

Grande Prairie Regional College

Department of Arts and Education

Spanish 1110: Beginners' Spanish 1 (3-0-2) 3 UT credits

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Spanish 1110 is an introductory UT course with 3 UT credits intended for students with no previous knowledge of the language.

Not to be taken by:

- Students with native or near native proficiency
- Heritage-speakers and / or those for whom it is their first language
- Students with credit in Spanish 20 and Spanish 30 or their equivalent

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

In Spanish 1110, the students will be introduced to all four language skills areas – listening, speaking, reading and writing. Students will learn basic vocabulary, common expressions for conversation and simple sentence structures, including how to ask questions and how to answer them – in the present, the future and the past. In the lab segment of the course, the emphasis will be on pronunciation and comprehension practice, as well as on reading and oral expression.

REQUIRED COURSE MATERIAL

- Castells, Guzmán, Lapuerta, & Garcia (2005): *Mosaicos: Spanish as a World Language*. (4th Edition). Bundle textbook and supplements: ISBN: 0131694448
- Spanish/English Dictionary. Oxford, Collins or Larousse, are three good dictionaries. (Avoid purchasing miniature pocket dictionaries: these have limited vocabulary and are not the best for this course.)

COURSE EVALUATION:

The evaluation system is based on students' ability to participate actively and effectively in a wide variety of language related activities. A strategy of continuous application and fulfillment of course requirements **will enable students to exercise a great deal of direct control over their final grade for this course**. On the other hand, a strategy of neglecting the course - not submitting work on time, "cramming" for exams, absences and / or not participating - will be a certain recipe for failure.

SUMMARY OF DISTRIBUTION OF MARKS

| EVALUATION PROCEDURES | % | NOTES |
|--|-----|---|
| Participation and attendance | 10 | 5 participation grades based on daily work in each chapter = 20 points |
| Electronic and class homework | 8 | 10 points each |
| Video activities | 2 | 50 points each |
| 4 Compositions: 1 st : 4%, 2 nd : 5%, 3 rd : 6%, 4 th : 7%, 5 th : 8% | 30 | 100 points each. |
| Quizzes: 1 per chapter (1-5) | 10 | 5 quizzes = 10 points each |
| Oral Exams: Midterm: 5%, Final: 10% | 15 | 100 points each: |
| Written Exam 1 | 10 | Chapters: Preliminary, 1 & 2 = 100 points |
| Final Written Exam | 15 | Chapters 3,4,5 = 100 points |
| Total | 100 | |

GRADING SYSTEM

Final grades are based on a combination of absolute achievement and relative performance in the class and follow the following guidelines similar to the department of Modern Languages and Cultural Studies at the University of Alberta:

| Letter | % | Pts | Descriptor |
|--------|---------|-----|---|
| A+ | 90-100% | 4.0 | Outstanding: Superior performance showing understanding and knowledge of the subject matter far exceeding expectations |
| A | 85-89% | 4.0 | Excellent: Superior performance showing comprehensive understanding of subject matter. |
| A- | 80-84% | 3.7 | Very good: Clearly above average performance with complete knowledge of subject matter. |
| B+ | 76-79% | 3.3 | Very good |
| B | 73-75% | 3.0 | Good: average performance with knowledge of subject matter generally complete |
| B- | 70-72% | 2.7 | Good |
| C+ | 67-69% | 2.3 | Satisfactory: Basic understanding of the subject matter |
| C | 64-66% | 2.0 | Satisfactory |
| C- | 59- | 1.7 | Satisfactory |

| | | | |
|----|--------|-----|---|
| | 63% | | |
| D+ | 54-58% | 1.3 | Minimal Pass: Marginal performance; generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the subject matter. |
| D | 50-53% | 1.0 | Minimal Pass: Marginal performance; generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the subject matter. |
| F | 0-49% | 0.0 | Fail: Unsatisfactory performance or failure to meet course requirements. |

CONSULTATION WITH INSTRUCTORS

Students are encouraged to consult their instructors regarding any concerns they have about the course content, the structure of the course, or their personal progress.

PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING

All students are asked to consult the GPRC Calendar on the policy if plagiarism. See Academic regulations – Student Conduct – Plagiarism.

EXPLANATION OF EVALUATION PROCEDURES

Students should be aware that under NO circumstances will homework assignments, quizzes, compositions, and / or written and / or oral exams be made up unless special arrangements have been made with the instructor prior to the due date or the exam date. Formal written documentation will be required for an excused absence. Students with a legitimate excuse MUST present the documentation to their instructor within 2 calendar days of returning to class to be eligible for consideration of any make-up work or exam. No extension will be given after this deadline has elapsed and a grade of ZERO will be assigned. The student is responsible for the material from any classes missed.

1. Participation and attendance: As new language structures will be introduced daily, class attendance is essential. Students' habits related to attendance, punctuality and participation will undoubtedly manifest themselves in their grades.
2. Homework Activities: On the dates stated on the schedule, students are expected to have completed the daily-assigned homework exercises.
3. Compositions: Students will be assigned FIVE compositions between 80-200 words.
 - Minimum number of works: Composition 1: 80; Composition #2:110; Composition #3:140; Composition #4: 170; Composition #5:200.
 - All compositions must be typed and double-spaced.
 - Indicate the number of words on the composition.
 - Your work must comply with regular academic standards.
 - No work will be accepted late or via e-mail. A grade of ZERO will be assigned.
 - A grade of ZERO will be assigned to compositions that are not submitted on the date when they are due.

4. QUIZZES: There will be 5 quizzes (10 minutes each) based on the grammar and vocabulary sections accompanying each chapter.
5. WRITTEN EXAM #1: This exam is designed to assess a variety of the skills, which are practiced during the course of study; they will include but not be limited to the following components: listening, reading, writing, vocabulary, culture and grammar.
6. FINAL EXAM: a 2-hour exam consisting of but **not** limited to the following components: listening comprehension, grammar, vocabulary, culture, reading and a 120-word composition.
7. ORAL EXAMS: Students will be required to participate in TWO oral exams, which have been designed to assess students' communicative competence. The oral exams will be done in pairs. The first oral exam will last 5 minutes, and the second one, 8 minutes.

CONTENT:

- Students will learn vocabulary related to:
 - Introductions + Farewells
 - Expressions of courtesy
 - Distinguishing registers
 - The alphabet
 - Cognates
 - Ways to describe people, things and places (adjectives+ colours)
 - Numbers + Telling time
 - Months, days, seasons
 - Useful classroom expressions
 - Subject pronouns
 - Present tense of the regular -ar verbs, -er and -ir verbs
 - Articles and nouns
 - Present tense of the verb *estar* + Present tense and some uses of the verb “*ser*” + *Ser* and *estar* with adjectives
 - Question words
 - Possessive adjectives
 - Present tense of the verb “*ir*” + *a* + infinitive to express future actions, the present tense to express future action
 - Present tense of stem-changing verbs
 - Adverbs
 - Present tense of *hacer*, *poner* + *Hacer* with expressions of time
 - Present progressive tense
 - Expressions with *tener*
 - Direct object nouns and pronouns
 - Demonstrative adjectives and pronouns
 - *Saber* and *conocer*
 - Food (restaurant)
 - Family
 - Cinema and theatre

- Domestic chores
- College life
- Cultural aspects (Family life, student life in Spanish-speaking cultures)
- Activities and plans

