Midland College

Syllabus

Spanish 1412 [WEB]

Elementary Spanish II

SCH [3-4]

Course Description:
This course is for students who have little or no previous instruction in the Spanish language. It is designed to acquaint the student with the four basic skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Grammar and vocabulary are presented through intensive drills in the texts, and in presentaciones, explicaciones, and prácticas on the website.

Prerequisite: SPAN 1411

Texts, References, Computer Requirements, and e-mail


SPANISH VERB TENSES by Dorothy Richmond, NTC/Contemporary Publishing Group [ISBN 0-8442-7334-1]

SPANISH PRONOUNS AND PREPOSITIONS by Dorothy Richmond, NTC/Contemporary Publishing Group [ISBN 0-8442-7311-2]


[Note: Items which you will see highlighted in blue represent buttons that you use in Blackboard.]
2. You will need to install the Spanish keyboard on your computer, OR use the Left Alt Key + Number Alternative. Instructions for installation of the Spanish keyboard are to be found in

BLACKBOARD → INFO\SYLLABUS → SPANISH KEYBOARD [Teclado en Español] → Install the Spanish keyboard on your computer → The Spanish Keyboard.pdf. In INFO\SYLLABUS, you will also find the alternative to installing the Spanish Keyboard, if you would rather not install the Spanish Keyboard.

Again, click on INFO\SYLLABUS, and then click on SPANISH KEYBOARD [Teclado en Español] → Alternative to the Spanish Keyboard, and from there you can make a copy of the Left Alt Key + the different numbers you can use to produce ¿¡éáíú, etc.

3. For general information regarding computer requirements for MC WEB classes, go to: http://www.midland.edu/distance/index.html. Here you will find login information, as well as minimum requirements for your computer system. For my classes in Spanish, you will need Adobe Reader. If you don’t have the Reader you can download it at http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html, or goto Blackboard → VÍNCULOS → Adobe Acrobat Reader 6.0 → Adobe Acrobat Reader. [There are, of course later versions of the reader, and they are better that the 6.0 version.]

4. Additional explanations and practice exercises will be available on the website, generally to be found in EXPLICACIÓN, and in the PRÁCTICAS. Feel free to communicate with me by E-mail at any time. I will answer all E-mail messages as soon as possible, usually within 24 – 48 hours, and I usually check and answer E-Mail messages on weekends. So that I can answer appropriately, students must observe the following:

   a. Write your name [last name is sufficient] AND class in the subject line of your e-mail message. Students often do not identify themselves, and it is extremely difficult to
determine who a student is, or in which class the student is, if all I see is, for example, señorYaYaJoJo@jupla.net. I have also received communiqués so nebulous that I had fear of the madcow computer virus. We at MC have been advised to be very cautious about opening some curious looking e-mail messages, since we have had some serious virus attacks; therefore, if you write to me, and I don’t answer, it will be because I couldn’t identify you, and I didn’t open your e-mail mensaje.

b. You are working on learning another language, so make an effort to express yourself in good English in your E-mail messages. **Capitalize the pronoun “I”**, and don’t be rude, crude or lewd. Please don’t attach emoticons or messages of inspiration. Seriously, teaching this class is quite an inspiration in itself.

**Student Learning Outcomes**

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

1. Have mastered an additional 1500 commonly used words to their Spanish vocabularies, as well as the seasons of the years and weather expressions, and use these correctly in at least 70 percent of written evaluations.

2. Understand prepositional pronouns, direct object pronouns and possessive pronouns. Use direct and indirect object pronouns in the same sentence. They are able to demonstrate their understanding of pronouns correctly in at least 70 percent of written evaluations.
3. Understand the formation of all stem-changing verbs in the present tense and the conjugation of verbs with irregular first-person forms in the present tense, and be able to use them correctly in at least 70 percent of written evaluations.

4. Understand the formation of the preterit tense of regular verbs, as well as the preterit of SER, IR and DAR, and use them correctly in at least 70 percent of written evaluations.

5. Know the uses of the verbs SABER and CONOCER, and the uses of the verbs PEDIR and PREGUNTAR. Students will also understand special verb constructions with GUSTAR, DOLER and HACER FALTA. Students demonstrate understanding of all of these correctly in at least 70 percent of written evaluations.

6. Use affirmative and negative expressions, demonstrative adjectives and pronouns, reflexive constructions and POR and PARA and demonstrate their knowledge in at least 70 percent of written evaluations.

Course Goals/Objectives:

The beginning student of Spanish, in order to build a strong foundation in the basics of the target language, and to be able to expand toward good conversational, reading, and writing abilities, should, upon successful completion of the course, have mastered the following:

- approximately 1000 new vocabulary words

- the formation of all stem-changing verbs in the present tense

- affirmative and negative expressions

- prepositional pronouns

- direct object pronouns

- the use of direct and indirect object pronouns in the same sentence
-the conjugation of verbs with irregular first-person forms in the present tense

-the uses of the verbs SABER and CONOCER

-the uses of the verbs PEDIR and PREGUNTAR

-special verb constructions with GUSTAR, DOLER, and HACER FALTA

-demonstrative adjectives and pronouns

-possessive pronouns

-reflexive constructions

-the formation of the preterit tense of regular verbs

-the PRETERIT TENSE OF REGULAR and some IRREGULAR VERBS

-the uses of POR and PARA

-the seasons of the year and weather expressions

**Student Contributions and Class Policies:**

The student must accept the responsibility for keeping up with the material on a daily basis. This is particularly important in a language class. You need to assimilate one concept and practice with it before going on to something new. If you wait to study, or attempt to do several assignments at once, you will probably become confused and frustrated; therefore, you should be willing to commit a minimum of an hour each day to studying Spanish.

Log to Blackboard very frequently, and read the Anuncios [Announcements] for which you are responsible. A student may be removed from course access for failure to enter the course website, and to turn in assignments in a timely manner. A student who gets three assignments behind may be permanently denied access to the course. Students who are denied access will be responsible for seeing the registrar to withdraw from the class. Each student should inquire at his/her school concerning drop dates and policies.
The following statements on cheating come directly from the *Midland College Student Handbook*:

**Scholastic Dishonesty and Academic Misconduct**

Midland College encourages high academic standards, including student responsibility for original work. As a part of this stance, Midland College endorses the following definitions and guidelines regarding scholastic dishonesty and academic misconduct of another’s work, including the area of cheating, plagiarism, and collusion.

**Academic Misconduct**

Academic misconduct is the actual or attempted tampering or misuse of academic records or materials such as transcripts and examinations. Examples are: stealing, buying, or otherwise obtaining all or part of an unadministered test or academic exercise; selling, buying, giving away all or part of an unadministered academic exercise or any information about it; changing or altering a grade book, test, “drop form,” or other official academic record of the college; unauthorized entry into a building or office for the purpose of changing a grade or tampering in any way with grades or examinations.

**Cheating**

Cheating is defined as the deliberate use of unauthorized materials and/or actions or fraudulent acquisition in order to obtain information for an examination or assignment.

**Collusion**

Collusion is defined as the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing written work offered for credit or collaboration with another person to commit a violation of any section of these rules on scholastic honesty. A student commits collusion if he/she:

1) Allows someone else to edit papers or correct assignments, without the instructor’s knowledge or permission. It is scholastically dishonest for students to employ tutors to correct, edit or modify papers or assignments in any substantive fashion. The same reservations and restrictions apply, within reason, to any outside assistance a student may receive from a parent, friend, roommate, or academic tutor. Any changes, deletions, rearrangements, additions, or corrections made in papers or assignments should represent the student’s own work. (Midland College provides a diverse range of tutorial services. Tutors in these college facilities offer advice without editing or completing the required work.)

2) Reveals test information to another student enrolled in the same course.

**Penalties**

If a student has any questions or doubts about the way he/she is employing sources or assistance in any given assignment, he/she is advised to consult the instructor before handing in the assignment. The penalties for any type of scholastic dishonesty described in this statement can be severe and can adversely effect the student’s permanent academic record. The instructor has the primary responsibility for recommending the penalty in cases of academic dishonesty after consultation with the Division Dean and student. Students may seek review of decision or redress of grievance related to their participation in college programs or activities.

The instructor does have the right to enforce any one of the following penalties for scholastic dishonesty at his/her discretion and in response to each particular case:

1) Failure of assignment
2) Failure of course

3) Recommendation for disciplinary action, including institutional suspension or dismissal.

Students are encouraged to read and understand all portions of this Scholastic Dishonesty Statement.

My own policy regarding cheating:

1. All words, verb forms, grammar forms must be the same as those which appear in the text, or in my lists or presentations. Synonyms [spelled correctly or incorrectly] that are not in the text(s) presentaciones are not acceptable for credit on any graded activity. Dialectical forms are absolutely invalid. Never cut and paste into a test or practice, because I will know when you do.

2. Do not have another person do your work for you. That is also all too obvious to me if you do, and it would not be difficult to prove; therefore, you need to think carefully before you ask, or pay, anyone [of any origin, race, religion, creed, political view, or ice cream flavor preference] to do any assignment for you.

3. If you do either 1, or 2, which I reiterate above, I will do one, and very likely all, of the three actividades which I reiterate below:

   -- I will restore no credit to any test, or other assignment.

   -- I will list your grade as zero for that assignment.

   -- I will report you to the dean, and that includes the deans of schools other than Midland College, and
request that you be withdrawn immediately from the course.

Lab:

This is a four hour course, and one of the credits you will receive is for lab. You meet the lab requirement by completing and submitting assignments from the PRÁCTICAS, from the textbooks and from worksheets which I will send to you.

Class Activities, Assignments, and Exams

1. The first steps in learning Spanish are hearing and understanding the language, and then speaking it. Reading and writing follow in logical sequence. We will focus on the oral and written mastery of the constructions as presented in the texts, and in other exercises, which I will send you. We will be dealing with vocabulary building, verb usage, and grammar, all to be presented within the framework of explanation and subsequent reinforcement with cue\question response drills. You may also expect some translation exercises, which may appear as practice exercises or as quiz questions.

2. In this course, the instructor does not give major chapter exams; rather, you will have PRUEBAS [quizzes] dealing with virtually every element of the Spanish language we cover. The PRUEBAS are 60% of your course grade. You will take the PRUEBAS online, and these PRUEBAS have a time limit, so you will need to be careful to keep up with the time when you are taking each prueba. There will be a date when each PRUEBA is due, and you must take the PRUEBA by the assigned date. There will be no make-ups; moreover, if there is a PRÁCTICA [practice] AVAILABLE FOR A PRUEBA, I will not repost the PRUEBA, even well before its deadline, if you have NOT already completed the PRÁCTICA.
3. I will post a PRÁCTICA [PRACTICE] for every PRUEBA [QUIZ], and you should do the PRÁCTICAS before you do the PRUEBAS, even though the PRÁCTICAS, unlike the PRUEBAS, are all available for the entire semester or session. Consider the PRÁCTICAS, as well as any other text assignments, as your lab requirement for the course. The PRÁCTICA scores, as well as all other graded scores, do appear in the online gradebook, which you will find when you click on the HERRAMIENTAS → Mis calificaciones. [The grades for the PRUEBAS and other assignments appear there as well.] The PRÁCTICAS serve to prepare you for the PRUEBAS, and those who do these PRÁCTICAS always do better on the PRUEBAS. You should do, and submit, the entire PRÁCTICA when you have a chance. Don’t enter a PRÁCTICA and do just a few of the items. Again, my policy is as follows: **IF YOU, FOR ANY ASSIGNMENT HAVE NOT COMPLETED, AND SUBMITTED, THE PRÁCTICA BEFORE YOU DO THE PRUEBA, I WILL NOT, FOR ANY REASON, REPOST OR RECHECK YOUR PRUEBA FOR ERRORS, NOR WILL I, FOR ANY REASON, MAKE ANY REVISIONS ON THE GRADE FOR THE PRUEBA.** This paragraph is looking like a ransom note; however, I used the bold for emphasis, and the blue and red to demonstrate one of my Blackboard practices: I always make the PRÁCTICAS blue, and the PRUEBAS red. You can always do the PRÁCTICAS as many times as you want, but you can do the PRUEBAS only once, so never enter a RED activity until you are ready to do so. This will become clearer as we progress through the course: I will make every effort to make my instructions as clear as possible, and if you have questions, write me or call me. The PRÁCTICAS count as 20% of your course grade, and they will be available all semester.

4. Assignments and quizzes [pruebas] must be submitted on time. Late work will not be accepted, but you will have ample time to complete each assignment I will post, in Blackboard, in the EXPLICACIÓN, PRÁCTICAS, PRUEBAS, and in the items of the TAREAS [explanations, practices, quizzes, and assignments]. There are due dates which you will see in Blackboard Anuncios [Announcements], the Calendario [Calendar of Blackboard], which you will find when you click on HERRAMIENTAS → Calendario] and in E-messages from me. It is a good idea to do your PRUEBAS [quizzes] and TAREAS
[assignments] as soon as you can before the due date. Don’t wait until the last day and the last minute to take a prueba, especially if you are prone to computer glitches, foul-ups, or snafus. If you have a last minute computer problem or disconnect, I cannot repost an assignment or PRUEBA after the deadline has past, and the activity no longer appears in Blackboard. Again, I will not repost, or review, any PRUEBA, if you have not first done the práctica for that prueba, so por favor, do those PRÁCTICAS first!  

Note also that, while I do review the PRUEBAS and restore points where necessary, I do not review your PRÁCTICAS, since you can always redo the PRÁCTICAS yourself, at any time during the semester, or session, for a higher grade. The PRÁCTICAS, plus any other non-quiz assignments, are worth 20% of your final course grade.

5. The final exam, is comprehensive, and it counts as 20% of your course grade. The final exam is fill-in-the-blank, and it comes directly from the PRÁCTICAS.

Evaluation of Students:

60% PRUEBAS [quizzes], tareas [assignments]

20% PRÁCTICAS

20% EXAMEN FINAL

Instructor Information:

Name:
Office phone:
Office hours:
Office location:
E-mail address:
Division Secretary: Lula Lee, 141 AFA
Office phone: 685-4624

Note: Students are encouraged to contact the instructor at any time; however, making an appointment will guarantee the instructor’s availability at a specific time.