

Introduction to Spanish I

Spring 2003

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Office: Belknap 110-C
Hours: MWF (10:00-10:50 AM), MW (12:00-2:50 PM), or by appointment.



Required material:

Texts: Knore, et. al. *Puntos de partida*. 6th Ed. Boston: McGraw-Hill, 2001.

Other Resources: *Puntos de partida* CD-Rom, E-Lab Manual, E-Workbook.
<http://www.mnsfld.edu/~wkeeth>
<http://coursework.mnsfld.edu/puntos/startpc.htm>
http://www.mhhe.com/socscience/spanish/puntos/student_index.mhtml

Other:
2 Floppy Disks


Suggested Material:


Miscellaneous: A spiral notebook (class journal)
Flashcards (verb and vocabulary drill)

Texts:
Castillo, Carlos, et. al. *The University of Chicago Spanish Dictionary*. Chicago: U of Chicago P, 2002.
Lacasa, Jaime. *The Complete Handbook of Spanish Verbs*. Lincolnwood, Ill.: Passport Books, 1984.
Spinelli, Emily. *English Grammar for Students of Spanish*. Ann Arbor, Mich. : Olivia and Hill Press, 1998.
Butt, John. *Spanish Grammar*. New York : Oxford University Press, 1996.

Overview of course:

This course is designed for students who have not previously studied Spanish. In this course we will develop fundamental communicative skills in Spanish: speaking, listening, reading, and writing. These skills will be practiced daily in both class and group activities. Students can expect to encounter a variety of activities that focus on cultural awareness. The format of tests will reflect both the course's concentration and focus. Homework and laboratory work are required daily.

Specific Course Goals:	Textbook Timetable:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognize and use basic vocabulary, idiomatic expressions, and grammar. Build written or verbal messages in Spanish that reflect class activities and the fundamental skills of communication that are introduced in class (speaking, writing, listening, and reading). Use guessing/prediction strategies and grammatical forms in language production. Recognize culturally relevant information and demeanor. Return conversation in casual talks, classroom discussions, dialogues, group work and questions. 	

System of Evaluation:																																	
<i>Standards of Measurement</i>	<i>Criteria and Weight*</i>																																
 <table border="1" data-bbox="381 730 933 1123"> <thead> <tr> <th>Performance Description</th> <th>Grade</th> <th>Percentage</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td rowspan="2">Excellent</td> <td>A</td> <td>93 > 100 %</td> </tr> <tr> <td>A-</td> <td>90 > 92 %</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="3">Good</td> <td>B+</td> <td>87 > 89 %</td> </tr> <tr> <td>B</td> <td>83 > 86 %</td> </tr> <tr> <td>B-</td> <td>80 > 82 %</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2">Satisfactory</td> <td>C+</td> <td>77 > 79 %</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C</td> <td>73 > 76 %</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="3">Marginal</td> <td>C-</td> <td>70 > 72 %</td> </tr> <tr> <td>D+</td> <td>67 > 69 %</td> </tr> <tr> <td>D</td> <td>63 > 66 %</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2">Failing</td> <td>D-</td> <td>60 > 62 %</td> </tr> <tr> <td>F</td> <td>0 > 59 %</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Performance Description	Grade	Percentage	Excellent	A	93 > 100 %	A-	90 > 92 %	Good	B+	87 > 89 %	B	83 > 86 %	B-	80 > 82 %	Satisfactory	C+	77 > 79 %	C	73 > 76 %	Marginal	C-	70 > 72 %	D+	67 > 69 %	D	63 > 66 %	Failing	D-	60 > 62 %	F	0 > 59 %	<p>Class Participation.....10%</p> <p>E-Lab.....5%</p> <p>E-Workbook.....5%</p> <p>2 Exams (12.5% each).....25%</p> <p>Midterm.....20%</p> <p>Oral Presentation.....10%</p> <p>Final Listening Exam.....5%</p> <p>Final Exam.....20%</p> <p>Total: 100%</p>
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*Specific due dates will be listed on the Class Calendar (See class web page) and/or assigned periodically in class.

Important Dates:	
Exam 1 – February 7 th , 2003	Midterm – February 28 th , 2003
Exam 2 – March 28 th , 2003	Oral Presentations– April 21-3 rd , 2003
Final Listening Exam – April 25 th , 2003	Final Exam – SPA 1101-01 (April 28 th , 2003 at 8 AM) SPA 1101-02 (April 30 th , 2003 at 8 AM)

Exams, Midterm, Final Exam:

Students MUST take each Exam, Midterm, and Final Exam on the day scheduled for examination. If a student is absent from any Exam, Midterm, or Final Exam, then s/he will receive a zero (unless the student has made a prior arrangement with the professor’s approval). The Midterm, Final Listening Exam, Oral Presentations, and Final Exam will be comprehensive and accumulative in content. Students with a 93% or higher cumulative course grade (following the Final Listening Exam), will excused from taking the Final Exam (written portion). The idea of “dropping of low score” does NOT exist in this course.

Homework and Lab Activities:

It is the student’s responsibility to complete, save on a floppy disk, and turn in the score record for each CD-ROM workbook and lab exercise that is assigned in class. These records will be collected and graded on a random basis throughout the semester. No late work will be accepted.

Suggested Method of Study:

1) *Class Journal and Daily Review*—Apart from completing homework assignments and attending class, students should keep a class journal (notes, diagrams, etc. related to Spanish, made both in and out of class). This journal should be reviewed (at length) following each class and briefly looked at prior to each class session. This activity allows one to pay closer attention to the material, raise questions in class sessions, and keep continually “fresh”—one of the most essential parts of learning a foreign language.

2) *Establishing Priorities*—Students should try to study the most difficult Spanish topics first and dedicate more time studying these areas later, especially prior to exams.

3) *Avoiding Burnout*—Students should always study in multiple, staggered, short blocks of time. Each block should be no more than an hour and should include 5 to 10 minute breaks. Integrating numerous small blocks of study time into the weekly schedule is empowering.

4) *Consistency*—Creating and sticking to a study schedule is very important. For many students, weekends represent more valuable moments of study. Reserve these moments for studying ahead and resolving any problematic areas of study.

5) *Positively Influencing One's Horizon*—Each student needs to periodically assess this course's requirements, his/her degree of success and failure, his/her expectations, and the direction of energies applied to this course. This helps to opportunistically adjust study strategies or seek outside help, either with the professor or a tutor.

Attendance:

All students are expected to attend every class. Missing a class does not release a student from any class obligations. Students should keep in touch with classmates and be sure to contact their professor in advance of any absence. *Any absence will result in a 15% reduction in the student's Participation grade.* The professor is NOT obligated to assist students in making-up work missed due to an official field trip, due to an official university function, or due to an illness. Students, however, MAY request permission to miss a class and arrange to make-up missed work prior to their absence. This type of arrangement can waive the 15% attendance reduction, but MUST be completed at least 24 hours prior to an absence or illness. Students MAY be required to provide documents supporting their request.

Electronic submission of written work is an effective way of handing in required written work by a specified deadline, especially when a student expects to be absent.

Conduct:

Academic honesty, the submission of original work, and student interaction is expected in this class. Any form of cheating may result in failure of the course. Additional information concerning academic honesty can be found in the *Password*.

The Syllabus:

This syllabus serves as a contractual agreement. Presence in this class means that you agree to the items stipulated in the syllabus and are aware of any modifications made throughout the semester. One should periodically check the course web site for any updates to the syllabus and/or class calendar.

Class records and Grades:

Oversee your grade by monitoring your progress and maintaining contact with your instructor. Any student material or record that has been returned to the student becomes the student's responsibility to maintain as a permanent record for the course. Students are responsible for picking up any materials that are made available to them or are returned in class. If a student loses these records and the professor does not have a copy of the material available, the student will receive a failing grade for the particular activity.

Other:

If a student has a disability requiring any accommodations, s/he needs to contact the professor at the beginning of the semester. 100 or 200 level courses may not be taken pass/fail to fulfill any GE requirements. Contact the Office of the Provost or Study Abroad advisor for information about studying abroad.