The University of Mississippi
Modern Languages Department

Spanish 101 – Spring 2010

Instructor’s name ____________________________
Office: ________________________________
Phone Number: ____________________________

E-mail: ________________________________
Office hours: ____________________________
Course Id: ____________________________

Course Description:

Welcome to Spanish 101, the first course in a four semester series for students of Spanish. Spanish 101 features Capítulo 1- Capítulo 4 of ¡Arriba! The textbook follows the information-based task approach, which springs from the idea that languages are best learned when real-world information becomes the focus of students' activities. Therefore, during this semester, you will exchange real-life information about you and your classmates.

Span 101 is a computer-enhanced course, which means that you will employ technology to submit your homework online. Your instructor expects more one-on-one interaction between you, your classmates, and your instructor during class time. Outside the classroom, you will use the electronic workbook, which is designed to connect students with the language.

Course Materials:

2. MySpanishLab® access card for online workbook.
3. Headphones.
4. A copy of your course syllabus.
5. Essential: A good Spanish-English/English-Spanish dictionary.

Course Objectives:

After completing this course, students should manage a wide variety of vocabulary to be able to introduce themselves, express likes and dislikes, communicatively exchange information, give directions, plan activities among other basic tasks in the target language. Students should be able to work with subject-verb & subject-adjective agreement in the present tense.

Policies of the Spanish Basic Language Program:

INSTRUCTOR-STUDENT COMMUNICATION. How you can communicate with your instructor:
Via e-mail: E-mails will be answered within 24 hours from Monday through Friday, and 48 hours during weekends. You instructor will send you important messages via the Class Roll function, so check your OleMiss e-mail account often. Please do not send your instructor e-mails via MySpanishLab. Use his/her OleMiss e-mail account.

During your instructor’s office hours: Your instructor will provide his/her e-mail address and office hours the first day of class.

If there is an emergency: If you have an urgent question or must contact your instructor urgently, please contact him/her via email.

Attendance Policy:
The Spanish Program takes seriously the University’s statement on attendance; namely, that students are expected to attend class regularly. To derive the utmost benefit from instruction, daily attendance is essential. No matter what the reason for the absence, failure to attend class always results in missed opportunities to hear and speak Spanish.

STUDENTS WHO FAIL TO ATTEND 80% OF THE CLASSES WILL AUTOMATICALLY FAIL THE COURSE, REGARDLESS IF THE ABSENCES ARE EXCUSED OR UNEXCUSED. THAT MEANS THAT STUDENTS MAY HAVE UP TO 8 ABSENCES IN THIS COURSE, WITH 9 ABSENCES THE FINAL GRADE WILL BE AN “F”.

Students with perfect attendance throughout the semester will be able to replace three of their lowest participation grades with 100% for each week.

Participation:
Each week, your instructor will evaluate your participation level and determine a grade based on the criteria listed below. You will have the opportunity to earn 5 points for every class period, for a maximum of 15 points per week. Your participation grade will be based upon your contribution to class discussions, small group work, and preparedness. Please remember that if you miss a class, you are responsible for contacting your instructor or other classmates to obtain any missed information.

You must contact your instructor during office hours to review your participation grades or you can view them by checking the “MySpanishLab” gradebook. Should there be any disagreement, you should resolve it immediately with your instructor.

If you are a student athlete, a band member, or a member of other such university organizations, you should bring a letter from your Supervisor or specific department at the beginning of the semester indicating the dates you will miss class.

To recover participation points because of absences, you need to provide your instructor with a valid and official excuse (e.g., doctor’s note stating the date and time during which you were unable to attend classes) on the day you resume attendance to class. Only excused absences will allow students to recover participation points. Once your instructor receives the note, he/she will decide if your absence is approved or not. The main difference between approved and unapproved absences is that you do not receive any participation points for unapproved absences. However, if your absence is approved, your participation grade will be pro-rated accordingly. For example, if you
have a doctor’s note stating that you were sick on Day 2, your participation grade for Day 2 will be the average between Day 1 and Day 3. "Emergencies and reasons beyond the student’s control other that illness will be considered excused absences at the discretion of the Director of the Spanish Program."

**Participation Criteria:**

**Outstanding = 5 points**
arrives for class on time
comes to class totally prepared and participates as much as possible
speaks exclusively in Spanish during whole class

**Excellent = 4.5 points**
arrives for class on time
comes to class totally prepared and participates as much as possible
speaks almost exclusively in Spanish, and only rarely uses English

**Very Good = 4.0 points**
arrives for class on time
comes to class totally prepared and participates as much as possible
on occasion uses more English than Spanish

**Good = 3.5 points**
arrives for class on time
comes to class partially prepared and participation is limited
on occasion uses more English than Spanish

**Not so good = 3 points**
arrives no more than 5 minutes late for class
comes to class partially prepared and participation is limited
uses more English than Spanish

**Below Average = 2.5 points**
arrives more than 5 minutes late for class OR
arrives for class on time, but does not come prepared; therefore, there is no visible participation effort
uses more English than Spanish

**Well Below Average = 0 points**
arrives more than 5 minutes late for class OR
arrives for class on time, but does not come prepared at all; therefore, there is no visible participation effort
works on assignments for other classes
takes naps during the entire class
is absent

**About Cell Phones:** As common sense suggests, your cell phone needs to be off and not visible the entire class period. If it rings in class, 1 point will be deducted from your
participation points for that day. The same applies to when/if you are caught each time sending or receiving text messages, files or e-mails via phone.

**Tardiness:** Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class period. Students who arrive after this will lose one point from the participation grade for that day. Your instructor has the prerogative to deny admission to students who arrive more than 10 minutes late.

**B. 5 Disruptive behavior: According to the M Book p. 24:**

Disorderly behavior that disrupts the academic environment violates the standard of fair access to the academic experience. Some examples of disruptive behavior are purposeful acts, such as "shouting down" a seminar speaker, physically or verbally harassing an instructor or fellow student, or engaging in any type of disruptive behavior in a class situation that interferes with the ability of the professor to teach or other students to learn.

**Foul language falls into the category of verbally harassing an instructor or fellow student. This behavior is utterly unacceptable as well.**

**Testing:**

The following exams are included in this course: four partial exams, one oral examination and a final exam. All exams will consist of the following sections: classroom readings, reading comprehension, vocabulary, grammar, writing and listening comprehension.

**Exams:** There will be four exams, which will cover the main points of each chapter. The exams are intended to aid the students to review the material learned up to that point. The exams dates are stated in the syllabus.

**Oral Exam:** At the end of the semester, you will have an oral exam. The exam will consist of a role-play/interview with another classmate for 3-5 minutes. You will be given 2-3 minutes to think about the topic, after which time you will have to carry on a conversation with a partner in front of your instructor. You will not be able to have any notes.

You will be graded on your fluency, your grammatical accuracy and your breadth of vocabulary. We encourage you to take every opportunity in class during the course to speak in Spanish. The more you speak in Spanish, the better you will get at it.

**Final Exam:** The date, time, and location of the final exam are listed on the Spring Class Schedule at [http://www.olemiss.edu/depts/registrar/fschedule.html#spring10](http://www.olemiss.edu/depts/registrar/fschedule.html#spring10)

**The final exam is comprehensive**

***Do not make any travel plans during final exams week.***
If you are absent from any testing day (exams, in-class compositions, oral exam or final exam), you must contact your instructor within one working day from the exam date. You must provide valid and official written documentation for your absence before a make-up exam without penalty is given. Students must take an exam within one working day from the original date of the exam. Any additional extensions may be granted only under exceptional circumstances or highly unusual cases and will be done at the discretion of the Director of the Spanish Basic Language Program. Students who miss an exam without an excused absence may be allowed to take a make-up exam with a 20% deduction provided that they take it within 24 hours from the original exam date.

Special Accommodations: It is the responsibility of any student with a disability who requests a reasonable accommodation to contact the office of Student Disability Services (915-7128). SDS will then contact the instructor through the student so that a reasonable accommodation of a disability can be made.

- All exams are property of the Modern Languages Department and must be returned to the instructor upon the instructor’s request.

- Your instructor will not be available to give you access to your exams on the week of final exams. If you wish to look over your exams, please do so ahead of time.

“MySpanishLab” - Homework:
During this semester, you will use a program called “MySpanishLab” to submit your homework on-line. There will be a “MySpanishLab” training session during the regularly scheduled class-time.

Doing your homework by means of “MySpanishLab” will provide the following advantages:
• Self-pacing. The computer allows you to work ahead. However, as with other classes, you cannot fall behind.
• Immediate feedback. The computer grades your homework exercises instantly, tells you which answers are wrong, and allows you to redo the exercise, as many times as you want.
• Opportunity for improvement. The program is designed so you can attempt the exercises as many times as you like to earn the grade you want. “MySpanishLab” saves your highest score.
• Easy access. You can do your homework from any computer that accesses the Internet. However, you should know that there is a deadline, after which you will receive no credit.

Please note that all “MySpanishLab” homework must be submitted on-line no later than 11:59 p.m. on the day indicated in the syllabus.

Please keep in mind that it may be difficult to find an open station on certain days and that systems sometimes crash. Please plan accordingly. Server crashes, difficulties accessing “MySpanishLab”, and difficulties installing software will not be considered valid excuses to grant extensions on “MySpanishLab” homework. We
recommend that you do your homework early in the week, since this has the added benefit of allowing you enough time to contact your instructor to solve problems that you may have with an activity.

From the M Book, Academic Discipline: "A student who copies another’s homework, copies answers to test questions, or allows someone else to do work for him/her on homework or tests also violates the standards of honesty and fairness and is subject to academic discipline." If your instructor suspects that you have used the aid of another person to do your homework online, you will receive a zero. Other appropriate penalties in current M Book may apply.

“MySpanishLab” - Compositions:

In addition to the activities you will be completing as part of your homework, you will use “MySpanishLab” to write compositions in Spanish. “MySpanishLab” provides you with the opportunity to communicate your ideas at your own pace in written Spanish. You will be required to post a total of 6 messages for the Spring semester. Here is how it works:

1. Due dates and topics are indicated on the syllabus and marked on the online calendar.
2. Login to “MySpanishLab”, read the topic, the instructor’s short model and think about what you want to write.
3. When you are ready to write, click on the composition (just as you would click on any other activity) and you will see the topic, the instructor’s model and the space for you to type your composition.
4. Once you are satisfied with your composition, please write the number of words used, click on “FINISH: Submit for grading” and confirm submission.
5. The following message will appear: “Your Score: Pending instructor review”.

All entries are to be AT LEAST 70 WORDS LONG (except for Composition 6, which needs to be at least 85 words long) and written IN SPANISH. Lists of words, songs, dialogs, and copies of other texts are not acceptable messages.

After the deadline, your instructor will evaluate your message using the grading criteria written below. Please be advised that late postings without accepted excuses will not receive any credit.

Compositions Grading Criteria - Topic, Vocabulary and Grammar:

9-10 points: Addresses the topic assigned, uses a wide variety of the vocabulary covered in the lessons, control of grammar is what would be considered typical for this level.
7-8 points: Addresses the topic assigned, uses a wide variety of the vocabulary covered in the lessons, control of grammar is somewhat less than what would be considered typical for this level.
5-6 points: Addresses the topic assigned, uses some variety of the vocabulary covered in the lessons, control of grammar is considerably less than what would be typical for this level.
3-4 points: Addresses the topic assigned, writes less than half of the total words required, uses only minimal variety of the vocabulary covered in the lessons, control of grammar is significantly below what would be considered typical for this level.

0 points: Does not address the topic, uses a translator of the aid of another person to write the posting, lists words, sentences, songs or copies other texts.

Please note that if your instructor suspects that you have used the aid of a translator or of another person to write your posting, you will receive a zero.

Number of words: Compositions with less than 70 words (85 for the last one) will receive a 2-point deduction from the grade assigned by the instructor. Postings with half or less than half of the total words required will not be graded.

Compositions Topics:

Composition 1: Capítulo 1, p. 36: “Una carta de presentación”. Write a letter of introduction to a potential roommate. Follow directions included in sections “Antes de escribir”, “A escribir” and “Después de escribir”: “Revisar.” Remember that you need to write a minimum of 70 words.

Composition 2: Capítulo 2: “Biografía de dos personas famosas” Describe two famous people. Include information such as name, profession, physical characteristics, personality traits, nationality, etc. Use a wide variety of vocabulary learned so far. Remember that you need to write a minimum of 70 words.

Composition 3: Capítulo 2: Describe your typical week in Oxford. What is your schedule from Monday through Friday? What classes do you have? When? What activities do you do during your typical week? When? Use a wide variety of the vocabulary found in Chapter 2. Remember that you need to write a minimum of 70 words.

Composition 4: Capítulo 3: “El campus de la Universidad de Mississippi”. Describe the location of the different buildings and main sites on the OleMiss campus. Include building names as well. Use vocabulary from p. 91 to write your description. Remember that you need to write a minimum of 70 words.

Composition 5: Capítulo 4. Describe a famous family (real or fictitious). Be sure to talk about physical appearance and personality traits. Remember that you need to write a minimum of 70 words.

Composition 6: Capítulo 4: “ Lugares de ocio en Oxford”. Your family is visiting you this weekend. You need to organize a fun weekend for all of them. Using vocabulary you have learned on p. 133, describe places in Oxford where you can take your family. Include places that all your family likes as well as more specific preferences for your parents, grandparents and brothers and sisters. Remember that you need to write a minimum of 85 words.
All compositions should be at least 70 words in length, except the last one, which should have at least 85 words. English words and expressions should not be counted towards the required minimum amount of words.

“MySpanishLab” Training:

There will be a “MySpanishLab” training session to help you learn how to work with this program. Attendance is MANDATORY. The training session will take place during regular class period on Week 3 of Spring semester either in the Language Resources Center in the basement of Bondurant Hall or in Weir Hall room 107.

If you do not attend the training session, it is your responsibility to learn how to use the program. It is very important that you have access to MySpanishLab before the training session. Your instructor will provide you with the course id.

Schedule for the mandatory MySpanishLab training:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPANISH 101</th>
<th>Lab006</th>
<th>Lab004</th>
<th>Weir 107</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed. Feb, 3, 2010</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:00 - 8:50</td>
<td>Sec. 9 - Kaufmann</td>
<td>Sec. 1 - Pullen</td>
<td>Sec. 11 - Cotelo</td>
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<td>9:00 - 9:50</td>
<td>Sec. 2 - Pullen</td>
<td>Sec. 3 - Schimmel</td>
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<td>10:00 - 10:50</td>
<td>Sec. 4 - Schimmel</td>
<td>Sec. 5 - Quilter</td>
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<td>11:00 - 11:50</td>
<td>Sec. 6 - Quilter</td>
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<td>12:00 - 12:50</td>
<td>Sec. 7 - Fernández</td>
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<td>13:00 - 13:50</td>
<td>Sec. 8 - Fernández</td>
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<tr>
<td>14:00 - 14:50</td>
<td>Sec. 10 - Morgan Sockwell</td>
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Grade Weighting
Class participation= 10%
SAM (Student Activities Manual) = 10%
Compositions = 10%
Exams (four) = 40%
Oral Examination= 10 %
Final exam= 20%

Grading Scale
A = 90-100
B = 89-80
C = 79-70
D = 69-60
F = 59-0

*** Final grades will not be rounded up ***
Important! Participation is an essential part of the learning process in language classes. Your instructor expects you to be prepared for every class day. Being prepared means that you need to do the activities listed below for each day before your class meets. You will be doing a huge favor to everybody, including yourself.

Remember! “MySpanishLab” homework must be submitted on-line before 11:59 p.m. by the date indicated on the online calendar and on the last page of this syllabus.
Weekly Calendar

Week 1 (Jan. 17-23)

DAY 1, Wednesday, Jan. 20:
• Introduction to the course: going over the syllabus
CAPÍTULO 1: HOLA, ¿QUÉ TAL? (I)
Goal: Meeting and greeting others.
• Introducing yourself: Vocabulary on p. 5: presentation and comprehension checks

DAY 2, Friday, Jan. 22:
• Warm-up
• Conclusion

Week 2 (Jan. 24-30)

DAY 1, Monday, Jan. 25:
• Warm-up
• Conclusion

DAY 2, Wednesday, Jan. 27:
• Warm - up
• p. 15: 1-16
• p. 16: 1-17, 1-18
CAPÍTULO 1: HOLA, ¿QUÉ TAL? (II)
Goal: Describing your classroom and responding to classroom instructions: - p. 19: presentation and comprehension checks - p. 20: 1-21
• Conclusion

DAY 3, Friday, Jan. 29:
• Warm – up
• Conclusion

Week 3 (Jan. 31- Feb. 6)

DAY 1, Monday, Feb. 1:
• Warm-up