

Syllabus for Spanish 100, Section H & J, Fall 2015
Department of Foreign Languages
Moravian College

Instructor: Dr M Bilheimer

Course times and place: M-W-F, 1:10-2:20 (H), Comenius 111

M-W-F, 2:35-3:45 (J), Comenius 111

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Office: Room 111 Comenius, M & W, 4:00-5:00 PM

Course Description

Spanish 100

This course is the first in a three-semester language sequence designed to help you achieve basic proficiency in Spanish by developing skills in reading, writing, conversation, and comprehension, and by broadening your cultural understanding of the Spanish-speaking world. The course will be conducted entirely in the target language and will cover chapters 1-5 of ¡Viva!

Course Objectives

By the end of the course, students will have developed solid competencies in each of the five goal areas: communication, cultures, connections, comparisons, and communities. Main objectives include:

- Ability to comprehend and respond to basic conversational patterns
- Proficiency and knowledge of basic grammatical structures and terminologies
- Basic proficiency in reading and writing the language
- Knowledge of significant cultural practices and historical events from the Spanish-speaking world

Textbook

José Blanco and Philip Redwine Donley. **¡Viva! Primer curso de lengua.**
Third Edition. Boston, Massachusetts: Vista Higher Learning, 2015.

Required Materials

Please note that this course requires online access: Only buy books that include the technology access either through the Moravian College bookstore or directly at <http://vistahigherlearning.com/students/store/>

Online Practice Exercises

The workbook and audio exercises, as well as the video and extra tutorials are available through the ¡VIVA! Supersite Plus: Workbook, Video Manual and Lab Manual online site. <http://www.vhlcentral.com/> This daily preparation is important for solid language learning as

well as forming the basis for informed class preparation and understanding. To register, please follow the link:

http://www.vhlcentral.com/section/241190/student_instructions

Other Useful On-line Resources

Diccionario de la Real Academia de la Lengua Española <http://www.rae.es/drae>

Diccionario español-inglés/inglés-español <http://www.wordreference.com/>

SPECIFIC OUTCOMES EXPECTED:

Capítulo 1

- Introducing yourself
- Greeting and saying goodbye to friends
- Using courtesy expressions
- Talking about yourself and others
- Spelling your name
- Performing simple math problems
- Asking and telling time

Capítulo 2

- Describing your university and classroom
- Exchanging information about courses of study
- Talking about the calendar and dates
- Asking and responding to simple questions

Capítulo 3

- Talking about your family and friends
- Describing yourself, other people, and things
- Saying how old you and others are
- Talking about things that belong to you and others

Capítulo 4

- Talking about pastimes, weekend activities, and sports
- Talking about what you are going to do
- Planning activities
- Extending invitations

Capítulo 5

- Talking about your vacation plans
- Describing a hotel
- Talking to hotel personnel
- Talking about how you and others feel
- Talking about the seasons and the weather

Attendance:

- Just like playing an instrument or practicing a sport, language learning occurs best through active participation.

- You need to come to class and be on time. 0-2 absences will not be penalized, but may affect class performance. If you will miss class for a religious holiday, please let me know ahead of time so we can make arrangements for missed work.
 - Every absence over two (2), for any reason, will result in a lowering of the final grade by one point for every additional absence. Exceptions may be granted only in extraordinary circumstances such as **prolonged illness** or **family emergency**; these situations may require additional documentation and are not automatically guaranteed. **Travel plans are not considered extraordinary circumstances.**
 - Arriving late (10 min or more) to class three times will equal one absence. In the same way, leaving early will count toward an absence.
 - Leaving the classroom to go to the restroom should not be necessary. Take care of this need before coming in to class. If you have to go, do so quietly and quickly.
- Note: Please turn off your cell phone before entering class.

EVALUATION GUIDELINES: Overall Grade Distribution for Spanish 100

Exams (5 = one exam per chapter)	50%	
Mid-term Oral Evaluation	5%	
Compositions/Quizzes		10%
Final Oral Evaluation	10%	
Class Participation		15%
Homework (includes online)	10%	

Mid-term oral evaluation will consist of students answering conversational questions which have been practiced in class. These questions will be presented and answered within the format of an interview with the instructor.

Composition guidelines: Students will write one composition in class at the end of each chapter in the form of a letter to a Spanish-speaking student. Translators or dictionaries cannot be used for these assignments.

Exams: Chapter tests will be **cumulative**, incorporating material from previous chapters and thus keeping the previously learned material fresh. Exams will include Listening Comprehension, Vocabulary Application, Grammar Knowledge, Reading Comprehension, and short Writing Responses. There is no final written exam, only an oral one, like the mid-term oral evaluation.

Participation

Active participation in class is crucial for increasing conversational competence in Spanish. Students are expected to arrive prepared to participate in all class activities by having studied the vocabulary & grammar to be covered and having completed all assigned homework. Simply being present and taking notes does not constitute active participation.

Active participation involves speaking and collaborating in paired and group activities, in-class writing assignments, short oral presentations, doing online preparatory work, and volunteering answers in class discussions. A positive attitude is also expected and makes a difference in your

participation. Your attendance also counts toward participation.

Participation should be in Spanish, even when speaking with another student. Chatting in English may be considered “negative participation” and will lower your participation grade. Speaking in Spanish, even when you make mistakes, get frustrated, or have trouble communicating, helps your brain learn how to learn Spanish.

Letter Grades

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

Academic Integrity

Academic dishonesty and plagiarism are serious offenses and will not be tolerated. They will be handled according to the Moravian policy on Academic Honesty. If you cheat, you will be given a grade of zero for that assignment or a failing grade in the course. You will also be reported to the Dean of Students and “a copy of the record [will remain] in the Division of Student Affairs until the student completes the degree or certification program.” Also, please note that, “When writing creative or research papers in a foreign language, students may not use electronic translation services. Utilizing such tools without express permission of the instructor constitutes plagiarism. The use of electronic dictionaries for single-word inquiries or short idiomatic expressions is permissible at the discretion of professors in the Department of Foreign Languages.” For detailed information please see the Student Handbook:

<http://www.moravian.edu/studentlife/handbook/academic/academic2.html>

Learning Assistance and Accommodations for a Disability

Students who wish to request accommodations in this class for a disability should contact Ms. Eliane Mara, Assistant Director of Learning Services for Academic and Disability Support. The office is located at the Academic Support Center on the First Floor of Monocacy Hall. You can access the office directly through the BLUE door on the southeast side of the building (facing the back of Comenius Hall). You may also reach her by phone at (610) 861-1401. Accommodations cannot be provided until authorization is received from the Academic and Disability Support Center.

The Spanish Club

It is highly recommended that you attend the activities organized by the Spanish Club such as weekly meetings, movie screenings, restaurant visits and cultural trips. They are an excellent way to get involved in the language and the culture of the Spanish-speaking world. Please note that you don’t need to be a Spanish speaker person to participate in the Club. Everyone is welcome!

Babel

Interested in poetry? I encourage you to write a poem in Spanish for Babel, the literary journal of the Department of Foreign Languages. For more information feel free to talk to me or send an email to Dr. Claudia Mesa at: mesac@moravian.edu

