

Syllabus for UWXSP101

First Semester Spanish

NOTE: This syllabus document contains the basic information of this course. The most current syllabus is available in the full course.

Course Description

This course is designed for students who have had little or no previous training in the language. The fundamentals of pronunciation and grammar are presented through reading, writing, speaking, and listening activities created to introduce students to both the Spanish language and the cultures of Spanish-speakers in the US and abroad.

Prerequisite(s)

None

Course Outcomes

Upon completing this course, you will be able to do the following:

- Speaking: Interpersonal and Presentational (Proficiency – Novice Mid)
 - Student can request and provide information by asking and answering a few simple questions on very familiar topics related to everyday life, using a mixture of practices or memorized words, phrases, and simple sentences.
 - Student can present information using a variety of words, memorized expressions, or simple sentences on a very familiar topic.
- Writing: (Proficiency – Novice High)
 - Student can write short messages on most familiar topics using simple, complete sentences.
- Listening: (Proficiency – Novice High)
 - Student can recognize words, phrases, and simple sentences related to everyday life and sometimes grasp the main topic of what is being said.
- Reading: (Proficiency – Novice High)
 - Student can comprehend words, phrases, and sentences within short and simple texts related to everyday life and can identify the main idea.
 - Note: Some basic level topics include likes/dislikes, daily activities, food, places visited, things learned, time, dates, weather description.
- Cultural Knowledge & Competence: (Proficiency – Novice)

- Student can identify differences in cultural practices in the Spanish speaking world and will be able to link practices with perspectives.

Course Requirements/Components

1. **Tarea:** All homework activities are found on the Portales site and must be completed by the due dates listed in the Portales calendar. For credit activities, you'll earn full credit for viewing content (tutorial, reading, vocabulary list, etc.). For graded activities, you will enter a response. These activities allow up to a maximum of 5 attempts. Be careful with spelling (including use of accents)! Aim to complete Portales activities 5-6 days/week. You will have until 11:59pm CST to submit them on the date they are due. Late activities will be accepted with a 20% penalty per day.

Note: Homework activities that fall under the Review and the Feedback categories are recommended but do not count for a grade.

2. **Discusiones:** A new discussion topic will be presented each week under Discussions on Canvas. Students must create an original post that directly responds to the prompt by Monday (11:59pm CST) of that week. Each student must then read at least one peer's posting and respond by Thursday (11:59pm CST).
3. **Exámenes:** There will be a proctored, closed-book Lesson test at the end of each of the seven lessons included in this course. You are allowed 40 minutes to complete each lesson test. Instructions for accessing tests are provided on Canvas. Lesson tests assess your ability to use new vocabulary and structures presented in a variety of skill areas: listening, reading, writing, and cultural knowledge. It is recommended that you use both the assigned and optional activities provided on Portales so that you become very familiar with the material and are able to complete all components of these assessments within the time limit and without use of any notes or other resources.
4. **Entrevistas:** Each student will complete two brief proficiency interviews in Spanish. Interviews will be conducted in pairs and in real-time using Collaborate Ultra on Canvas or whereby.com (a free app/website). You will be expected to sign up for a time that fits your schedule using a GoogleDoc shared by your instructor on Canvas. Failure to complete these interviews will lead to automatic failure in the course. See the List of Possible Questions under Course Resources to guide your preparations.

5. **Experiencia cultural:** The Cultural Experience will consist of a reflective essay in English and will be shared with your classmates in a discussion post to gather peer feedback. The essay is a reflection on two activities that will require some preparation/planning. Find description and grading rubric on Canvas under Assignments.

6. **Examen final:** A 70-minute cumulative final exam will be administered at the end of the course to assess your ability to utilize the grammar structures and vocabulary presented in lessons 1-7 and demonstrate the cultural knowledge you have developed.

Grading

The following grading scale will be used to evaluate all course requirements and to determine your final grade: (examples below)

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