

**Northern Arizona University
SPA 101 Syllabus – Spring 2006**

Instructor: _____
Office and phone: _____
Email: _____
Office hours: _____

Required Materials:

1. Knorre, Dorwick, Pérez-Gironés, Glass, and Villareal. Puntos de partida, 7th ed.
2. Arana and Arana. Workbook to accompany Puntos de partida, 7th ed.
3. Puntos de partida companion website: <http://www.mhhe.com/puntos7>
4. On-line activities: <http://jan.ucc.nau.edu/~yya2/Spa101.htm>

Course Description

Spanish 101 begins a sequence of courses that aim to develop all four language skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing. This course provides an introduction to the Spanish language to students with little or no previous experience or formal study. The goal of the course is to help students develop the ability to communicate in Spanish, while at the same time introducing them to the Hispanic culture. A strong emphasis is placed on using the language in practical situations, while also helping students grasp the basics of Spanish grammatical rules, word order, and word formation.

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 (e.g., Tertulia, seeing movies 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. Students hoping to become proficient in Spanish are strongly encouraged to participate in study abroad or an immersion program. Please contact the Department of Modern Languages or the NAU International Office for information on such programs.

Course Goals:

The following describes the types of tasks that you should be able to accomplish upon completion of this course with a passing grade.

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 (e.g., articles, ads, forms, etc.) on topics related to everyday uses of the Spanish language and the Hispanic culture with an understanding of the main idea and some of the supporting details.

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.) so as to be able to function appropriately in typical social situations.

Course Requirements:

Homework: Your instructor will assign your specific homework assignments, but in all sections students should complete all workbook pages that correspond to the material studied in class. These assignments are designed to help you reach your ultimate goal: being able to communicate in Spanish. You must complete all assignments on time and come to class prepared to actively use the vocabulary and structures you are studying. You should plan on 1 1/2 to 2 hours of preparation for every hour in class.

Lab Assignment in the Language Learning Center: You should plan to spend approximately 30 minutes per week in the LLC (BBA 107), a laboratory that offers a variety of activities to enrich the language-learning experience. This is the place where you can use the video on CD that came with your book. A good place to start is with the Puntos de Partida activities that correspond to the chapter you are studying in class. Remember not to wait until the last minute to complete your lab assignments as you may find the lab full. Note (in the course plan below) the timeline for completing lab work.

Compositions: Your instructor will determine the topic of each essay. Two of the compositions will be written in class and the third one out-of-class. Your three compositions in Spanish will be graded on content, vocabulary, and the appropriate use of learned grammar. Your instructor may give you the option of rewriting your composition based on his/her input.

Ongoing Project – Creative Book: You will select a fictional character (it can be a pet, a childhood cartoon, a make-believe person/character). Using every chapter as a guideline, utilizing the vocabulary and verb material in that chapter you will build your story. Your finished chapter will be due at the end of each textbook chapter. This project is expected to be very fun, therefore BE AS CREATIVE AS YOU CAN POSSIBLY BE! You can draw, paint, collage, paste, or whatever makes you happy! The final book will be displayed during reading week and the best one will be judged by your peers and awarded!

Quizzes: You can expect a quiz (pruebita) every week except when there is an exam or other major activity. Study and memorize the “vocabulary” list located on the last few pages of each chapter. Key grammar points may also appear. Your instructor will detail the specific format, content, and date for each quiz.

Exams:

a) 50-minute exams: There will be three 50-minute tests, all of which will include listening comprehension, grammar, vocabulary, reading comprehension, and

composition. Remember all exams are cumulative. Information you learn through spaced repetition stays with you longer than information you “cram”. Daily study periods of shorter duration are more productive than marathon study sessions just before an exam.

b) Final exam: The final exam in this course will be comprehensive, testing you on all of the chapters studied this semester. Details in terms of content will be provided at the appropriate time.

c) Comprehensive 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 semester. In this sense, the exam will be comprehensive, requiring you to remain acquainted with the vocabulary and structures studied throughout the semester.

d) Oral assessment: A major assessment of your speaking abilities will be conducted at the end of the semester, 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 semester.

The Final Grade:

Homework and lab assignment: 10%
Compositions: 10%
On going project – Creative book: 7%
Quizzes: 10%
Exams: 25%
Final exam: 20%
Listening exam: 8%
Oral assessment: 10%

Your grade for this course will be based on the following: 100-90 = A; 80-89 = B; 70-79 = C; 60-69 = D; below 60 = F

Attendance

Students are expected to attend all classes. The policy of the Department of Modern Languages concerning attendance is the following: “Students are expected to attend every class session and to make up all work missed because of legitimate absences. Unexcused or unexplained absences will automatically lower a student’s grade if they exceed five (5) per term in a 5 credit course, **four (4) per term in a 4 credit course**, and three (3) per term in a 3 credit course. Instructors are under no obligation to make special arrangements for students who have been absent or who miss assignments, deadlines and/or examinations.”

Please read carefully the information on departmental attendance policy, academic integrity, and classroom behavior in the Modern Languages Department webpage.

Problems

Students having specific problems should see their instructor during office hours or ask for an appointment. If you have a more pressing concern, you may talk with the lower division Spanish coordinator, Prof. Yuly Asención (BAA 202). Tutoring is available through the Learning Assistance Center (523-5524 / 523-7391).

Course Plan

Week	Content, Assignments and Assessment
1: Jan. 16* - 20 *Martin Luther King Day – holiday	Ante todo I-II
2: Jan. 23-26	Ante todo II
3: Jan. 30 – Feb. 3	Capítulo 1, <i>Lab 1</i> (60 minutes)
4: Feb. 6 – 9	Capítulo 1, <i>TH Exam 1</i>
5: Feb. 13 – 16	Capítulo 2 – <i>Composition 1</i>
6: Feb. 20 – 23	Capítulo 2 – <i>Lab 2</i> (60 minutes)
7: Feb. 27 – March 4	Capítulo 3
8: March 6 – 9	Capítulo 3, <i>TH Exam 2</i>
9: March 13 - 16	Capítulo 4, <i>Composition 2, Lab 3</i> (60 minutes)
March 20 – 23* * Spring break	
10: March 27 - 30	Capítulo 4
11: April 3 -6	Capítulo 5
12: April 10 - 13	Capítulo 5, <i>TH Exam 3, Lab 4</i> (60 minutes)
13: April 17 - 20	Capítulo 6, <i>Composition 3</i>
14: April 24 -27	Capítulo 6, <i>TH Listening Exam</i>
15: May 1 – 4	Review, <i>Oral Assessment, Lab 5</i> (60 minutes)
16: May 8-11	<i>Examen final:</i> Consult the following schedule for the date and time of your final exam.

Final Examination Schedule – Spring 2006

Exam time:	Mon. May 8	Tue. May 9	Wed. May 10	Th. May 11
7:30 – 9:30 am	All 8:00 am MWF	All 9:35 am TTH	All 9:10 am MWF	All 8:00 am TTH
10 – 12 pm	All 10:20 am MWF	All ACC 255/256 and CHM 100/130/151/152	All 11:30 am MWF	All 11:10 am TTH
12:30 – 2:30 pm	All 12:40 pm MWF	All 12:45 pm TTH	All 1:50 pm MWF	All 2:20 pm TTH
3 – 5 pm	All 4:00 pm MWF	All 3:00 pm MWF	All 4:00 pm TTH	
5:30 – 7:30 pm	All 5:00-5:30 pm classes will have their final exam on the first regular meeting day of the week.			
8 – 10 pm	All 6:00-7:00 pm classes will have their final exam on the first regular meeting day of the week.			

