

## Spanish 201 • Intermediate Spanish I • Spring 2009

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### ¡ BIENVENIDOS A LA CLASE DE ESPAÑOL!

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of SPN 102, SPN 120, or appropriate placement exam score.

**Course Description:** The course is designed to help the student improve basic reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills through intensive listening and speaking practice. Learning strategies include daily vocabulary and grammar exercises, conversation, discussion of topics related to Spanish and Latin American culture, and written assignments. The course is conducted in Spanish and demands the active participation of each student on a daily basis.

**Course Objectives:** The instructional goal of this class is to develop communication skills in Spanish with an emphasis on listening and speaking. Students will practice their speaking, writing, listening and reading skills daily by working in groups and by completing written assignments. In addition, students will gain a better understanding and appreciation of the Hispanic culture through cultural discussions, film and literature.

#### **Required Textbook and Materials:**

- *Mosaicos*, 4th edition, Castells et al. (Including electronic workbook code)
- Medium size, good quality Spanish/English Dictionary. (Larousse is highly recommended)
- Blackboard
- UNCW email account
- 501 Spanish verbs by Kendris & Kendris is optional but highly recommended.

#### **Grade Distribution:**

Written Tests (2):	20%
Midterm Oral Interview:	5%
Final Oral Interview:	10%
Quizzes:	5%
Cultural Presentation:	5%
Book Chapter Presentation:	5%
Group Skits:	5%
Quia Assignments:	20%
Compositions, Conversation Center, Cultural Events, Online Discussions & other:	15%
Other Assignments:	5%
Participation & attendance:	5%

#### **Grading Scale:**

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

**Important Note:** *Remember that you earn your own grade, your professor does not give you a grade, you pass or fail yourself so try your very best every day and plan accordingly for every assignment and event.*

**Important Information:**

**Blackboard:**

The course calendar, general information, handouts and guidelines for assignments will be available online on Blackboard. It is your responsibility to print and bring all handouts posted to class. As a general rule, no handouts will be distributed in class. To get to the Blackboard site for this course, follow these steps:

1. Login to Blackboard (<http://ncvista.blackboard.com>)
2. Use your UNCW email username in all CAPS (without @uncw.edu)
3. Use your SeaNet PIN as the 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. I strongly recommend to review it at the beginning of the semester and write all important dates to be able to plan accordingly. 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:** You must check your UNCW email account regularly. This is how your instructor communicates outside the 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.

**Written Tests (2):** There will be 2 written tests in this course. Test 1 will be on chapters 9,10 and 11. Test 2 will be on chapters 12, 13 and 14. When taking a written exam please write as clear as possible. If your handwriting is not legible your exam will not be graded. No hats, 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 5 minutes. You will be provided a study guide with a bank of questions for both interviews. The best way to study is with a partner. Your active participation in class is also crucial to do well on the interviews.

**Quizzes:** They will 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. **There are absolutely no make ups for quizzes.**

**QUIA Assignments:** Quia is your electronic workbook. This is where you will complete grammar and vocabulary practice exercises. 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. QUIA assignments are divided by chapters and consist of written and listening activities. You have up to 4 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.

### **Registration Instructions:**

- If you already have a Quia account
  - o Go to <http://books.quia.com>, click on *STUDENTS*, and log in.
  - o Enter your book key and course code (**MDD366**).
- If you do not have a Quia account
  - o Go to <http://books.quia.com>, click on *STUDENTS*, and create a new account.
  - o Enter your book key and course code (**MDD366**).
  - If you do not have a book key
    - o Go to <http://books.quia.com/books/bookstore.html>
    - o Type in the book name, enter the course code (**MDD366**) and click *BUY*.

**Other assignments:** They will consist of the following:

Two compositions, a report about two cultural events, electronic discussions on Blackboard, attending the Conversation Center for 2 hours a semester and any other assignment announced in class or included in your calendar. Follow the instructions posted on Blackboard for each individual assignment. **All assignments should be turned in to the instructor during class on the due date. No late work will be accepted.** If you cannot be in class please send your assignment with someone or turn in prior to the due date. As a general rule, always type your assignments using Times Roman 12 font, double space and staple. **If guidelines are not followed, assignments will not be accepted. Assignments are not accepted by email.**

**Cultural Event:** You are required to attend or participate in two cultural events during the semester. These events can be university-sponsored (such as a concert by a Latino artist or a film in Spanish), but do not have to be. There will be a list of possible events distributed to you via email and/or on Blackboard. After participating in or attending an event, please complete the cultural event response form (in Spanish) and submit it to your instructor during the next class period at the latest. Attach tickets as proof.

**Cultural Presentation:** Students will prepare a 4 -5 minute cultural presentation entirely in Spanish. Each student will choose a topic of his or her choice. Topics may vary from popular culture such as food, music, sports, festivals, theater or cinema to historical or geographical facts. Presentations must be accompanied by a power point and reading is not allowed. Topics **MUST BE APPROVED** by your instructor in advanced (Refer to presentation Guidelines on Blackboard.) Presentations will be voted on towards the end of the semester and the winner will gain an extra point on the final grade.

**Cajas de Cartón Presentation:** Students will present in pairs on one chapter of the book, "*Cajas de Cartón*". Chapters will be raffled in class. Presentations will be entirely in Spanish and students will follow the guidelines posted on blackboard.

**Group Skits:** Students will work in groups of 4 members to develop a skit to be presented in front of the class based on any of the topics featured in the book's chapters. Topics will be raffled in class. Students will follow the guidelines posted 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** free absences for classes that meet MWF and **two** free absences for classes that meet TR or MW.
- b) For each absence in excess of the limit stated in **a)** above, **five** points will be deducted from the final grade.
- c) Any student who misses more than **eight** classes 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.

Arriving late or leaving early more than once will count as an absence. The classroom door will be shut 2 minutes after the scheduled meeting time. Take care of personal business before arriving to class. Please do not leave early unless you truly have an emergency.

If you have perfect attendance at the end of the semester, meaning not missing any classes at all you are entitled to an extra point on your final grade.

**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.
- 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, reading other materials, eating or text messaging will not be allowed.
- Students are expected to arrive in time to class and stay the entire class.
- Food, tobacco and alcohol are prohibited in UNCW classrooms. You may however bring something to drink if needed.
- Bring your textbook and dictionary daily.
- 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 give you as much feedback as possible. It is natural to make mistakes while learning a language so please do not feel bad about it. Learn from your mistakes and laugh at them so you will never make them again. Do not take personal offense if your professor corrects you; however, try your best each and every time.
- When working in groups you may help and correct your classmates but please do so in a respectfully manner.
- If working on assignments with someone else outside of class, remember to do your own work and never turn in the same answers. You may help each other but never copy from each other.
- The use of online translators is strictly prohibited. All work must original and you may use a paper dictionary and textbook to help yourself.

- All assignments, including tests, should be clear, clean, neat and stapled together. If I cannot read your work, I cannot assess it, and therefore, you will not receive credit for it.
- Please do not email me any assignments, homework or compositions. Any problems with long lines at I-Print, jammed printers, problems with your computer or other such technological catastrophes do not justify not having your assignment or acquiring the right to turn it in late, it just shows poor planning on your part and will not be accepted. Always plan accordingly. All due dates will be observed.
- **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 personal 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.

**Extra Credit:** If time allows it, I will approve 2 or 3 extra credit activities or events not to overpass 3 points of your final grade. These points will be added to your final grade. When doing extra credit assignments, make sure to follow all guidelines and fill out the appropriate form, otherwise, it will not be accepted.

**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. The use of online translators is not allowed. If working with a partner it is fine to help each other and correct each other but turning the same work is not acceptable.

**Make-up Policy:** Homework cannot be made up. It must be submitted on time. Tests, compositions, and the oral test can only be made up with proper documentation (i.e. doctor's note), and must be made up within one week of the date in which it was to be done in class. There is no make-up for the final exam.

**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>.

#### **Useful Services at UNCW:**

- *Foreign Language Resource Center* – bring your own headphones and student ID; <http://www.uncw.edu/fl/about-resource.html> (253 Leutze Hall)
- *University Learning Services* – free tutoring; 962-3549; [tlc@uncw.edu](mailto:tlc@uncw.edu); <http://www.uncw.edu/stuaff/uls/> (1056 Westside Hall)

If you feel like you need extra help or more explanation please visit the Learning Center. Get in touch with them ASAP and do not wait until late in the semester. Getting a tutor may help you getting back on track and be successful in this class.

- *Spanish Language Program* – review activities for SPN 101 – 202; syllabi; activities;  
<http://www.uncw.edu/fl/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! 😊*