

COURSE SYLLABUS
MFL 1213: ELEMENTARY SPANISH I

COURSE DESCRIPTION: MFL 1213 students will receive a balanced, four-skills approach of speaking, listening, reading, and writing, which emphasizes the use of language for oral communication without neglecting the other basic language skills. Students will have a basic understanding of Spanish phonetics, simple grammatical concepts, a general knowledge of where Spanish is spoken, an understanding of some elements of Spanish culture and be able to compare cultural and linguistic knowledge to other disciplines.

RECOMMENDED TEXTBOOK AND WORKBOOK:

Textbook: Van Patten, *Destinos*, Second Edition of the Alternate Edition, 2002.
(Chapters 1-12)
Jarvis and Lebreo. *¿Cómo se dice...?*. [Chapters 1-7]

Workbook: Van Patten: *Destinos: Workbook/Study Guide I Lessons 1-12*
Jarvis and Lebreo. *¿Cómo se dice...? Workbook/Laboratory Manual*.

UNIT OBJECTIVES: Complete Unit Objectives will be distributed at the beginning of each unit of study.

UNITS OF STUDY:

- Speaking
- Listening
- Reading
- Writing
- Understanding the Culture

COURSE REQUIREMENT: Students must pass the chapter tests (60% of their grade) with a score of 70 or above. They must pass vocabulary quizzes (20% of their grade) with a score of 70 or above. They must also complete homework and classwork assignments (20% of their grade).

PLAN OF EVALUATION: Students will be required to earn a D average or better in the course. Students will be evaluated by a major test following each chapter in the text. Assessment will be designed to determine whether student learning is accurate and thorough and should reflect the student's ability to understand, read, speak, and write the material studied. Other evaluation of student learning might include oral presentations and readings, oral or written quizzes, homework assignments, class work assignments, or collaborative activities. Students will take a comprehensive final exam.

MFL DEPARTMENT GRADING SCALE: Students in MFL courses will be graded according to the English/Modern Foreign Language Department grading scale.

- A 100-95
- B 94-85
- C 84-75
- D 74-70
- F 69 and below

UNIT 1: SPEAKING
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UNIT OBJECTIVE: The student will pronounce most Spanish sounds and communicate effectively.

PLAN OF EVALUATION: The student will be evaluated through classroom practice and oral quizzes and tests.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

The student will

1. pronounce most sounds of Spanish with sufficient accuracy to be understood by a native speaker of the language
2. effectively communicate in basic survival situations that require the ability to greet; to ask questions; to convey basic needs, attitudes, and emotions; to exchange information; and to persuade using the vocabulary and structure covered in the text

UNIT 2: LISTENING
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UNIT OBJECTIVE: The student will comprehend spoken Spanish on an elementary level.

PLAN OF EVALUATION: The student will be evaluated by classwork and language lab activities.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

The student will

1. perceive of most Spanish sounds and their distinction from one another
2. comprehend ideas expressed within the framework of the vocabulary and grammatical structures presented
3. guess at unfamiliar vocabulary based on context

UNIT 3: READING
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UNIT OBJECTIVE: The student will read and comprehend elementary Spanish.

PLAN OF EVALUATION: The student will be evaluated through homework, classwork, and written tests.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

The student will

1. understand simple Spanish prose on non technical, high-frequency topics
2. intelligently guess at new vocabulary items based on context
3. demonstrate comprehension by answering questions on reading passages

UNIT 4: WRITING
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UNIT OBJECTIVE: The student will create paragraphs in Spanish on an elementary level.

PLAN OF EVALUATION: The student will be evaluated by the correct use of grammar and vocabulary in a paragraph.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

The student will

1. create in class—without a dictionary—a paragraph in Spanish on topics covered by the text with sufficient clarity to be understood without difficulty by a native speaker (major errors such as verbs or adjective agreement may appear)
2. prepare outside of class a paragraph on any topic covered by the text, without major errors and with sufficient clarity to be understood upon first reading by a native speaker

UNIT 5: UNDERSTANDING THE CULTURE
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UNIT OBJECTIVE: The student will have a general knowledge of where Spanish is spoken, understand some common elements of Spanish culture, and be able to compare these to their culture.

PLAN OF EVALUATION: The student will be evaluated by discussion, homework, classwork, and written tests.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

The student will

1. acquire elementary knowledge of important aspects of culture in the Spanish-speaking world, such as climate and geography, family life, school and university life, rural and urban life, and their difference from U.S. culture
2. acquire elementary knowledge of culturally conditioned behavioral patterns, such as table manners, *el abrazo*, and shades of formality; demonstrate control of these behavioral patterns in interactions with others