Course Syllabus

University of Utah - Department of World Languages and Cultures

Spanish 1010 – Spring 2018

Instructor: Laura Robinson

Course Materials

Nexos Media Edition 3rd edition (Long, Carrera, Velasco and Swanson)

Textbook
Online Workbook - iLrn (access code found in packet from bookstore)
A quality Spanish to English/English to Spanish dictionary is advised

Course description

Spanish 1010 is a first-year Spanish course for students who have never taken Spanish. Students who have received any high school or college credit in the last 5 years for Spanish must take the language placement exam. Students must receive a grade of C- or higher in this course to continue in the series.

This class replaces two of its face-to-face sessions with online activities that may or may not occur during a fixed time and date. This online component will require a certain degree of familiarity with computers and the online environment. The hybrid class may also require more work than a traditional class. If you are not sure whether this type of class is adequate for you, there are other sections of 1010 taught in the traditional format.

This course develops students’ speaking, listening, reading and writing skills so that they will be able to express their own ideas and interact with others meaningfully and for real-life purposes. It also integrates culture, introducing students to the everyday lives of Spanish speakers in the different countries of the Spanish-speaking world.

Evaluation

Exams (2) 15%
Quizzes (5) 15%
Project (1) 10%
Composition (1) 5%
Oral exams (3) 20%
Virtual participation 20% (iLrn, homework, Canvas, preparation, etc.)
In-class participation 15% (Preparation, speaking, attendance, etc.)

Evaluation is based on the following scale:

A  93-100     B  83-86.99     C  73-76.99     D  63-66.99
B+  87-89.99   C+  77-79.99   D+  67-69.99   E  below 60
Daily preparation, homework and participation - Class attendance and participation are essential to your progress in this course. Persistent, active in-class participation develops your speaking and comprehension skills. Therefore, it is essential that you attend class daily (including online element). Trying to catch up once you have fallen behind will be difficult, as much new material will be introduced on a daily basis. Class time will be spent using the language, therefore you must learn the material assigned before coming to class.

You will be allowed 2 unexcused absences during the semester. Each unexcused absence thereafter will result in the lowering of the participation part of your grade by a half letter. Missing 8 or more hours of class will result in failure of the course. http://www.acs.utah.edu/sched/handbook/attend.htm

Homework will not be accepted after the date on which it is due. Homework assignments will be given out daily by your instructor. Included in the Nexos package you will get a code to access the electronic workbook (iLrn). Your instructor will explain in class how to use the code to access the workbook. All workbook activities will be assigned from the electronic workbook so you will need to have access to the internet in order to complete them. In case you need it, the Language Department has a computer lab located in LNCO. Workbook exercises will be assigned for each chapter and must be completed by the date specified by the instructor. Late submissions will not be admitted.

Pop-quizzes and in-class assignments given during a missed class period cannot be made up under any circumstance.

Philosophy - Success in this course depends on the combined efforts of the student and instructor. The responsibility of the student is to prepare thoroughly for class and to participate actively in class. The primary role of the instructor is to facilitate real communication in Spanish. Classroom time is planned according to this philosophy so that lack of preparation will severely impede any benefits students may gain from the classroom experience.

Writing - There will be one composition assigned for this course. The composition will be completed in a series of drafts. Due dates will be posted on the Canvas. No late compositions will be accepted.

Speaking - Facility in oral communication is the most important goal for many foreign language students. The best way to develop such facility is to practice speaking. Students are encouraged to speak as much as possible during class time, without fear of making the inevitable mistakes (making mistakes helps you learn!). The purpose of these exams is to evaluate your oral proficiency (with realistic expectations!) in a reasonably authentic conversational setting. Your instructor will tell you more about the speaking exams later in the semester, and class time will be used to help you prepare for the exams.

Exams and quizzes - There will be two exams covering multiple chapters each, and 5 short quizzes that will cover more specific material treated in the chapters. There are NO make-ups. If you know in advance that you will not be able to take a test, you may make an appointment with your instructor to take it one day early. There will not be a written comprehensive final in this class.
Projects - There will be 1 language project assigned during the semester. This project will give you an opportunity to bring together all the different skills that you have acquired in the course. It will combine different types of communicative modes (presentational, interpretive, and interpersonal). Your instructor will provide you with due dates and specific descriptions of the project during the semester. If you know that you will be absent on a day when a project is due, you should contact your instructor and be prepared to hand it in on an earlier date. There will be no make-ups.

Drop and withdrawal policy - Because of the large number of students wishing to enroll in Spanish 1010, students who have not appeared in class by the third class-day are automatically taken off the roll. A student who has been taken off the roll still needs to drop the class according to university policy. Until the eighth calendar day of the term, students may drop without penalty. After that, a student may withdraw from a class or from the University extending through the midpoint of the term.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The use of cell phones is not acceptable during class time. If you need to send or receive text messages you are invited to leave class to do so. You will be given one warning after which cell phone use will result in a reduction of your participation grade.

All students are expected to maintain professional behavior in the classroom setting, according to the Student Code, spelled out in the Student Handbook. Students have specific rights in the classroom as detailed in Article III of the Code. The Code also specifies proscribed conduct (Article XI) that involves cheating on tests, plagiarism, and/or collusion, as well as fraud, theft, etc. Students should read the Code carefully and know they are responsible for the content. According to Faculty Rules and Regulations, it is the faculty responsibility to enforce responsible classroom behaviors, and I will do so, beginning with verbal warnings and progressing to dismissal from class and a failing grade. Students have the right to appeal such action to the Student Behavior Committee.

American with Disabilities Act - The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in the class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability Services (CDS), 162 Olpin Union Building, 581-5020 (V/TDD). CDS will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations. All written information in this course can be made available in alternative format with prior notification to the CDS.

Plagiarism - It is the University of Utah’s policy not to tolerate plagiarism of any kind. Plagiarism is defined as the verbatim use of four or more words from an unreferenced source. This includes copying from someone else’s homework, from a book or article, the Internet, etc. without attributing the words in question (giving the author, the title, the pages, and so on). Plagiarism is severely sanctioned by the University and it may result not only in a grade of "F," but suspension or even expulsion. http://www.sa.utah.edu/code/

QUESTIONS OR PROBLEMS: If you have questions or problems that you are unable to resolve with your instructor, you may contact Tim Cannon, tim.cannon@utah.edu, the supervisor for the 1st-year Spanish program in the Department of Languages and Literature. Office: LNCO 1966.