**COURSE SYLLABUS**

*SPAN 101—Elementary Spanish—3 credits*

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**FOUNDATIONAL AREA OF KNOWLEDGE (FAK):**

**Name:** Global and Cultural Contexts  
**Description:** Doane students will gain a greater understanding of the foundations of the modern world and interconnections of global cultures. Students may address complex questions about race, gender, nationality, religion, law, economics, business and/or politics in order to understand multiple cultural perspectives.  
**Outcomes:**

- understand the evolution and development of cultural frameworks in the context of historical, political, social, religious, economic and/or legal structures  
- interpret intercultural experiences from the perspectives of more than one worldview and demonstrate the ability to appreciate other cultures beyond their own experience  
- create a refined empathetic understanding of a multifaceted world

**DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:**

Spanish 101 is a sequential introduction to basic spoken and written Spanish and Hispanic culture. Upon completion, the student will be able to communicate at an elementary level in spoken and written Spanish and will demonstrate an introductory knowledge of Spanish-speaking cultures.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

1. To develop basic skills in oral Spanish to enable the student to communicate at an elementary level  
2. To increase Spanish vocabulary to aid the student to communicate both orally and in writing  
3. To develop basic skills in writing in Spanish at an elementary level  
4. To increase awareness of Hispanic culture

**TEXT:** *Spanish for Gringos with Compact Discs* by William C. Harvey  
Paperback: 178 pages  
Publisher: Barron’s Educational Series; 3rd edition  
Language: English  
ISBN-10: 0-7641-9460-7  

***If you purchase this book from a source other than Doane, please make sure your book has the compact discs***
I also recommend that you purchase a Spanish/English dictionary for the course. 

*The University of Chicago Spanish–English Dictionary* is a concise dictionary that is available as a print book, and as an iPhone® and iPod touch® app. The print version can be found in your preferred online or offline store, or at [www.press.uchicago.edu](http://www.press.uchicago.edu) for 20% off using discount code AD9799. The app can be downloaded from the App Store™.

**GRADING SYSTEM:**

Final grades will be calculated in the following manner:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reflection Paper</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Survey</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Culture Gram</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes (6 @ 25 points)</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignments (6 @ 25 points)</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Points</strong></td>
<td><strong>500</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Grading Scale:

- **A** 450-500 points
- **B** 400-449 points
- **C** 350-399 points
- **D** 300-349 points
- **F** Below 300 points

Description of each segment of overall grade and course policies:

**Reflection Paper and the Survey:** The reflection/survey will be the first night of class. It will be written in English. The purpose of the reflection/survey is to be a self-assessment of your background, experience and expectation for this course. You will reflect on your understanding of the Hispanic culture, your expected improvement in oral and written Spanish, and on any other issue that you might want to reflect upon. If you are not in class the day the reflection is due, you will receive a ZERO for that reflection.

**Culture Gram:** Because this course completes the multicultural requirement for graduation, this assignment will focus on the culture of a particular Hispanic country. The culture grams will be presented starting week #3. 2-3 people will present each week until everyone is done presenting. You will choose a Spanish-speaking country and prepare a power point on that country. The guidelines for the culture gram are attached at the end of the syllabus.

**Weekly Quizzes:** Each week at the beginning of class will be a short quiz over the material covered the previous week(s). The quiz will contain both oral and written parts. A study sheet will be distributed for each quiz. If you are not in class, you will receive a ZERO for
the quiz. NO MAKE-UP QUIZZES will be given without documentation of illness, etc. If you miss a week, you are still responsible for the material that will be tested the next week.

**Weekly Assignments:** Each week you will be given an assignment to complete. The assignments will range from oral to written to cultural. Homework will be stamped at the beginning of the class to verify it was done prior to class. No stamp means a ZERO for that homework assignment. Additionally, you will be given many internet sources to visit that will allow you to practice your Spanish on your own. How much time you spend practicing will depend entirely on you. Only you can determine your comfort level with the language, the pronunciation, and the vocabulary. Some people need lots of practice, others do not.

LATE WORK WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AND WILL RECEIVE A GRADE OF ZERO.

**Participation and Discussion:** Because this is a participatory course, a weekly grade will be assessed based on attendance, required course materials, effort, attitude, and effectiveness of communication. No one is expected to be perfect in their language performance or flawless in their pronunciation--just have fun and talk, talk, talk! Mistakes are a natural part of learning a language. As the course progresses, I will speak less in English and more in Spanish. If a student does not bring the textbook to class with them they will lose 10 participation points for that week. Arriving late or leaving early will result in a loss of points. Texting or leaving class to talk on the phone will result in a loss of points, too. If you are not in class, you will receive a ZERO for that week's grade in participation.

**RESTAURANT FIELD TRIP:** The final night of the course will be spent eating at an authentic Hispanic restaurant. All students will speak to the wait staff in Spanish. You will be assessed on effort and the effectiveness of your communication. If you do not attend this class, you will receive a ZERO for Week #8 participation grade. Additionally, you will be expected to submit a 3-5 paper on Hispanic culture en lieu of the field trip.

**ATTENDANCE POLICY:** Attendance is expected at every class meeting. The nature of the course is participatory. Each successive class builds on the skills of the previous classes. Absences will create gaps in communication skills. On average, each absence generally causes your grade to go down one letter. ANY STUDENT MISSING MORE THAN 2 CLASSES will receive a failing grade. Learning a language is also learning a culture, so supplemental cultural material will also be presented during classes. When possible, field trips will also be a part of the course.

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY:** The Doane College Academic Integrity Policy will be adhered to in this class. All written assignments and observations will represent your own work. Any use of others' ideas and words without proper citation of sources is plagiarism and will result in a loss of points for that assignment.

**COURSE SCHEDULE**

Week One: Introduction/Chapter 1
  - Registration/Introductions/Orientation
Chapter 1
• Cognados/Cognates
• Non-verbal communication
• Non-verbal Communication/Video—"A World of Gestures"

Chapter 2A
• Spanish pronunciation
• Saludos, despedidas y presentaciones—greetings, farewells, introductions
• Course Reflection/Survey

Week Two: Chapter 2B/Chapter 3A
Quiz #1
Chapter 2B
• Números—number
• Colores—colors
• Objetos en la clase—things in the classroom

Chapter 3A
• El/la—the
• Un/una—a, an
• Video—La Vida—The Journey of Latinos in Nebraska

Week Three: Chapter 3B
Quiz #2
Chapter 3B
• Las Preguntas
• Subject Pronouns
• Posesivos/Possessives

Week Four: Chapter 4A
Quiz #3
Chapter 4A
• Las letras del alfabeto/Letters of the alphabet
• Números/Numbers
• ¿Qué hora es?—What time is it?
• Culture Gram

Week Five: Chapter 4B
Quiz #4
Chapter 4B
• Días de la semana—Days of the week
• Los meses—the months of the year
• ¿Qué tiempo hace?—How's the weather?
Week Six: Chapter 5A/Chapter 6A
Quiz #5
Chapter 5A
  • Ser/estar—To Be
  • La familia—the family

Week Seven: Chapter 5B/Chapter 6A
Quiz #6
Chapter 5B
  • Los adjetivos/The adjectives

Chapter 6A
  • El restaurante/The restaurant

Week Eight
  • ¡Vamos al restaurante!

***I reserve the right to change or adapt this syllabus depending on each class***
Francis
SPA 101
Culture Gram

Presentation date:
This activity is designed to help you become acquainted with a Spanish speaking country other than Mexico. Pretend that you are in charge of tourism for the country you choose and design a power point “Culture Gram” to advertise your country. You will present your power point on your country to your classmates on the date assigned in class. Presentations should not exceed 10 minutes. You can simply use a label/heading for each required element and then give the information below the label/heading. You can write it in paragraph form, or simply list it. Include pictures for each section if you can—a picture is worth a thousand words. Most Culture grams will be at least 15 to 20 frames in length. Your instructor will show you one or two models of outstanding culture grams.

Please include all of the following in your culture gram:

1. Name of your country:
2. Capital City:
3. Primary language of your country:
4. Secondary language(s) of your country:
5. National currency:
6. Your country’s flag:
7. Population:
8. Geography of your country (regions, geographical features, etc.):
9. Continent of your country:
10. Main religions:
11. Typical day/night temperatures in your country:
12. Special holidays:
13. Typical food:
14. Meal habits (How many meals, times of meals, biggest meal...)
15. Typical dress:
16. Typical day for most people in your country:
17. Special customs:
18. Map of your country:
19. Pictures of your country:
20. Source(s) for your information (Feel free to interview Nationals for this!):
Feel free to add more sections to your culture that are not listed above. Remember that the above 20 sections MUST be in your power point even if you add more sections. Please be careful to select a country that does indeed speak Spanish as its primary language.

NOTE: If you do not show up the night you are assigned to present, you can still submit your Culture Gram via an email attachment. You will lose the 10 points for the “Overall Professionalism of the Presentation”. I will continue to deduct 10 points per week (after your scheduled presentation) that I wait for you to send it to me.

Francis
SPA 101
Culture Gram Assessment Form Name_____________________

This assignment is worth 50 points:

20 points for the 20 required elements ________/20
10 points for overall professionalism of presentation ________/10
10 points for creativity and attractiveness of Power Point slides ________/10
10 points for adhering to time limit ________/10
   (I will stop you after 10 minutes!)
Total ________/50

Required elements:

1. Name of your country:
2. Capital City:
3. Primary language of your country:
4. Secondary language(s) of your country:
5. National currency:
6. Your country’s flag:
7. Population:
8. Geography of your country (regions, geographical features, etc.):
9. Continent of your country:
10. Main religions:
11. Typical day/night temperatures in your country:
12. Special holidays:
13. Typical food:
14. Meal habits (How many meals, times of meals, biggest meal…)
15. Typical dress:
16. Typical day for most people in your country:
17. Special customs:
18. Map of your country:
19. Pictures of your country:
20. Source(s) for your information (Feel free to interview Nationals for this!):
There are two other countries that can be included on the list: Puerto Rico (located near the Dominican Republic) and Equatorial Guinea (located on the Eastern Coast of Africa).

In total, there are 21 countries whose primary language is Spanish.