



**SPA 1311 – 22253 (01E)
ELEMENTARY SPANISH I
COURSE SYLLABUS: SPRING 2021**

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Christa Yanez

Class meetings: MWF, 9:00am-9:50am

Office Location: TBA

Office Hours: TBA

University Email Address: Christa.Yanez@tamuc.edu

Communication Response Time: (Important note: I will respond to emails within 24 hours during the workweek and by the next business day on weekends and holidays.)

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

Textbook(s) Required

- Goodall, Grant and Darcy Lear (2022). **Conéctate: Introductory Spanish**. 3rd edition. McGraw-Hill including Connect access card. (*Connect* is an online platform to access to the Workbook/Lab Manual (WBLM) and LearnSmart adaptive software). **Note**: If you buy a pre-owned textbook, you need to acquire the *Connect* access card separately in order to complete online assignments.
- A good Spanish-English bilingual dictionary (for instance: *Harper Collins' Spanish Concise Dictionary*. New York: Harper Collins; *Diccionario Español-Inglés Cumbre*. Madrid: Everest).

Other required materials: Access to a computer with good video interface; also recommended a good headset to complete speaking and listening activities.

Course Description

Elementary Spanish I is the initial course in the four-course sequence of the Spanish Language Program at TAMUC. The course has been designed for second-language learners (this is, students whose first language is not Spanish). The Spanish Program has adapted the 'CAN-DO' performance standards based on the MCER and ACTFL frameworks; considering these standards, students will start developing competence in the four communication skills, and they are expected to reach the Novice-Mid level by the end of the course (ACTFL 2012). They will also gain knowledge of various cultural aspects of the Spanish-speaking world by exploring cultural products and practices from Hispanic communities in the US and abroad.

Student Learning Outcomes

Students who successfully complete the course will:

1. Demonstrate basic Spanish production skills (speaking and writing) by discussing information about themselves, their families / friends, their preferences, and topics related to the immediate environment (classes, weather, seasons, daily routines /activities, etc.).
2. Demonstrate initial listening and reading skills by analyzing and understanding simple texts in Spanish (news, brochures, short descriptions, etc.) related to daily life routines/activities.
3. Demonstrate management of initial communicative strategies to support oral interactions and reading/listening comprehension.
4. Investigate, describe, and reflect on cultural products and practices of the Spanish-speaking communities, in the US and abroad.

Collection of Data for Measuring Institutional Effectiveness

In order to measure the level of compliance with the university's Institutional Effectiveness guidelines, I will collect some of the ungraded materials you will produce for the class. These materials will be part of a portfolio created on your behalf and will be measured to ensure that our program "promotes practices that result in higher student academic achievement; an enhanced student experience; aligned and transparent decisions; and readily available information for improvement, accountability, and accreditation" (Institutional Effectiveness, <http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutus/institutionalEffectiveness/default.aspx>). This is solely an assessment of program effectiveness and in no way affects students' course grades or GPAs.

Minimal Technical Skills

Students in this course are expected to be able to: a) manage TAMUC Library resources for advance academic research; b) competently use MSFT Office tools (Word, Excel, PPoint); c) access, navigate and use the diverse tools included in the course MyLeoOnline (D2L).

Student Responsibilities

Students' participation is essential and required to succeed in this course. Students are expected to: 1) actively engage in all classroom activities, including the in-person class meetings, 2) read and prepare assigned materials by the due dates, 3) complete and submit assignments by the due date, and 4) interact with each other and the instructor on a regular basis.

Interaction with Instructor Statement

a. Course communication. Good communication in an online setting is a fundamental component of success. Please consider the different types of media available for communication with your instructor and classmates, in individual and group formats. Please follow [Netiquette rules](#) to keep our conversation professional, engaging and polite.

During the semester, we will use three main means of communication:

- *Announcements:* General tool for course communication; I will post short messages or reminders related to due dates or changes in the assignments.
- *Email:* Please only use the official TAMUC Leo Email to communicate with me and your classmates. I will send general emails with information related to the course, date changes, assignments modifications, etc. or with information that relate to our content. I will send individual emails as needed. I will respond to emails in 24 hs. during the work week and by the next business day on weekends and holidays.

To setup the TAMUC email contact **HelpDesk** helpdesk@tamuc.edu or call 903-468-6000; you may also access information at <https://leo.tamuc.edu>.

- *General Discussion Board*: Located in the “General Resources” folder, this board is open to all participants; anyone can post a comment, question or suggestion related or unrelated to the course. All students are encouraged to participate and post responses; I will visit this board regularly.

GRADING

Activities & assessments

1. Quizzes: There will be four short quizzes based on each unit content, focusing on vocabulary, language structures, language strategies, and cultural content. Each test represents 10% of the final grade. For relevant dates please see “Tentative Course Schedule”.

2. Mid-semester interview: An individual oral interview will be conducted at mid-semester to measure students’ oral skills development. Depending on students’ individual situation, the interview will be conducted face-to-face or in a virtual format. The interview will consist of a number of questions related to the topics discussed in class. See the “Interview Rubric” for details. This activity represents 10% of the final grade.

3. Online activities: Students will complete diverse online exercises every week in the *Connect* online workbook, including listening, reading and writing activities. Completion of the online HW is required to fully participate in the face-to-face sessions, and to succeed in the IPA evaluation. The activities are expected to be completed by the due date indicated in the “Tentative Course Schedule”, and they will be evaluated by level of completion and accuracy.

In addition, you will participate in MyLeoOnline discussion boards, completing creative activities to practice writing and oral skills. Online activities represent 30% of the final grade.

4. Integrated Performance Assessment (IPA).

The Spanish Language Program has incorporated the Integrated Performance Assessment (IPA) framework as primary model for assessing students’ progress. Following CARLA (2019) description, IPA is a set of interrelated linguistic tasks which allows students to demonstrate their Spanish competence on the three modes of communication: *Interpretive* (reading/listening and completing a comprehension activity); *Interpersonal* (interacting with another student or the instructor); and *Presentational* (writing or orally presenting information to an audience). The three tasks are aligned within a single theme, reflecting the manner in which learners will naturally use the language in the real world beyond the classroom. Students in SPA 1311 will complete a final IPA cycle at the end of the semester (please see the “Tentative Schedule” for relevant dates). Students are required to complete the full IPA cycle in order to be assessed; an incomplete cycle cannot be evaluated, therefore if the student misses any of the three tasks, the resulting grade will be 0 (zero). The IPA cycle will be evaluated with scoring rubrics that rate performance in terms of whether the task meets expectations, exceeds expectations, or does not meet expectations.

See the “Tentative Course Schedule” for more information.

GRADING

Quizzes:	40% (4 x 10%)
Online activities:	30%
Oral interview:	10%
IPA:	20%
Total:	100%

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

A = 100%-90% B = 89%-80% C = 79%-70% D = 69%-60% F = 59% or Below

6. Extra-credit

The Spanish Program at TAMUC presents a variety of events each Spring and invites you to actively participate. 3 extra-points will be granted after attending the event/s and completing the assigned activities.

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

A = 90%-100%; B = 80%-89%; C = 70%-79%; D = 60%-69%; F = 59% or Below.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures

1. Participation: Attendance and participation in the face-to-face / virtual sessions are fundamental to succeed in this course. You are expected to attend all class meetings either in person, following TAMUC Covid-19 pandemic guidelines, or virtually through videoconferencing. For more information, please see “University Procedures Policies” in the next section of the syllabus.

Student athletes, band members and members of other university sanctions should bring a letter from their supervisor or specific department during the first week of class indicating the dates they will miss class.

Students who require special accommodations for religious holidays should make arrangements with their instructor during the first week of class.

2. Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

3. Withdraws & Incomplete grade.

A student may drop a course by logging into his/her myLeo account and clicking on the hyperlink labeled “Drop a class” from among the choices found under the myLeo section of the web page. I reserve the right to drop a student from the course administratively for excessive absences or violations of the Code of Student Conduct. Incomplete grades (grade of “X”) are granted only under rare and extraordinary circumstances which are fully documented; students requesting an incomplete grade should contact the instructor as soon as possible, provide all pertinent documentation, and sign the ‘X’ grade contract which details the coursework they need to complete to pass the class.

4. Grievance procedures.

Students who have concerns regarding their courses should first address those concerns with the assigned instructor in order to reach a resolution. Students who are unsatisfied with the outcome of that conversation or have not been able to meet individually with their instructor, whether in-person, by email, by telephone, or by another communication medium, should then schedule an appointment with the Director of the Spanish Program, Dr. Flavia Belpoliti (flavia.belpoliti@tamuc.edu). If there are still unresolved issues, students need to schedule an appointment with the Department Head, Dr. Hunter Hayes, by completing a Student Grievance Form (available in the Department Main Office, HL 141). In the event that the instructor is the Department Head, the student should schedule a meeting with the Dean of the College of Arts, Sciences, and Humanities after following the steps outlined above; if the instructor is the Assistant Department Head, students should schedule a meeting with the Department Head. Where applicable, students should also consult University Procedure 13.99.99.R0.05 (“Student Appeal of Instructor Evaluation”).

5. Extra-credit

During the semester you will invited to participate in different activities and short projects (online film screening; virtual lectures, etc.). Up-to 3 extra-points will be granted after attending the event/s and completing the assigned activities.

University Specific Procedures

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment, in the classroom and in online environments, as described in the Code of Student Conduct. For more information, please see [Student Guidebook](#).

In addition, students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with peers, instructors and/or administrators in an online forum:

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette>

TAMUC Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage and [Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

Academic Integrity

Plagiarism is borrowing the work of others and not giving credit where credit is due. It is unethical and reflects very poorly on a person's character. Copying someone else's work or asking a friend or tutor to write your work constitutes a violation of the TAMUC Academic Honesty Policy. Likewise, the use of electronic media to translate your work to Spanish is also unacceptable. Instructors in the Department of Literature and Languages do not tolerate plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty. Instructors uphold and support the highest academic standards, and students are expected to do likewise.

Penalties for students guilty of academic dishonesty include disciplinary probation, suspension, and expulsion. Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.10](#)

Students with Disabilities - ADA Statement

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Gee Library- Room 162

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](#)

Nondiscrimination Notice

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

Pandemic COVID-19 Response Statements

A&M-Commerce requires the use of face-coverings in all instructional and research classrooms/laboratories. Exceptions may be made by faculty where warranted. Faculty have management over their classrooms. Students not using face-coverings can be required to leave class. Repetitive refusal to comply can be reported to the Office of Students' Rights and Responsibilities as a violation of the student Code of Conduct.

Students should not attend class when ill or after exposure to anyone with a communicable illness. Communicate such instances directly with your instructor. Faculty will work to support the student getting access to missed content or completing missed assignments.

Tentative Course Schedule

Important notes:

This course schedule is subject to revisions and changes as the instructor deems necessary. Any changes to the course schedule will be announced in class and on the course website in advance.

Tests, assignments, and other projects have specific due dates. However, as the COVID-19 pandemic continues to affect our daily lives, situations may arise where a task cannot be completed by the deadline. In this case, please contact me to reschedule the assignment.

Week	Topics & Activities	Assignments
Week 1 1/12-1/16	Course presentation Language learning strategies	Complete 'Honesty Agreement' in D2L-MyLeoOnline. Register in McGraw Hill-Connect. Discussion board
1/17	<i>Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday</i>	
Week 2 1/18-1/23	Cap. 1: En la clase	McGraw Hill- Connect HW
Week 3 1/24-1/30	Cap. 1: En la clase. Escuchemos y hablemos	McGraw Hill- Connect HW
Week 4 1/31-2/6	<i>Quiz 1</i> Cap. 2: Mis amigos y yo.	McGraw Hill- Connect HW
Week 5 2/7-2/13	Cap. 2: Mis amigos y yo.	McGraw Hill- Connect HW
Week 6 2/14-2/20	Cap. 2: Mis amigos y yo. Escuchemos y hablemos.	McGraw Hill- Connect HW
Week 7 2/21-2/27	<i>Quiz 2</i> Cap 3. ¿Qué haces?	McGraw Hill- Connect HW <i>Oral interviews</i>
Week 8 2/28-3/6	Cap 3: ¿Qué haces?	McGraw Hill- Connect HW <i>Oral interviews</i>
Week 9 3/7-3/13	Cap 3: ¿Qué haces?	McGraw Hill- Connect HW
3/14-3/20	<i>Spring Break</i>	
Week 10 3/21-3/27	Cap 3: ¿Qué haces? Escuchemos y hablemos.	McGraw Hill- Connect HW
Week 11 3/28-4/3	<i>Quiz 3.</i> Cap. 4: ¡Qué bonita familia!	McGraw Hill- Connect HW
Week 12 4/4-4/10	Cap. 4: ¡Qué bonita familia!	McGraw Hill- Connect HW
Week 13 4/11-4/17	Cap. 4: ¡Qué bonita familia!	McGraw Hill- Connect HW
Week 14 4/18-4/24	Cap. 4: ¡Qué bonita familia! Escuchemos y hablemos.	McGraw Hill- Connect HW
Week 15 4/25-5/1	<i>Quiz 4.</i> IPA preparation	McGraw Hill- Connect HW
Week 16 5/2-2/3	IPA Part I	<i>Last day of classes: 5/3</i> <i>Study period: 5/4, 5/5, 5/6</i>

Week 17 -Finals 5/7-5/12	IPA Part II	
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TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

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LMS

All course sections offered by Texas A&M University-Commerce have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements

LMS Requirements:

<https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements>

LMS Browser Support:

https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm

YouSeeU Virtual Classroom Requirements:

<https://support.youseeu.com/hc/en-us/articles/115007031107-Basic-System-Requirements>

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

Note: Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here:

<https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

Browser support

D2L is committed to performing key application testing when new browser versions are released. New and updated functionality is also tested against the latest version of supported browsers. However, due to the frequency of some browser releases, D2L cannot guarantee that each browser version will perform as expected. If you encounter any issues with any of the browser versions listed in the tables below, contact D2L Support, who will determine the best course of action for resolution. Reported issues are prioritized by supported browsers and then maintenance browsers.

Supported browsers are the latest or most recent browser versions that are tested against new versions of D2L products. Customers can report problems and receive support for issues. For an optimal experience, D2L recommends using supported browsers with D2L products.

Maintenance browsers are older browser versions that are not tested extensively against new versions of D2L products. Customers can still report problems and receive support for critical issues; however,

D2L does not guarantee all issues will be addressed. A maintenance browser becomes officially unsupported after one year.

Note the following:

- Ensure that your browser has JavaScript and Cookies enabled.
- For desktop systems, you must have Adobe Flash Player 10.1 or greater.
- The Brightspace Support features are now optimized for production environments when using the Google Chrome browser, Apple Safari browser, Microsoft Edge browser, Microsoft Internet Explorer browser, and Mozilla Firefox browsers.

Desktop Support

Browser	Supported Browser Version(s)	Maintenance Browser Version(s)
Microsoft® Edge	Latest	N/A
Microsoft® Internet Explorer®	N/A	11
Mozilla® Firefox®	Latest, ESR	N/A
Google® Chrome™	Latest	N/A
Apple® Safari®	Latest	N/A

Tablet and Mobile Support

Device	Operating System	Browser	Supported Browser Version(s)
Android™	Android 4.4+	Chrome	Latest
Apple	iOS®	Safari, Chrome	The current major version of iOS (the latest minor or point release of that major version) and the previous major version of iOS (the latest minor or point release of that major version). For example, as of June 7, 2017, D2L supports iOS 10.3.2 and iOS 9.3.5, but not iOS 10.2.1, 9.0.2, or any other version. Chrome: Latest version for the iOS browser.
Windows	Windows 10	Edge, Chrome, Firefox	Latest of all browsers, and Firefox ESR.

You will need regular access to a computer with a broadband Internet connection. The minimum computer requirements are:

512 MB of RAM, 1 GB or more preferred

Broadband connection required courses are heavily video intensive

Video display capable of high-color 16-bit display 1024 x 768 or higher resolution

You must have a:

Sound card, which is usually integrated into your desktop or laptop computer

Speakers or headphones.

***For courses utilizing video-conferencing tools and/or an online proctoring solution, a webcam and microphone are required.**

Both versions of Java (32 bit and 64 bit) must be installed and up to date on your machine. At a minimum Java 7, update 51, is required to support the learning management system. The most current version of Java can be downloaded at: [JAVA web site http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp](http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp)

Current anti-virus software must be installed and kept up to date.

Running the browser check will ensure your internet browser is supported.

Pop-ups are allowed.

JavaScript is enabled.

Cookies are enabled.

You will need some additional free software (plug-ins) for enhanced web browsing. Ensure that you download the free versions of the following software:

[Adobe Reader https://get.adobe.com/reader/](https://get.adobe.com/reader/)

[Adobe Flash Player \(version 17 or later\) https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/](https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/)

[Adobe Shockwave Player https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/](https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/)

[Apple Quick Time http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/](http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/)

At a minimum, you must have Microsoft Office 2013, 2010, 2007 or Open Office. Microsoft Office is the standard office productivity software utilized by faculty, students, and staff. Microsoft Word is the standard word processing software, Microsoft Excel is the standard spreadsheet software, and Microsoft PowerPoint is the standard presentation software. Copying and pasting, along with attaching/uploading documents for assignment submission, will also be required. If you do not have Microsoft Office, you can check with the bookstore to see if they have any student copies.