

SYLLABUS
Mercer County Community College
SPA 101 Beginning Spanish I

Course Description:

Beginning Spanish, SPA101 (3 credit hours) is the first of a sequence of courses designed for students with little or no prior knowledge of Spanish. The course emphasizes the four communicative skills of listening, reading, speaking, and writing in a culturally authentic context. Basic grammar skills are also introduced. Students will make oral presentations, read short texts, and write brief compositions in Spanish. **A CLEP test is available as an alternative for taking this course. Don't know what CLEP is? Visit the following site:**

http://www.mccc.edu/student_services_testing_clepdantes.shtml

Course Competencies/Goals:

Upon successful completion of the course, the student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate reading comprehension of written Spanish on basic level.
2. Demonstrate listening comprehension of spoken Spanish on a basic level.
3. Write Spanish on a basic level.
4. Speak Spanish on a basic level.
5. Identify basic grammatical elements of Spanish sentence structure.
6. Demonstrate knowledge of the culture, history, and daily lives of the Spanish-speaking peoples of the world.
7. Identify current and past contributions made by Spanish-speaking peoples to world literature, art, music, science, and commerce.

General Education Knowledge Goals

Goal 1. Communication. Students will communicate effectively in both speech and writing.

Goal 4. Technology. Students will use computer systems or other appropriate forms of technology to achieve educational and personal goals.

Goal 5. Social Science. Students will use social science theories and concepts to analyze human behavior and social and political institutions and to act as responsible citizens.

Goal 6. Humanities. Students will analyze works in the fields of art, music, or theater; literature; philosophy and/or religious studies; and/or will gain competence in the use of a foreign language.

Goal 8. Diversity. Students will understand the importance of a global perspective and culturally diverse peoples.

MCCC Core Skills

Goal A. Written and Oral Communication in English. Students will communicate effectively in speech and writing, and demonstrate proficiency in reading.

Goal D. Information Literacy. Students will recognize when information is needed and have the knowledge and skills to locate, evaluate, and effectively use information for college level work.

Goal E. Computer Literacy. Students will use computers to access, analyze or present information, solve problems, and communicate with others.

Goal F. Collaboration and Cooperation. Students will develop the interpersonal skills required for effective performance in group situations.

Goal G. Intra-Cultural and Inter-Cultural Responsibility. Students will demonstrate an awareness of the responsibilities of intelligent citizenship in a diverse and pluralistic society, and will demonstrate cultural, global, and environmental awareness.

Transferring credits

Be advised that if you have received credit for SPA 101 in high school, then Rutgers (and perhaps other schools) will **not accept** SPA 101 taken at the college level as meeting their college level language requirements. If you plan to transfer college foreign language credits, it is advised that you either take the next appropriate level that follows your accomplishments (i.e. SPA 102 or 201) or that you take another language 101 course such as French, Chinese, Italian, Latin, Polish, Japanese, Arabic, American Sign Language, or German.

Required Course Materials:

En linea 2.0 (It's the online version of the Vistas: Introduccion a la lengua española) by Jose A. Blanco and Philip Redwine Donley. Publisher: Vista Higher Learning, 2008. Binding: Online. Purchase online at www.vhldirect.com

Objectives:

In this course you will expand your knowledge of the culture, history, and daily lives of the Spanish-speaking peoples of the world. By the semester's end you will be able to read, write, and speak Spanish on a basic level. You will also learn to identify current and past contributions made by Spanish-speaking peoples to world literature, art, music, science, and commerce.

OFFICIAL LANGUAGE POLICY: Spanish is the language of instruction and communication during class.

Disabled students:

Students with disabilities needing academic accommodations should register with and provide documentation to the *Office of Special Services (OSS)* and bring a letter to the instructor from the OSS indicating a need for academic accommodations. **This should be done the first week of classes.** For more information, refer to page 11 of the catalogue or visit http://www.mccc.edu/student_services_needs.shtml. This syllabus and other course materials are available in alternative format upon request.

Student Evaluation and Grading:

Except in the case of excused absences or extreme extenuating circumstances the following will be the policy of this class:

- 1) Late assignments will not be accepted,
- 2) There will be no make-ups of tests, and
- 3) No tests will be given early.

For excused absences, make-up work will be accepted for only up to one week after returning to class. A passing grade for SPA101 is a D. However, to qualify to register for SPA102 you must receive a grade of C or better. The final grade in this course will be determined from the following components:

Homework/Participation (VISTA Online Activities and Voice Chats).....	35%
Discussion Boards (3) (ANGEL).....	10%
Partnered-Spoken Activities (3) (VISTA Online).....	15%
Tests (4) (Vista Online).....	20%
Exams (2) (Proctored Testing Center).....	20%

For your protection, keeping track of your grades is your responsibility as well. Keep track of your progress using a record sheet.

Grading Scale:

Label	Minimum Percent
A	93
A-	90
B+	87
B	83
B-	80
C+	77
C	70
D	60
F	0

Tentative Course Schedule

Outline of Assignments

Date	Classwork themes/topics
Weeks 1 & 2	Chap1 "Meeting People" EN LINEA Online Activities Chapter ` Discussion Board: Greetings and Goodbyes EN LINEA Online Test: Chapter 1
Weeks 3 & 4	Chap2 "University Life" EN LINEA Online Activities Chapter 2 Graded EN LINEA Partnered Voice Activity Ch2 EN LINEA Online Test: Chapter 2
Weeks 5,6,&7	Chap3 "Family" EN LINEA Online Activities Chapter 3 Discussion Board: The Family
Week 8	Midterm Exam Mid-Semester Survey
Week 9,10,&11	Chap4 "Passtimes" EN LINEA Online Activities Chapter 4 Graded EN LINEA Partnered Voice Activity Ch4 EN LINEA Online Test: Chapter 2
Weeks 12 & 13	Chap5 "El turismo" EN LINEA Online Activities Chapter 5 Discussion Board: "Las vacaciones" EN LINEA Online Test: Chapter 5
Weeks 14 & 15	Chap6 "De compras" EN LINEA Online Activities Chapter 6 Graded EN LINEA Partnered Voice Activity Ch6
Week 16	Final Exam (Includes chapters 4, 5, & 6) Course Wrap-Up and Survey

*Please be aware of the fact that this syllabus is a "flexible" syllabus and, due to pedagogical considerations, it may be necessary to modify it during the course of the semester. Any changes, however, will be minimal.

Students in this class may be recorded or video taped in the course of the semester for purposes of evaluation of either class assignments or of the teacher.

Academic Integrity Policy:

The *Academic Integrity Policies* of Mercer County Community College are based on the premise that each student has the responsibility (1) to uphold the highest standards of academic integrity in the student's own work, (2) to refuse to tolerate academic dishonesty in the college community, and (3) to foster a high sense of integrity and social responsibility on the part of the college community. Students should become familiar with and strictly adhere to MCCC's Academic Integrity policies. Refer to http://www.mccc.edu/admissions_policies_integrity.shtml.

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"I have read and thoroughly understand the expectations of the syllabus for SPA 131". (Copy and paste the above statement into an email and send to me with the subject line "Syllabus agreement")