

Spanish 120 • Fundamentals of Spanish • Spring 2012

Professor: *Marianella Jara*
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Office Hours: *M-W-F 1:00-1:50 pm or by appointment.*

Prerequisite: Appropriate placement exam score. Students with 2 or more units of high school Spanish must take the placement exam.

Course Description: The course objective is to attain basic reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills through intensive listening and speaking practice. The course will follow an accelerated pace since it is intended for students with two units of high school Spanish or an appropriate departmental placement exam score. Learning strategies include daily vocabulary and grammar exercises, conversation, quizzes, discussion of topics related to Spanish and Spanish-American culture and written assignments. We will cover chapters 1 – 8. The course is conducted in Spanish and demands the active participation of each student on a daily basis.

Common Student Learning Outcomes:

- **The main goal and objective of this course is to get students to lose their fear of speaking Spanish. In order to accomplish so we will practice intensively while having fun! Students might be surprised at how much they already know and can do with the language if they lose their fear and review daily.**
- Speak in Spanish with novice to novice-mid fluency and accuracy (as stated in the ACTFL proficiency guidelines) employing appropriate grammar structures, vocabulary, pronunciation, and syntax. [SL1]
- Demonstrate appropriate fluency and accuracy in listening comprehension skills. [SL1]
- Write in Spanish with novice to novice-mid fluency and accuracy (as stated in the ACTFL proficiency guidelines) using appropriate phrases, grammar structures, vocabulary, and syntax. [SL2]
- Demonstrate the ability to read and comprehend short and simple narratives with appropriate fluency and accuracy. [SL2]
- Demonstrate basic knowledge of Spanish speaking countries and their cultures, and understand the similarities and differences between those and your own. [SL3, SL4]

Required Textbook and Materials:

- UNCW custom publication of *Mosaicos* textbook, Castells et al. (including [My Spanish Lab](#) code)
- Spanish/English Dictionary
- UNCW email account
- Blackboard

Grade Distribution:

Written Exams (2)	20%
Midterm Oral Interview:	5%
Final Oral Interview:	5%
Final Cumulative Exam	10%
Quizzes	5%
My Spanish Lab online assignments:	20%
Composition, Movie Report, Conversation Center, readings & Cultural Event	15%
Group Skit:	5%
Cultural Group Presentation:	5%
Personal Presentation:	5%
Participation	5%

Important Note: Remember that you earn your own grade; you pass or fail yourself so try your very best every day and plan accordingly for every assignment and event.

Grading Scale:

93-100	A	83-86	B	73-76	C	63-66	D
90-92	A-	80-82	B-	70-72	C-	60-62	D-
87-89	B+	77-79	C+	67-69	D+	0-59	F

Important Information

Blackboard: The course calendar, general information, handouts and guidelines for assignments will be available online on Blackboard. To get to the Blackboard site for this course, follow these steps:

1. Login to Blackboard (<http://learn.uncw.edu>)
2. Use your UNCW email username (without @uncw.edu)
3. Use your UNCW email password

Course Calendar: Your course calendar is available on Blackboard. It is crucial that you review it regularly. You are responsible for following all deadlines. The calendar may be subject to changes and some assignments may be announced in class only so make sure to pay attention to announcements made both in class and by email.

Email: Students must check their UNCW email account regularly. This is how your instructor communicates outside class. You are responsible for reading all class announcements emailed to you. Make sure to have enough space available in your inbox to receive emails.

Make-up Policy: Make-ups will only be considered in the following situations and with proper official documentation such as notes from a doctor's office, court, obituary or UNCW official letter.

1. Sickness
2. Court citation
3. Death of a relative
4. UNCW official event.

No others will be considered so please do not ask. All work approved for make-up needs to be completed within a week of the original due date.

Grade Distribution explained

Written Tests: There will be 2 written tests in this course. All written tests will have reading, writing and listening portions. When taking a test please write as clear as possible. If your handwriting is not legible your exam will not be graded. No dictionaries or electronic devices will be allowed when taking a test.

Oral Interviews: There will be a midterm and a final interview. Interviews are conducted entirely in Spanish, one-on-one with your professor. Both interviews are cumulative and take approximately 4-5 minutes. You will be provided with a list of topics to review. The best way to study is with a partner. Your active participation in class is also crucial to do well on the interviews.

Final Exam: The final exam will be cumulative and will have listening, reading and writing components. **All final exams must be taken during the university- designated time, no exceptions can be made. There is no make up for the final exam.**

Quizzes: They could be pop and may be oral or written. They are usually given at the beginning of class. Students not present at the time of the quiz miss it. **The lowest grade will be dropped.**

My Spanish Lab Assignments: There are available on your electronic workbook. This is where you will complete practice exercises. Assignments are divided by chapters and consist of written and listening activities. Each chapter has a different due date. Refer to the blackboard calendar. You have unlimited tries to submit your answers and improve your grade before the due date. Assignments are automatically graded by the program and they are due by 11:59 pm on the due date. The system will not allow you to submit late homework. **The lowest chapter grade will be dropped.** You are expected to keep up with assignments daily. They not only consist of a high percentage of your grade but they do help you study and develop a better understanding of class material. If you work on these assignments daily you will learn better and even enjoy them but if you leave everything for the last day it could honestly be overwhelming.

My Spanish Lab Instructions:

1. Go to My Spanish Lab website (<http://myspanishlab.com/>)
2. Follow the instructions to enter your access code or to buy access
3. Enter the course code:
Spanish 120-015 from 12:00-12:50 pm. in LH 131 (**CRSCD2G-264338**)
Spanish 120-001 from 2:00-2:50 pm. In LH 136 (**CRSCD3B-264339**)
4. For technical support, visit <http://247pearsoned.custhelp.com/>

Composition: We will write one composition in class. The use of dictionaries, textbooks or notes will not be allowed. There will be 2-3 topic choices. Students will have 30 minutes to write.

Movie Report & Class Discussion: We will watch a movie in Spanish and students will answer some basic questions about the movie. We will also have an in class discussion about the movie and cultural aspects reflected in the film.

Conversation Center: The conversation center is a wonderful resource to help you improve your speaking skills. Students will be required to attend 2 hours during the semester. You need to break it down into 4 thirty- minute sessions. You will not be allowed to complete all 2 hours at the end of the semester or all in one week. The conversation center is located in Leutze Hall, room 124.

Cultural Event: Students need to attend or participate in one cultural event during the semester. These events can be university-sponsored (such as a lecture, concert by a Latino artist or a film in Spanish, etc.) Most of them are free but sometimes you may have to pay a small fee. There will be a list of possible events distributed to you via email and/or on Blackboard. **After attending an event, please complete the cultural event response form in Spanish and submit it to your instructor within a week of the event. Make sure to staple your ticket to the form.** No later forms will be accepted. Also, if I a form does not include a ticket it will not be valid. You may attend extra events for extra credit as well. Refer to extra credit guidelines.

Group Skits: Students will work in groups of 4 members to develop 1 skit during the semester using vocabulary and grammar studied in class. Topics will be raffled in class. Students will follow the guidelines posted on blackboard.

Group Cultural Presentation: Students will work in groups of 4 members to research a cultural aspect (s) pertaining to Spain or a Latin American country and will present their findings to the class in Spanish. Students will follow guidelines on blackboard.

Personal Presentation: Students will prepare a 4-5 minute presentation in Spanish about a topic related to class vocabulary. Presentation topics and dates will be raffled in class. Please refer to presentation guidelines on blackboard.

Participation: Your participation grade is determined by your willingness to participate actively and voluntarily in all activities, which will be conducted in Spanish. **Use every opportunity available to get involved, this is how learning will become fun and more importantly easy.** Please notice that your participation grade is not merely based on your attendance. Being in class does not mean that you are actively participating. Participating means that you are ready to voluntarily answer questions and work in groups with a positive attitude; proving that you have come to class prepared.

Common Attendance Policy:

- a) All students enrolled in Spanish language courses at UNCW (SPN 101, 102, 120, 201, 202) are allotted **three** absences for classes that meet MWF, **two** absences for classes that meet TR or MW, and **one** absence for classes that meet during the summer session (MTWR, MTWRF, full term).
- b) For each absence in excess of the limit stated in a) above, **three** points will be deducted from the final grade.
- c) Any student who misses **nine** or more classes in a MWF class, **six** or more classes in a MW or TR class, **five** or more classes in a full term summer class, **five** or more classes in a MTWRF summer class summer, or **four** or more classes in a MTWR summer class summer will automatically fail the course.

Students participating in university-sponsored events (athletics, conferences, etc.) will be excused as long as they provide documentation of their absence before the event (i.e. schedule of games presented at the beginning of the semester). There is no way to 'make up' an absence, so please keep track of your absences throughout the semester.

Classroom policies: Students in this course are expected to behave as professional, courteous adults. Disruptive behavior and disrespect toward fellow students or the instructor will not be accepted.

- Come prepared to class. Read and practice at home. Please understand that class is the time to practice. Do not expect to be lectured but rather expect to be asked to put in practice what you studied at home.
- **Bring your textbook and dictionary daily.**
- Please understand that the role of your instructor is more of a facilitator vs. a lecturer. As such I will provide clarifications and guide you every day but I expect you to come prepared.
- Turn off all electronic devices including laptops and cell phones.
- You are expected to be fully dedicated to the class and the discussions that take place; studying for a different class, text messaging, reading email or reading a personal book will not be allowed.
- Students are expected to arrive in time to class and stay for the entire class.
- Food, tobacco and alcohol are prohibited in UNCW classrooms. You may bring water or soda to class.
- Be prepared to be corrected and feel fine with it. It is my responsibility to provide you with plenty of opportunities to practice in class and to give you as much feedback as possible. It is natural to make mistakes while learning a language, however, I will encourage you to keep trying and do your best. Learn to laugh at your mistakes and learn from them. Some of the concepts I remember the best are mistakes I made while learning English.
- When working in groups help each other by correcting and giving each other feedback.
- When working in groups or pairs and if required to turn individual work remember to turn in your original work. Sharing and copying information is considered plagiarism. You can help each other but make sure to be original.
- Online translation does not work in Spanish class. You need to learn to use and improve using your book, dictionary and concepts you learn in class. Online translation easily shows and most times is incorrect because it is literal. Remember, literal translation is not always right.
- Remember, even the smallest activities and assignments count and serve an important purpose.
- **Finally, bring a smile and yourself with a positive attitude!! Believe me, it truly makes a difference!**

Access to the instructor: It is very important to me that you know that you can count on me to give you my very best each and every class. As time allows I make myself available to the students as much as possible. Feel free to talk to me if needed and DO NOT wait until it is late in the semester to discuss an issue that could and should have been handled earlier. If you need to get in touch with me or have a question please visit me in my office during office hours or make an appointment. I receive an extremely large load of emails daily and I may not be able to get in touch with you in a timely manner. If you feel that you are getting behind and are honestly making an effort to study, please get a tutor at the writing center as soon as possible. Tutors are available for this class and the service is free of charge. Please take advantage of this wonderful service. *University Learning Services* – free tutoring; 962-3549; tlc@uncw.edu; <http://www.uncw.edu/stuaff/uls/> (1056 Westside Hall)

Extra Credit: Refer to extra credit opportunities listed on blackboard. Make sure to follow all guidelines and turn in any necessary forms. Extra credit points will be added to your final grade.

Seahawk Respect Compact: In the pursuit of excellence, UNC Wilmington actively fosters, encourages, and promotes inclusiveness, mutual respect, acceptance, and open-mindedness among students, faculty, staff, and the broader community. Please read the complete Seahawk Respect Compact here: <http://www.uncw.edu/stuaff/pdc/documents/SeahawkRespectCompact.pdf>

Academic Honor Code: Students in this course are expected to abide by the Academic Honor Code. Please read the Code of Student Life available at (<http://www.uncw.edu/stuaff/doso/documents/Code.Of.Student.Life.pdf>). Dishonest behavior will carry severe consequences.

Disability Services: If you have a disability and need reasonable accommodations in this course, you should inform the professor of this fact in writing **within the first week of class**. If you have not done so already, you must register with the UNCW Office of Disability Services. UNCW Disability Services supplies information about disability law,

documentation procedures and accommodations. This information can be found at <http://www.uncw.edu/stuaff/SDS/disability.html>.

Other useful resources:

- *Foreign Language Resource Center* – bring your own headphones and student ID; <http://www.uncw.edu/fll/about-resource.html> (253 Leutze Hall)
- *Spanish Language Program* – review activities for SPN 101 – 202; syllabi; activities; <http://www.uncw.edu/fll/slp/>

Safety on campus:

UNCW practices a zero-tolerance policy for violence and harassment of any kind. For emergencies contact UNCW CARE at 962-2273, Campus Police at 962-3184, or Wilmington Police at 911. For University or community resources visit <http://uncw.edu/wrc/crisis.htm>.

*I am glad to have you as my student, I am sure we will have a wonderful semester.
Buckle up, get ready and enjoy the ride! ☺*

End of Semester Checklist

Consult the course calendar daily in order to keep up with all events and deadlines. By the end of the semester and prior to reading day you must have completed and turned in all of the following items:

_____ Personal Presentation (*Your instructor will email you your grade*)

_____ All assigned My Spanish Lab Chapters 1-8. (*The lowest grade will be dropped*)

_____ All assignments announced in class or by email

_____ One composition written in class

_____ Movie report

_____ 2 hours at the Conversation Center (*Sign attendance log only, no form required*)

_____ 1 group skit performed in class

_____ 1 group cultural presentation

_____ Cultural Event form (*Turn form within a week of attending event and attach a ticket or flyer, old forms would not be accepted.*)

_____ Extra credit forms (*If attended any, follow guidelines on blackboard*)