

Intermediate Spanish

SP 202 — Summer 2015

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¡Bienvenidos a SP 202! This is an intermediate course in the Spanish language and Hispanic culture. This course is designed to develop: (i) continued communicative skills in Spanish as a second language; and (ii) additional knowledge about culture in the Spanish-speaking world. Do not expect this course to be just about memorization of grammar and vocabulary. Although these aspects are necessary to achieve the aforementioned skills and knowledge, they are not the sole focus of this course.

As a skills-development course, SP 202 will require students to learn, practice, and apply knowledge and abilities in a way that is different from most other university courses. **Practice outside of class and pre-class preparation will be essential** for the successful completion of this course. A good general rule for this (and every other university course) is that you will need to spend **two (2) to three (3) hours doing homework and preparation** for every **one (1) hour of class**. Additionally, the environment in your classroom will be very active and you will be expected to speak during every class session, demonstrating your preparedness and knowledge.

1. REQUIRED TEXTBOOK & MATERIALS

- Available as a package (ISBN: 978-1-62680-107-3)
 - Textbook – *Imagina (Third Edition)*. Blanco & Tocaimaza-Hatch. (2015) Boston, MA: Vista Higher Learning.
 - Passcode – **Supersite Plus Code** w/ WebSAM (for online homework)
 - Available for purchase here: <http://vistahigherlearning.com/store/uatusca.htm>
- Other (free) requirements
 - Crimson e-mail account, Blackboard Learn login

2. GOALS

At the end of the semester, students will develop a(n):

1. Ability to communicate at an intermediate level of Spanish in real-life situations
2. Intermediate proficiency in reading and the language to exchange ideas and meet real needs
3. Ability to interpret and discuss literature and film at an intermediate level
4. Knowledge of significant cultural and historical events
5. Ability to use the Supersite for practice of Spanish

Additionally, by the end of the intermediate level, students are expected to achieve a lower advanced proficiency level in Spanish in both productive and receptive skills (based on ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines 2012 descriptions). Specifically, students should demonstrate the following skills:

- *Speaking skills*: ability to engage in conversation in a clearly participatory manner in order to communicate information on autobiographical topics, as well as topics of community, national, or international interest; ability to deal with a social situation with an unexpected complication; sufficient control of basic structures and generic vocabulary to be understood by native speakers of the language, including those unaccustomed to non-native speech

Note: This syllabus was adapted from the coordinated, academic year syllabus.

SP 202 Syllabus (Summer 2015)

- *Writing skills:* ability to write routine informal and some formal correspondence, as well as narratives, descriptions, and summaries of factual nature; ability to paraphrase and elaborate to provide clarity; ability to produce connected discourse of paragraph length and structure; good control of the most frequently used structure and generic vocabulary, allowing the ability to be understood by those unaccustomed to the writing of non-natives
- *Listening skills:* ability to understand the main ideas and most supporting details in connected discourse on a variety of general interest topics; ability to compensate for limitations in lexical and structural control of the language by using real-world knowledge and contextual clues; ability to derive meaning from oral texts at higher levels if familiar with the topic or context
- *Reading skills:* ability to understand the main idea and supporting details of authentic narrative and descriptive texts; ability to derive meaning from straightforward texts when familiar with the subject

This course also focuses on the 5 Cs of the Standards for Foreign Language Learning:

1. *Communication:* Communicate effectively in more than one language in order to function in a variety of situations and for multiple purposes
2. *Cultures:* Interact with cultural competence and understanding
3. *Connections:* Connect with other disciplines and acquire information and diverse perspectives in order to use the language to function in academic and career-related situations
4. *Comparisons:* Developing insight into the nature of language and culture in order to interact with cultural competence
5. *Communities:* Communicate and interact with cultural competence in order to participate in multilingual communities at home and around the world

3. PLACEMENT

You are required to enroll in Spanish language courses based on the criteria described below. Exceptions are only permitted if approved by the Spanish Language Program Director.

<i>If you have...</i>	<i>You should...</i>
— No previous study of (or exposure to) Spanish	Enroll in SP 101
— High school experience with Spanish, but the most recent course finished more than 4 years ago	Enroll in SP 101
— High school experience with Spanish within the past 4 years	
— Completed 1 year or less	Enroll in SP 101
— Completed 2 to 3 years	Enroll in SP 103
— Completed 4 years	Take the placement exam*
— College-level experience with Spanish	
— Completed SP 101 at UA†	Enroll in SP 102
— Completed equivalent of SP 101 at a different university or college	Enroll in SP 103
— Completed SP 102 or 103 at UA or equivalent at a different university or college	Enroll in SP 201
— Completed SP 201 at UA or equivalent at a different university or college	Enroll in SP 202
— Advanced Placement (AP) Spanish exam score	
— Scored a 3	Enroll in SP 201
— Scored a 4	Enroll in SP 202
— Scored a 5	Enroll in SP 353/356
— UA Spanish Placement exam score	
— 0 - 220	Enroll in SP 101
— 221 - 355	Enroll in SP 103
— 356 - 439	Enroll in SP 201
— 440+	Enroll in SP 353/356

* The placement exam is offered online at myBama.ua.edu under the Academics tab (under Testing Services > Foreign Language Assessment).

† Successfully completing a Spanish course at UA requires a C- or better to advance to the next course in the sequence.

NOTE: No student may enroll in more than one 100 and/or 200-level Spanish language class during the same semester.

4. GRADING SYSTEM

A+ 97 – 100	B+ 87 – 89	C+ 77 – 79	D+ 67 – 69	F 0 – 59
A 94 – 96	B 84 – 86	C 74 – 76	D 64 – 66	
A- 90 – 93	B- 80 – 83	C- 70 – 73	D- 60 – 63	

In order to continue to the subsequent course in the Spanish language sequence, you must earn a C- or better in this class. Any student earning a D+, D, D- or F will have to retake SP 202 and earn at least a C- before being able to be enrolled in next course.

5. COURSE COMPONENTS

This course is comprised of the following components (see descriptions of each below):

- Participación 20%
- Tarea en línea 20%
- Pruebas (5) 30%
- Actividades escritas (5) 30%
- **TOTAL 100%**

5.1. PARTICIPACIÓN (*Participation*)

Your instructor will give you a **participation score for every day of class**. Your class participation grade refers to: (i) how much you participate; (ii) your attitude toward your fellow classmates and instructor; (iii) the degree to which you are prepared with assignments; and (iv) your attendance. You are **required to participate every day**.

Additionally, absences (after the one (1) allowed) reduce the number of points you can earn. **If you are not in class, you are not participating**. For more information about absences, see the section on Attendance under Course Policies.

Electronic devices: The use of any sort of electronic device during class time without first asking the instructor for permission is not allowed. Please store your electronic devices (e.g., cell phones, tablets, laptops, mp3 players, etc.) out of sight until class has been dismissed. The use of such devices without permission (e.g., sending/receiving calls and/or text messages, listening to music, playing games, etc.) is disrespectful and will result in score of **zero (0) for participation for that day**.

5.2. TAREA EN LÍNEA (*Online Homework*)

These exercises include written, audio and video activities that are **found in the Practice and Web-SAM** sections of the VHL Central Supersite (vhlcentral.com). You are required to login during the first week of class and complete the appropriate online exercises as you progress in the class.

The online assignments are flexible in that you may complete a given online homework activity at **any time before 11:59 PM** on the date the assignment is due. **Exercises completed after the deadline will not be accepted**. All homework is due on the assigned day. Failure to turn in work on time will result in a grade of zero (0).

5.3. ACTIVIDADES ESCRITAS (*Writing Activities*)

These activities focus on process writing and the development of writing skills in Spanish. There will be three (5) writing activities during the semester that will be done in class. The topic to be developed will be related to the unit being covered at the time. The instructor will give further details about the specific instructions for the writing activities, such as length, format, etc.

5.4. PRUEBAS (Quizzes)

In order to ensure your steady progress in the class, there will be five (5) chapter quizzes during the semester. All quizzes will take place during class time and they will be based on the material covered both in class and in the online homework. There is no final exam.

6. COURSE POLICIES

6.1. LANGUAGE POLICY

The emphasis in this class is on learning Spanish for real-world purposes. You may not understand very much at first, but your comprehension will improve as the class progresses. In fact, if you understand 60% of what your instructor is saying, that is sufficient. It is important to understand the main ideas of language that you encounter, so don't get hung up on the details.

Use of English by students is expected to be an extreme last resort. **Don't worry, making mistakes is a part of the learning process. You must first try to express yourself in Spanish;** after an attempt you may then ask permission in Spanish to use English in class. Additionally, use of English during class time will be reflected in your participation grade.

It is very important that you use every opportunity available to practice the vocabulary and grammar that you are learning. You will be doing many pair and small-group activities, and you are expected to participate and use only Spanish. Grammar, vocabulary, discourse strategies and familiarity with cultural norms are all important parts of communication and must be practiced on a daily basis.

It is your responsibility to seek clarification and raise your hand or contact your instructor if you don't understand something. Within about one week, class format and daily expectations should be clear to you.

6.2. ATTENDANCE & MAKE-UP POLICY

A significant percentage of your grade depends on your daily effort in class. Skipping classes, failure to complete assignments and lack of participation in class **will result in a lower final grade.** Please note that good assignment grades alone are not sufficient to pass this course.

It is understood that, periodically, things happen that prevent you from attending class. You may **miss one (1) class period for any reason** (e.g., illness, hospitalization, jury duty, military duty, funerals, personal issues, family trips, emergency conditions, employment commitments, other course commitments, etc.) without your participation grade being penalized. However, each day you are absent you miss information, so it is to your advantage to attend every day. Use this allowed absence wisely as each additional absence will lower the final grade by one step in the +/1 system. For example, a B+ will become a B for one unexcused absence beyond the allowed limit, a B- for two unexcused absences beyond the limit, and so on. If you have used your "free" absence, you must present an excuse as to not be penalized for the absence.

Tardiness: You must be **physically present in the classroom for the entire class period** each day to receive full participation credit. Any day you arrive late or leave early, your instructor will mark you tardy and your **daily participation grade will be lowered.** Additionally, **three (3) tardies will be converted to one (1) absence.** Please do not make a habit of arriving late/departing early because it will always have a negative effect on your grade.

Make-up homework: Since online homework is accessible at any time and from anywhere with Internet access, you **will not be allowed to make up any online homework** that you miss due to an absence. It is in your best interest to plan ahead, if possible, to complete any online homework that is due when you will be missing class.

Make-up quizzes/ writing activities: There are **no make-up quizzes/ writing activities.** Of the five (5) quizzes/ writing activities in this course, the **top four (4) scores will be used to calculate your grade.** If

you miss a quiz for any reason, such as those mentioned above, you will receive a zero (0). This will then be your lowest grade, which will be dropped at the end of the semester. Any subsequent missed quizzes will be counted as a zero (0) and factored into your grade.

University-related absences: If you are a student participating in an **officially sanctioned, scheduled university extracurricular activity** (i.e., as a member of athletic, academic, or other extracurricular teams) and you will miss class because of your involvement in those activities, you must provide written documentation on official letterhead to your instructor at **the beginning of the course**. Absences for university functions will not count against the allowed absence.

Religious holidays: **Religiously observant students wishing to be absent on holidays** that require missing class should notify their instructor in writing at **the beginning of the course**. Absences for religious holidays will not count against the allowed absence.

6.3. E-MAIL & CONFIDENTIAL STUDENT RECORDS POLICY

In order to protect the confidentiality of your student records, **you must use your official university-assigned e-mail address ending in ua.edu** and/or the Mail function within the Blackboard Learn system to communicate with your instructor. S/he will not respond to e-mail messages from any other account.

7. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

7.1. DISABILITIES

If you have any condition (physical/learning disability) that will make it difficult for you to perform class work as delineated in this syllabus or **if you require special accommodations, please notify your instructor during the first two (2) weeks of class** with a letter from the Office of Disability Services: East Parham Hall, 348-4285, ods@ua.edu.

If you have a **chronic illness that will force you to miss more than five (5) days**, we suggest you reconsider taking this class (if it is still within the add/drop period) or request a “medical withdrawal” from the College of Arts & Sciences: Clark Hall, Room 200.

7.2. ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

You are responsible for understanding what constitutes academic dishonesty. Plagiarism and cheating are serious offenses that may be punished by: failure on the exam, paper or project; failure of the course; and/or expulsion from the University.

7.3. EMERGENCY SITUATIONS

The University of Alabama’s primary communication tool for sending out information is through its web site at www.ua.edu. In the event of an emergency, students should consult this site for further directions. In the event of an emergency, your instructor will post important course information on Blackboard Learn.

July 2015

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		1 First Day of Class Syllabus Lección 6	2 Lección 6	3 No Class Independence Day (Observed)
6 Lección 6 Tarea due at 11:59pm	7 Prueba/ Escritura - Lección 6	8 Lección 7 Class ends at 11:15 am	9 Lección 7	10 Lección 7 ***Tarea due on 7/12 (Sunday) at 11:59pm***
13 Prueba/ Escritura - Lección 7	14 Lección 8	15 No Class Lección 8 (Online)	16 No Class Lección 8 (Online)	17 No Class Lección 8 ***Tarea due on 7/19 (Sunday) at 11:59pm***
20 Review Lección 8 Prueba/ Escritura - Lección 8	21 Lección 9	22 Lección 9 Tarea due at 11:59pm	23 Prueba - Lección 9	24 Lección 10
27 Lección 10	28 Lección 10 Tarea due at 11:59pm Class ends at 11:15 am	29 Last Day of Class Prueba/ Escritura - Lección 10		