and critically appraise—materials that may differ from and perhaps challenge familiar understandings, ideas, and beliefs. Students are encouraged to discuss these matters with faculty.

Tentative Plan (subject to change upon instructors discretion) Mandatory test days and in-class compositions days are highlighted on calendar. The due dates of homework assignments, reading reviews and quizzes will be announced in class.

SEMANA # 1			
Lunes	Presentación del Syllabus		Capítulo 9
Martes	Quiz #1		Capítulo 9

Miércoles			Capítulo 9
Jueves			Capítulo 9
SEMANA # 2			
Lunes			Capítulo 9
Martes	Blog draft 1:		Capítulo 9
Miércoles	Quiz #2	Práctica para el examen oral.	Capítulo 10
Jueves	EXAMEN ORAL #1		Capítulo 10
SEMANA # 3			
Lunes			Capítulo 10
Martes	Blog draft 2:	REPASO PARA EL EXAMEN	Capítulo 10
Miércoles	EXAMEN		Capítulo 10
Jueves			
SEMANA # 4			
Lunes	Quiz #3		Capítulo 11
Martes	Blog draft 3:		Capítulo 11
Miércoles		Práctica para el examen oral.	Capítulo 11
Jueves	EXAMEN ORAL #2		
SEMANA # 5			
Lunes			Capítulo 11
Martes		Práctica para el examen comprehension auditiva.	Capítulo 11
Miércoles	Quiz #4		Capítulo 12
Jueves	Blog draft 4:	EXAMEN Comprehension auditiva	
SEMANA # 6			
Lunes			Capítulo 12
Martes		Práctica para el examen oral.	Capítulo 12
Miércoles	EXAMEN ORAL #3	REPASO PARA EL EXAMEN FINAL	Capítulo 12
Jueves		EXAMEN FINAL	