

Tennessee Tech University
Department of Foreign Languages

Fall 2020 (MWF)

Elementary Spanish I

SPAN 1010.001 (8/24/20-12/10/20) MWF 9:05-10:00 a.m. OKLY 212 (3crs)

Instructor Information

Instructor: Dr. Mark Groundland

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Office Hours: MWF 10-11 a.m., TR 7-8 a.m., or by appointment

[I will have office hours on Zoom, while in my office. Students have either option.]

This course is designated as a Hybrid, Tech-Flex course. Due to capacity restrictions, I must divide the class in order comply with the university mandate. The following groups will meet in class according to the attached Schedule of Assignments:

GROUP A: Last names between A and H

GROUP B: Last names between K and W

Students cannot attend another group's class time due to capacity restrictions.

Covid-19 University / DFL Restrictions and Guidelines

Due to the pandemic, the university has mandated the following requirements in order for students to receive in-class instruction:

1. Students must wear face coverings in Oakley Hall, which means that students must wear them in class. Any student not wearing an appropriate face covering will be required to leave class.
2. Students must maintain 6 feet of distance from others at all times in class and in the hallway.
3. Attendance will not factor into your final course grade. Instead, you will be evaluated according to the level of meaningful engagement you exhibit in the course.

4. Tech has reduced the capacity of classroom occupancy to 50%, which means only 12 students may be present in the classroom at any time.
 5. Once the class is over, leave in an orderly fashion and do NOT linger in the hallway. If you have a question and there is not time to answer questions at the end of class, please e-mail me your question or concern.
 6. Students must always walk on the right-hand side of hallways to maintain social distancing.
 7. Please note that if a class is held online (designated as “casa” in the course schedule), I will be available in our classroom at that time for those who need extra instruction. I must adhere to the occupancy requirement though, and will only allow 12 students at a time in the class. If no one appears at the beginning of the scheduled class time, I will be in my office and will enthusiastically return to the classroom to help my students. 😊
 8. Although students are allowed access to Oakley Hall’s Euro-Café (OKLY 217), the room’s capacity is severely limited. Therefore, it is requested that students arrive as close to the beginning of class as possible to avoid lingering within the building as they wait for their courses to begin.
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9. A student displaying any symptoms of COVID-19 is expected to self-quarantine immediately, in an off-campus residence if possible, and call Health Services at 931-372-3320 to arrange for medical care and/or COVID-19 testing or to seek medical care and/or COVID-19 testing off campus.
10. A student awaiting the results of a COVID-19 test will be required to self-quarantine, in an off-campus residence if possible, until the results are reported.
11. Students who test positive for COVID-19 must remain in quarantine, in an off-campus residence if possible, until Health Services releases the student to return to class.
12. Students will direct all requests for excuses for class absences related to COVID-19, regardless of where the COVID-19 testing is performed, to Health Services.
13. Based on Health Services’ recommendations, Student Affairs will provide notifications to faculty members of student absences and the expected length of the absence. No health related information may be released in this notice.

Course Information

Prerequisites

None

Required Texts

- Blanco, José A. and Philip R. Donley. Vistas: Introducción a la lengua española. 6th ed. Boston: Vista Higher Learning, 2020.
- Online Maestro WEB-SAM account that accompanies Vistas (6th edition). The passcodes are included if you buy the text NEW. If you buy the text USED, your passcodes for WEBSAM are sold separately in the bookstore. You may also purchase access to WEB-SAM online by going to [Online Store](#).

Also Recommended

Three-ring notebook for 8 1/2 by 11" paper size in which all papers are to be kept in chronological order, with six divisions labeled:

1. Apuntes (notes) y Ejercicios en clase: This section is for notes written in and outside of class and for exercises done in class
2. Hojas de la clase (Papers from class): This section is for extra papers distributed by your professor in class.
3. Cultura (Culture): This section is for notes taken in and outside of class on different cultural elements of the Hispanic World as well as your own comparisons of them to North American culture.
4. Exámenes (Exams): All of your exams are to be placed in this section.
5. Vocabulario (Vocabulary): This section is for vocabulary learned in and outside of class. The student should make thematic categories for the vocabulary words, not randomly write them out.
6. Verbos (Verbs): The student is expected create divisions in which he/she should conjugate regular (-ar, -er, -ir) verbs, irregular verbs, and stem-changing (e→ie, o→ue, e→i) verbs as they are learned in class.

Recommended Resource

Spanish / English dictionary

Course description

SPAN 1010—Elementary Spanish I (Lec. 3. Credit 3.)

Essentials of Spanish, developing listening and reading comprehension, oral and written communication, and cultural understanding. Students may enroll in SPAN 1010 or SPAN 1015, but not both. Native speakers of Spanish may not take this course.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to ask and answer personal questions in the present, and communicate effectively in the following contexts: the university, the family, and in a travel environment. Furthermore, students will learn an appreciation for Hispanic cultures.

Upon completion of this course, students will

- Understand most written and spoken Spanish selected for beginning learners
[Communication: Interpretive (Listen, Read/View)];
- Speak and write in simple sentences with minor grammatical errors that do not impede communication
[Communication: Interpersonal (Speak, Write, Listen)]
[Communication: Presentational (Speak, Write, Listen)];
- Speak with pronunciation sufficiently accurate so as not to impede communication
[Communication: Presentational (Speak, Listen, Read/View)];
- Ask and answer oral and written questions related to familiar topics, such as personal information, school, careers, family, actions, and daily activities
[Communication: Interpersonal (Speak, Write, Listen, Read/View)];
- Describe people, places, and things in the present
[Communication: Presentational (Speak, Write, Listen, Read/View)];
- Converse on an elementary level, observing basic courtesy requirements and social demands of the culture
[Communication: Interpersonal (Speak, Listen, Read/View)]
- Understand the diverse culture of the Spanish-speaking world and describe some of its basic geographical facts
[Cultures (Relating Cultural Products to Perspectives)].

Methodology

The course is taught using the communicative approach, within the confines of its hybrid structure. This means that we USE the Spanish studied by the students at home in meaningful, real-life contexts in the classroom. A variety of teaching techniques and formats are employed to optimize the students' use of Spanish in class, such as TPR (Total Physical Response), group work (involving conversations, role playing, and grammar and vocabulary exercises), audio and visual exercises, brief grammar reviews, cultural explanations, and assigned work from the online Website.

This is a Spanish language course. The professor and the students will speak only Spanish in class.

Topics

A detailed listing of vocabulary and grammar topics can be found in the Schedule of Assignments at the end of this syllabus.

Evaluation

The following grade criteria will be used to determine the final grades for this course:
A: 90-100 B: 80-89 C: 70-79 D: 60-69 F: 59 and below

GRADING BREAKDOWN: The course grade will be determined as follows:

(2) Exams = 40% WEB-SAM online activities / other homework = 19%

(3) Participation = 15% (2) Compositions = 6%
Final exam = 20%

Exams

Each 55-minute exam will cover all assigned material and will be given as indicated in the course calendar.

Participation

Each student is expected to participate actively in each class and to keep up with the online homework in Web-SAM. There are three (3) participation grades, each given with the graded exam. See explanation sheet on grading participation. The participation grade assigned to each Web-SAM assignment will be calculated according to the student's timely completion of these assignments.

WEB-SAM online activities / Other homework

Your instructor will assign homework almost daily from the online WEB-SAM system. It is essential that students review, correct, and understand their mistakes; this process is an essential one when learning any subject. Students must complete the exercises in a timely manner, according to the attached class calendar.

There is a question box within the system for you to use. Students are encouraged to ask their questions or state their concerns within the feedback box in Web-SAM.

It is best NOT to use Explorer, but rather Mozilla or another search engine.

The Lab Manual section of WEB-SAM is crucial because it offers the students listening and speaking exercises outside of the classroom. Students must complete the exercises in a timely manner, according to the attached class calendar. If the professor discovers that the student has recorded nothing on any recording exercise, s/he will receive a 0 for the assignment.

Students will receive a grade for the overall Work Book section of WEB-SAM activities and a separate grade for the Lab Manual section every week. See calendar. Students will receive full credit when scoring a 60 or above in each exercise.

Pop quizzes will be given at the instructor's discretion and calculated into this section of the grades.

Compositions

Each composition—there are two (2) during the semester—must be submitted by the due date and typed (using a computer) and double-spaced. Students will know the topic at least one week in advance. Students must do their own work. If the level is clearly above the student's written capabilities, the student will not receive credit for the composition.

Final exam

The final exam will cover all material learned during the semester, with a special emphasis on Lección 5.

University Plagiarism Policy

“Plagiarism. When you use (for example, quote or even summarize or paraphrase) someone else’s media, words, data, ideas, or other works, you must cite your source. You should be especially careful to avoid plagiarizing Internet sources (for example, e-mail, chat rooms, Web sites, or discussion groups). It does not matter whether you borrow material from print sources, from the Internet, from on-line data bases, or from interviews. Failure to cite your source is plagiarism. Students who plagiarize may receive an “F” or a “0” for the assignment, or an “F” for the course” (*TTU Student Handbook*)

Attendance

Attendance is mandatory in this course. While attendance will not be calculated into your grade this semester, it is still extremely important to attend class and complete your online assignments in a timely manner. Students will likely be successful if they regularly come prepared to class. The opposite is also true...

An excused absence is one that occurs due to illness, injury, or death in the student’s immediate family. The student must verify these circumstances with official letters as soon as they return to class. No excuses will be accepted one week after the circumstance occurred.

Please note: If you are participating in any university-sponsored event in which you must be absent from class, an official letter from a Tech faculty or staff member must list these dates and be presented to the professor at the beginning of the semester.

Course Requirements

A serious commitment to the study of Spanish is expected from each student. Students must promptly complete assignments BEFORE class. Punctuality and speaking Spanish in class are expected and required.

Please note that the classes are conducted almost entirely in Spanish.

Student Conduct

The Department of Foreign Languages aims to provide an optimum learning environment in its classes. Students must also be responsible to meet this end. Therefore, we require that:

- All cellular phones be turned off during class,
- Students be respectful of the professor and their fellow students,
- And, finally, students must arrive on time and leave at the end of the class.

Any deviations from these minimum expectations will result in the lowering of your class participation grade, and, if irresponsible behavior should continue, your final grade may be affected.

Make-up Exam Policy

The professor will NOT create any exams for those students who missed an exam. For those students who have an excusable absence for the date of the missed exam, their final exam grade will replace their missed exam grade.

Disability Accommodation

"Students with a disability requiring accommodations should contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS). An Academic Adjustment form should be completed as soon as possible, preferably by the end of the first week of the course. The ODS is located in the Roaden University Center, Room 112; phone 372-6119."