

## Course Syllabus for SPAN 1311.501 (BEGINNING SPANISH I)

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Instructor:	<b>David Hervás, Ph.D.</b>	Email: david.hervas@utdallas.edu
Term:	Fall 2014	Office Number: JO 5.408
Section	501	Office Hours: 6:45-7:45pm MW
Schedule:	MW 5:30-6:45 PM	Office Phone: (972) 883-4506
Class location:	ATC 2.302	Course ID: CRSKL2X-4039119
		<b>Final Exam: TBA</b>

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**NOTE:** Students are responsible for all assignments, dates and policies contained in the syllabus. All matters associated with this course are subject to change at the instructor's discretion. Any changes related to policy and/or scheduling will be communicated to students in writing. Assignments may be added to the syllabus on an ongoing basis. (Missing class does not excuse students from completing and turning in assignments on the due date.)

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### Course Description

Beginning Spanish I allows beginning language learners to hear Spanish and experience its cultural and linguistic diversity in the classroom and online. The text, *Anda: curso elemental*, utilizes a communicative content- and task-based approach, incorporates culture, and introduces students to authentic language material (realia) through use of state-of-the-art online technology that create a 24/7 active language-in-culture environment.

All four skills involved in learning a foreign language (listening, speaking, reading and writing) will be integrated into the course work and evaluations.

During class, the components of listening and speaking will be emphasized. WE will spend most of the time using the language, not talking about it. The grammatical explanations will be kept to a minimum and, occasionally, you will be required to work in pairs and small groups. Your active participation in individual and group work is required for the success of the class. The reading and writing components of the class will be mainly practiced at home online. The online workbook/lab manual serves multiple purposes: it allows you to practice and develop listening, reading and writing skills; it prepares you to participate in class; it prepares you to succeed on quizzes and exams.

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### Student Learning Objectives

- To build basic competency in speaking, reading, listening and writing.
- To develop and practice basic conversational Spanish, expressing concrete information
- To prepare you to continue in Spanish 1312.
- To develop a broad knowledge of Hispanic culture.

Chapter objectives include:

- describing physical and personality traits
- expressing likes, dislikes, preferences, what you do in your spare time
- describing physical, emotional, mental, and other states and conditions
- describing daily routines and customary activities at home, in school, at work, both in the present and the past (regular preterite)

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### Required Text(s) (bring to class daily)

- *Anda: curso elemental, second edition*. Heining-Boynton and Cowell, Pearson 2013
- My Spanish Lab Access code

Workbook URL: [www.myspanishlab.com](http://www.myspanishlab.com)

1)Go to [www.myspanishlab.com](http://www.myspanishlab.com)

- 2) Under "Register," click on "Student."
- 3) Enter the "Course ID" located on the first page under office phone.
- 4) Follow instructions.

**Required Supplies (bring to class daily/failure to bring these to class will result in a "0" as a daily participation grade)**

- Pencil and eraser (all quizzes and tests must be taken in pencil)
- Dry-erase marker (any color except red, no neon colors)

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**Grading**

My Spanish Lab / Homework	20%
Chapter exams (3)	20%
Oral exams (2)	20%
Final	20%
Quizzes	10%
Daily Participation	10%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

(I will make use of the +/- system in grading as stipulated by the University of Texas at Dallas Undergraduate Catalogue, 2008 – 2010.)

**Graded Categories**

**1) My Spanish Lab** must be completed outside of class and by the assigned dates to receive full credit. The website will allow you to submit late work but will deduct 10% for each day it is late. The online exercises are quantitative, which means they will be assigned a numeric grade. You are allowed two attempts for each exercise. The second attempt must be completed before the due date. You are responsible for keeping up with assignments. Waiting until the night before an assignment is due and encountering a technical problem is not an excuse.

**2) Quizzes** will be given almost daily over vocabulary, reading, listening comprehension and/or grammar. Some of these quizzes will be written and some will be given using the clicker. (When you arrive to class, please have a pencil and/or clicker out and be ready to go.) These quizzes begin promptly. Written quizzes must be taken in pencil. Mistakes must be erased. Quizzes that do not comply with this policy will not be accepted. If you are not present when a clicker quiz begins, you will be locked out of the quiz. **THERE ARE NO MAKEUPS FOR THESE QUIZZES. DON'T ASK.**

**3) Chapter exams:** There will be 3 chapter exams for the material covered in chapters preliminary to 5. You will be examined over

**4) Oral exams:** There will be two oral exams. You will present on everyday topics. You will be graded on: pronunciation, use of vocabulary, grammar accuracy and fluency.

**5) The final** will include material covered in the last chapter. It will be taken at the specified time during finals week. (As of the writing of this syllabus, the final schedule is not yet available. It is your responsibility to know when finals are scheduled. Make your travel plans around these dates.) **THERE WILL BE NO EARLY OR LATE EXAMS. IF YOU MISS THE FINAL, YOU WILL RECEIVE A '0'.**

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**6) Daily active participation** includes responding when called on, volunteering, writing on the board, group work, participating in clicker/polling exercises, and any other activity assigned by the instructor. This is a language class. Speaking is the most important of the four skills. Students are expected to be active listeners AND speakers. Effort is important. Answers don't have to be perfect, but they need to be comprehensible. Your participation will be graded daily. Your success in this course and your ability to communicate effectively in Spanish is a function of your level of engagement in this class. I am interested both the quantity and quality of your participation. Simply attending class does not guarantee a student a good participation grade.

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### **Class Attendance**

Attendance is absolutely crucial to your success in Spanish 1311. Empirical studies show a correlation between regular attendance and performance evaluations. Students, therefore, are encouraged to attend each class. There is, however, no specific attendance policy. Students who miss class will not be penalized solely for missing class. Missing class, however, will obviously affect your participation grade, i.e. you will receive a zero if you are not in class; at the same time, students who miss a quiz or any other assignment because of a missed class, will receive a zero for that quiz/assignment.

I will drop three quiz grades, whether zeros or the lowest grades.

Because there is no attendance policy, per se, excused absences are a moot point in most cases. The only instance in which an excused absence will apply is for the midterm or final exam. For these purposes, excused absences are limited to the following: school-sponsored activities, including fieldtrips and athletic events; religious observance; doctor's appointments and/or hospital stays. In the case of school activities or religious observance, the student must notify the instructor in writing in advance. In the case of fieldtrips, the student must provide a letter or email from the sponsoring department or professor(s) in advance. Athletes must provide a letter and calendar of events. Please note that only UTD intercollegiate sports, not club or recreational sports, are covered by this policy. In the case of illness, students must present a letter or note on letterhead or stationery from the physician to the instructor on the first class upon returning. The letter or note must contain contact information. This documentation must be original and not photocopied. Please note: I do not accept emails, letters from parents, etc. There are no exceptions to this policy.

In the event of a family emergency, such as the hospitalization or death of an immediate family member, you must contact your instructor via email as soon as possible. Documentation (such as an obituary or service bulleting) may be requested. The professor reserves the right to make a determination as to the validity of these absences on a case-by-case basis.

Please note: Quizzes and lab assignments may not be made up for any reason.

**Nota bene: It is possible to fail this course based solely on attendance (or lack thereof). It is your responsibility to withdraw from the course to avoid receiving an "F."**

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### **Punctuality**

Tardiness is disrespectful to both your instructor and your peers. Arriving late to class will affect your daily participation grade in the course. An attendance sheet is passed around at the beginning of the hour. If you do not sign the sheet, for any reason, you will be counted absent. Please do not ask to sign the sheet after it has been passed around. Please do not leave class early or ask to leave during class (except in

cases of emergency). You are adults. Unless you have a medical problem, you should be able to sit through a 50-minute class without needing to leave.

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### **Late Work**

**All work is due on the dates specified. No late work will be accepted in accordance with the policies outlined above. No exceptions. Please do not ask me to deviate from this policy. If you do, I will simply say, “Refer to the syllabus,” and I will consider the matter settled.**

**Nota bene:** As free agents, you are free to make decisions about coming to class and completing your assignments on time. But every decision (action) carries a consequence. The consequence for missing class is outlined above. The consequence for missing an assignment deadline (regardless of the reason or “intention”) is a zero on the assignment.

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### **Personal Communication Devices**

Unauthorized texting, use of laptops, MP3s, and other personal communication devices is prohibited without prior consent. If I catch you using any of these devices, I will count you absent for the day and/or confiscate the device. If necessary, I will refer you to the Dean of Students. I take this matter very seriously, and I suggest you do too.

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### **Classroom Comportment/Manners**

Students should stay on task at all times. Students may not eat any kind of food/snack in class. No exceptions. Staying on task means paying attention, being prepared to respond when called on; it does not mean: talking to classmates (except during group work), texting, reading emails, daydreaming, working on assignments for other classes, etc. If you must yawn, cough or sneeze, please cover your mouth. Students are expected to remain in class and be seated, unless otherwise instructed. Students should take care of biological functions before or after class. If you must leave class, please do it quickly and inconspicuously. Failure to adhere to these guidelines will result in a “0” participation grade for the day.

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### **Email and Course Communication**

Students must use their UTD email account for all correspondence. Please be aware of the following:

- Failure to receive a reply does not constitute permission.
- No homework should be sent via email without prior approval.
- Emails sent at night or on weekends may not be answered until the next class day.
- Students must place their class number and section, e.g. Spanish 2312.001, in the subject field; emails must include a salutation and closing, and follow standard rules of style (grammar, capitalization, spelling). Emails that do not adhere to these guidelines will be deleted unanswered.
- Please make sure your UTD email account is not full.
- Questions of a technical nature related to myspanishlab.com must be addressed to the Pearson Student Support.
- Questions regarding language/grammar/usage should be addressed in class or in my office. Do not email me with issues related to your myspanishlab.com.

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### **Language Assessment**

All students who are taking Spanish for the first time at UT Dallas must take an online placement exam before enrolling.\* Students who have not taken this exam may be asked to take it before being allowed to continue in the course. Please pay close attention to item 6.

To complete the Spanish placement exam:

1. Go to the testing website:

<https://www.aetip.com/student/RegisterStudent.cfm>

2. Complete the online registration form.

Organization = "The University of Texas at Dallas"

Language = Spanish, French, or German

Email = your UTD email address

3. Pay for the exam. The cost of the exam is \$10.00 for one test attempt. You may pay using a debit or credit card.

4. You will receive an email confirmation of your purchase with the link and exam ID (password). You do not have to take the exam immediately after registering, but you must take the exam before you can enroll.

5. Take the exam. When you begin the exam, you may not stop and go back. Make sure you have uninterrupted access to the Internet for a period of about an hour.

6. Print your results (score and course placement). Students must enroll in the highest level course available as determined by their placement score. **Instructors reserve the right to require additional coursework for those students who fail to enroll in a course at the appropriate level.**

7. You will need to give your advisor a copy (print out or digital version) to enroll in the course. You are also required to bring a copy of your results to your instructor on the first day of class.

\*You need not take the exam if prior courses and/or credit by exam scores satisfy SPAN, FREN, or GERM course prerequisites (this includes credit through courses at UT Dallas, transfer credit, and AP or CLEP credit).

**TUTORING:** A Spanish tutor will be available in the Student Success Center (located in the basement of the library).

### **University Policies**

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Students are expected to familiarize themselves with and adhere to University policies, which are available here: <http://coursebook.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies/>

### **CALENDARIO OFICIAL**

(Sujeto a modificaciones)

Semana	Día	Fecha	Contenidos y Actividades
1	Lun.	25/8	Read the syllabus, calendar and familiarize yourself with the Blackboard Create a <i>myspanishlab.com</i> account, and familiarize yourself with <i>myspanishlab.com</i>
	Miér.	27/8	Capítulo preliminar
<b>2</b>	<b>Lun.</b>	<b>01/9</b>	<b>DÍA FERIADO - DÍA DEL TRABAJO - ¡NO HAY CLASE!</b>
	Miér.	03/9	Capítulo preliminar

3	Lun.	08/9	Capítulo 1
	Miér.	10/9	Capítulo 1
4	Lun.	15/9	Capítulo 1
	Miér.	17/9	<b>Examen de Capítulos Preliminar y 1 -- <i>myspanishlab</i> activities due today at 11:59pm</b>
5	Lun.	22/9	Capítulo 2
	Miér.	24/9	Capítulo 2
6	Lun.	29/9	Capítulo 2
	Miér.	01/10	<b>Examen oral 1: presentación</b>
7	Lun.	06/10	Capítulo 3
	Miér.	08/10	Capítulo 3
8	Lun.	13/10	Capítulo 3
	Miér.	15/10	<b>Examen de Capítulos 2 y 3 --- <i>myspanishlab</i> activities due today at 11:59pm</b>
9	Lun.	20/10	Capítulo 4
	Miér.	22/10	Capítulo 4
10	Lun.	27/10	Capítulo 4
	Miér.	29/10	Capítulo 5
11	Lun.	03/11	Capítulo 5
	Miér.	05/11	Capítulo 5
12	Lun.	10/11	<b>Examen de Capítulos 4 y 5 --- <i>myspanishlab</i> activities due today at 11:59pm</b>
	Miér.	12/11	Capítulo 6
13	Lun.	17/11	Capítulo 6
	Miér.	19/11	Capítulo 6
14	Lun.	24/11	<b>Examen Oral II: presentación</b>
	<b>Miér.</b>	<b>26/11</b>	<b>DÍA FERIADO - SEMANA DE ACCIÓN DE GRACIAS - ¡NO HAY CLASE!</b>
15	Lun.	01/12	Repaso del Capítulo 6
	Miér.	03/12	<b>Examen Final --- <i>myspanishlab</i> activities due today at 11:59pm</b>