

SPAN 1311: Beginning Spanish I
DEPARTAMENTO DE ESCRITURA Y ESTUDIOS DE LA LENGUA
UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS RIO GRANDE VALLEY

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REQUIRED COURSE MATERIAL

- *Conectados* (Marinelli and Fajardo).
- iLrn access for *Conectados* (Marinelli and Fajardo).
- A Spanish/English dictionary. (Larousse, Oxford, and University of Chicago are good choices)

Only the hardcover version of the book can be used in face-to-face, on-campus classes. The hardcover version of the ***Conectados package*** (book and iLrn code) can be bought at the following places:

- the UTRGV bookstore. The UTRGV bookstore offers the best deal in the book and iLrn package.
- directly from the publisher at :
<http://services.cengagebrain.com/course/site.html?id=2045484>

Answer to frequently asked questions can be found in the iLrn Heinle Learning Center Technical support page:

<https://hlc.quia.com/help/book/Content/helpfiles/faq.html>

The following link will help you create an account in iLrn Heinle:

[Student Registration and Login for SPAN 1311 w/ iLrn](#)

Once you have created an account, the following link will help you log in to your iLrn Heinle page:

<https://hlc.quia.com/books>

Students will need an active UTRGV e-mail to log on to our course **Blackboard** page

- The **Center for Online Learning Teaching and Technology (COLTT)** can help with questions regarding Blackboard 956-882-6792, Rusteberg 108, Brownsville / 956-665-5327, Education Complex (EDCC) 2.202, Edinburg).
- The **IT Help Desk** (956-665-2020) can assist with questions regarding technological issues.

THE CB EXEMPLARY OBJECTIVES FOR COMMUNICATION

1. To understand and demonstrate writing and speaking processes through invention, organization, drafting, revision, editing, and presentation.
2. To understand the importance of specifying audience and purpose and to select appropriate communication choices.
3. To understand and appropriately apply modes of expression, i.e., descriptive, expository, narrative, scientific, and self-expressive, in written, visual, and oral communication.
4. To participate effectively in groups with emphasis on listening, critical and reflective thinking, and responding.
5. To understand and apply basic principles of critical thinking, problem solving, and technical proficiency in the development of exposition and argument.
6. To develop the ability to research and write a documented paper and/or to give an oral presentation.

COURSE OUTCOMES

It is expected that by the end of the semester the student will have learned:

1. Some basic Spanish structures to allow the student to acquire basic levels of reading, writing, speaking, listening skills in the target language. Students will also be familiar with some of the most important cultural information of Spanish-speaking groups.
2. Meaningful contextualized vocabulary related daily tasks and activities, such as the classroom, the family, the city, the description of people, and places.
3. The communicative skills needed to introduce oneself to someone, to identify people and things, ask questions, to talk about immediate needs, express preferences and likes, and discuss activities in the present and the past.
4. The way that Spanish-speakers live, study, and work in their countries and how Spanish-speakers in the U.S. are similar or different to other Spanish-speaking communities.

1. Descripción y objetivos del curso: This is a beginning Spanish course designed for non-Spanish speakers. The course will be student-oriented and thus involve considerable interactive work in class. It will also require preparation at home, including online assignments. Specifically this will entail learning vocabulary and verb forms **before** the day these are practiced in class. Class time will be used primarily to engage these skills in various contexts. Students who successfully complete Spanish 1311 will develop basic communicative skills in the Spanish language in the area of listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The student will also demonstrate understanding and appropriate application of basic grammatical aspects of the Spanish language. The course is designed to help the student learn enough Spanish to adequately communicate his/her basic needs in everyday life situations in a Spanish-speaking environment. The student will also demonstrate general familiarity with different aspects of the Spanish culture in Latin America, Spain, and the United States. Spanish will be the target language of this course, it will be used in

class to explain and discuss the material read and the vocabulary and structures memorized at home. **You are discouraged from using or translating assignments from English or from any other language.** This is a fundamental principle in order to practice Spanish in the classroom as much as possible, and, under the guidance of your instructor, acquire the necessary communicative skills. **This course is not intended for native speakers of Spanish.** Students who understand and speak Spanish are cautioned not to take this course; they will better develop their language skills in Spanish 2313 and 2315.

2. Requisitos del curso: This course is delivered fully online via **Blackboard** (<https://mycourses.utrgv.edu>) For each *capítulo* there will be at least three quizzes and one exam. All *Exámenes* (exams) and Quizzes are based on the information presented on the course Blackboard page and in the course *iLrn* page (<https://hlc.quia.com/books>). In each *capítulo* you will be given a lecture/demonstration and then be expected to perform the assignments for each *capítulo*. Students will complete 4 major exams, and at least 12 chapter quizzes, and various assignments that may include oral, written, individual, and paired assignments. All assignments and assessments will be submitted online through the iLrn and/or the course Blackboard page. All students should have access to a microphone, high speed internet connection, Adobe Reader and Flash Player (can be downloaded for free at (<http://get.adobe.com>). Most **language labs** on campus have the equipment necessary for students to complete the online assignments. Technical issues may occur, but they are not an excuse for late assignments or missing assignments. Students should manage their time so that minor delays due to technical problems do not result in missing deadlines. Students are expected to contact the IT Service Desk (956-665-2020) or COLTT if technical problems are experienced.

3. Evaluación del curso:

	Exámenes (4):	40%
	Tareas (4):	30%
	Quizzes (12):	15%
	Discusiones (4):	15%
	SIS :	N/A

4. Exámenes (Exams). There will be four *Exámenes* (exams) in this course. The *Exámenes* are not cumulative, that is, they will only test you on what was covered after the last exam. Each *Examen* will cover one *Capítulo* (1-4). There is no final exam. The specific dates for these exams are stipulated in your syllabus and they consist of the assigned **Exámenes** found on each chapter *Examen* at iLrn. *Exámenes* are due on the day indicated before midnight (11:59pm, Central Time). Students only have one attempt to get the correct answer in all online *Exámenes* (exams). Each *Examen* will cover the following sections: listening, vocabulary, grammar, reading, writing, and culture. Extensions will not be given under any circumstances for online assignment and

assessments, as students will have at least 24 hours to complete each assignment and assessment. Once an exam is opened in iLrn, you will have **two hours to complete each exam**. Plan accordingly.

5. Quizzes. Each quiz includes material from the different sections presented in that chapter (mainly vocabulary and grammar). The specific dates for these quizzes are stipulated in your syllabus and they consist of the assigned **quizzes** of all *Capítulos* at iLrn. Quizzes are due on the day indicated before midnight (11:59pm, Central Time). If applicable, the instructor will correct the quiz within 48 hours (excluding weekends). There will be at least 12 quizzes throughout the semester. It is important to study the content *in Paso 1, Paso 2 and Paso 3* before taking each quiz. An important part of the chapter exams will be based on the material in these sections. Students only have one attempt to get the correct answer in all quizzes. Instructor may opt to assign an average of all the Quizzes taken online (e.g. 3 iLrn quizzes in C4 / 3 = Bb grade for C6 Quizzes).

6. Tareas (Activities): The homework indicated in the syllabus **needs to be completed** on that due date. *Tareas* will be completed online at iLrn <https://hlc.quia.com/books> under Assignment Calendar – *Capítulo* – and the assigned activities. For homework activities, depending on instructor, students may be allowed multiple attempts (2 or 3). If that is the case, your final score for an assignment will be based on your highest score attempt. *Tareas* are due on the day indicated before midnight (11:59pm, Central Time). See each chapter overview and estimated time, so you can plan ahead.

7. Discusiones (Discussion Board): There are 3 or 4 Discussion Board topics (see each chapter overview in Blackboard for due dates and details). You are required to post one original message to the current topic, as well as to reply to one of your classmate's postings by the deadline stated in the lesson's due dates. Credit will not be given for messages that are posted past the deadline. The first topic is to introduce yourself. Most topics will be taken from the information on different videos in Spanish. The rest of the videos come from the **Spanish in Texas Corpus**, a collection of video interviews with bilingual Spanish speakers in Texas (Bullock, Barbara E. and Toribio, Almeida Jacqueline. 2013. The Spanish in Texas Corpus Project. COERLL, The University of Texas at Austin.), found in COERLL's Spin TX page: <http://www.coerll.utexas.edu/spintx/home>. Specific instructions and links will be provided in Blackboard. Students should watch the videos first in order to be prepared to participate in the Discussion Board. All comments posted as part of *Discusiones* must show respect towards others. Any student writing inappropriate remarks will be voided from participating in *Discusiones* and will lose 15% of total course grade. Serious offenses may be grounds for expulsion from the course and will be turned to University administrations and/or authorities. Inappropriate behavior in the online classroom will be dealt with seriously and will be resolved according to HOP regulation. See section below on Online Classroom conduct for more details.

8. Participación y carga de trabajo (work load): Although attendance may not seem critical in an online course, lack of participation in the course will be considered an absence. If students log into an online course without active participation the first week of classes, they will be considered "no-show" and may be withdrawn from the course. To keep good attendance you need to log on to the course regularly (at least three times a week) and maintain e-mail communication with the instructor when appropriate. Given the asynchronous nature of the course, there are **no make-ups** for on-line assignments and evaluations. Students will have at least 24 hours to complete every on-

line assignment and evaluation. In cases of predetermined absences due to military or health related events, documentation must be presented before you leave in order to make arrangements with your instructor as to when assignments will be turned in and evaluations will be taken, failure to do so voids any possibility of negotiating with instructor (See also ATTENDANCE below). Official documentation with military letterhead and a personal explanation from your supervisor stating that you will not have internet communication for the specified amount of time is needed. Cases of hospitalization require documentation with hospital letterhead and a personal explanation from your doctor stating that you were unconscious and unable to use a computer. Instructor may opt to communicate with supervisor or doctor. Be aware that university policy may dictate against long absences from class. If that is the case, instructor may opt to get University administration involved to determine whether the student's best option is to postpone enrolling in that particular course. One day visits to a doctor, clinic or hospital do not apply. A grade must be assigned to every student enrolled in the course at the end of the semester. It is the responsibility of the student to withdraw in order to avoid any undesired grade. An online course requires a more intense participation on the part of the student than a face-to-face course. Learning and applying the material in a useful way becomes the student's responsibility, while the instructor takes on more the role of a facilitator. Be aware that in order to comply with the amount of work required for this course, you will have to invest at least close to 10 hours per week. The course itself is flexible with respect to time, but there are due dates for all assignments and evaluations. It is the student's responsibility to enroll in the correct class and to complete assignments and evaluations before due date, failure to do so will the overall grade in this course.

9. Communicating with your instructor Your instructor will correspond with you through the UTRGV Blackboard course via e-mail and/or announcements. Although you may receive notifications in your personal email account, your responses may also be made in Blackboard if instructor advises. It is your responsibility to check Course Discussion Forums, e-mail, and announcements on a daily basis. In the event that Blackboard is down or if the instructor advises, you may email the instructor directly to his/her e-mail. All correspondence to the instructor at this email address must come from your UTRGV student e-mail address and must contain the course you are enrolled in within the email subject line. Your instructor will make every attempt to respond to your emails within 24 hours, except on weekends and holidays. Any technical questions should be directed to the UTRGV IT Help Desk (956-665-2020). Please refrain from emailing your instructor with personal problems, and/or technical issues, that are outside the instructor's and/or the University's control.

10. Integridad académica. Absolutely no cheating will be tolerated. Your assignment will not count towards your grade and you will not be able to make it up in any way. You may use tutoring services or other reference materials, but you must do your own work and not ask anyone else to do it for you. If you have any questions regarding academic integrity, ask your professor before you take any action. See also SCHOLASTIC INTEGRITY below.

11. Online Classroom Conduct: All students are expected to help maintain an online classroom environment that is conducive to learning. To ensure that all students have the opportunity to gain from their time spent online, they are prohibited from engaging in any form of disruptive behavior (making offensive remarks in discussions, missing deadlines, etc). Any offense of this kind may result in student being dropped from class by instructor. Inappropriate behavior in the online classroom will be dealt with seriously and will be resolved according to University regulation as in

any other course. Follow the basic rules of **Netiquette**: Never email or post anything that you wouldn't say to your online interlocutor's face. You are expected to abide by the following rules of netiquette in this course.

1. When you are "speaking" / communicating with someone online – think about how and what you are "saying".
2. Pay attention to spelling and grammar. Others are reading your work: do not make it difficult for them by using poor spelling and grammar. In addition, there is no place for inappropriate language in this course.
3. Share your knowledge with others. Post in the discussion boards in a timely manner. Other course members may be waiting for you so they can post replies or finish an assignment – do not make them wait until the deadline. This is not fair and it may suggest that you are not setting aside appropriate time for your coursework.

12. Copyright Statement: All material used in the course, and all instructional resources on Blackboard is intended for use only by students registered and enrolled in this course and are only to be used for instructional use, activities associated with, and for the duration of the course.

13. Students with Disabilities: If you have a documented disability (physical, psychological, learning, or other disability which affects your academic performance) and would like to receive academic accommodations, please inform your instructor and contact Student Accessibility Services to schedule an appointment to initiate services. It is recommended that you schedule an appointment with Student Accessibility Services before classes start. However, accommodations can be provided at any time. **Brownsville Campus:** Student Accessibility Services is located in Cortez Hall Room 129 and can be contacted by phone at (956) 882-7374 (Voice) or via email at accessibility@utrgv.edu. **Edinburg Campus:** Student Accessibility Services is located in 108 University Center and can be contacted by phone at (956) 665-7005 (Voice), (956) 665-3840 (Fax), or via email at accessibility@utrgv.edu. Special accommodations will be dictated by the documentation offered by SAS and not by the student, and the student does not decide when exams and quizzes are taken, date and time is dictated by syllabus. If a student fails to take an evaluation or to turn in an assignment on a specified date, official documentation must be presented. The same restrictions apply as in **Section 7**. Any student that decides to take evaluations in class will have the same amount of time as peers.

14. Programa:

Fecha	Contenido (Material covered in class)	Assignments due:
Semana 1 27 de agosto - 2 de septiembre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introducción al curso 	
Semana 2 3-9 de septiembre	<p>¡Hola! <i>Lección preliminar</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Para presentarte (2) • Para deletrear (3) • Para saludar (4) • Las asignaturas (5) 	Due: Discusión, Student Introduction

Semana 3 10-16 de septiembre	¡Hola! : <i>Lección preliminar</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Para hablar en clases (6) • Para entender en clase (7) • Vocabulario (8) 	
Semana 4 17-23 de septiembre	Capítulo 1 : <i>¡Vamos a conocernos!</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nuestro mundo (10-11) • Paso 1 Vocabulario (12-15) • Paso 1 Gramática A (16-18) • Paso 1 Gramática B (19-21) 	Due: Tarea LP (due for practice only)
Semana 5 24 -30 de septiembre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paso 2 Vocabulario (22-25) • Paso 2 Gramática A (26-28) • Paso 2 Gramática B (29-31) 	
Semana 6 1 ^o -7 de octubre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paso 3 Vocabulario (32-35) • Paso 3 Gramática A (36-38) • Paso 3 Gramática B (39-41) 	Due: Tarea C1 Quizzes C1
Semana 7 8-14 de octubre	Capítulo 2 : <i>La vida estudiantil</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nuestro mundo (50-51) • Paso 1 Vocabulario (52-55) • Paso 1 Gramática A (56-58) • Paso 1 Gramática B (59-61) 	Due: Examen C1
Semana 8 15-21 de octubre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paso 2 Vocabulario (62-65) • Paso 2 Gramática A (66-68) • Paso 2 Gramática B (69-71) 	Due: Discussion C2
Semana 9 22-28 de octubre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paso 3 Vocabulario (72-75) • Paso 3 Gramática A (76-78) • Paso 3 Gramática B (79-81) 	Due: Discussion C2 Tarea C2 Quizzes C2
Semana 10 29 de octubre-4 de noviembre	Capítulo 3 : <i>Entre familia y amigos</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nuestro mundo (90-91) • Paso 1 Vocabulario (92-95) • Paso 1 Gramática A (96-98) • Paso 1 Gramática B (99-101) 	Due: Examen C2
Semana 11 5-11 de noviembre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paso 2 Vocabulario (102-105) • Paso 2 Gramática A (106-108) • Paso 2 Gramática B (109-111) 	Due: Discussion C3
Semana 12 12-18 de noviembre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paso 3 Vocabulario (112-115) • Paso 3 Gramática A (116-118) 	Due: Discussion C3 Tarea C3 Quizzes C3

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paso 3 Gramática B (119-121) 	
Semana 13 19-25 de noviembre	Capítulo 4: ¡Buen viaje! <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nuestro mundo (130-131) • Paso 1 Vocabulario (132-135) • Paso 1 Gramática A (136-138) • Paso 1 Gramática B (139-141) 	Due: Examen C3
Semana 14 26 de noviembre- 2 de diciembre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paso 2 Vocabulario (142-145) • Paso 2 Gramática A (146-148) • Paso 2 Gramática B (149-151) 	Due: Discussion C4
Semana 15 3-9 de diciembre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paso 3 Vocabulario (152-155) • Paso 3 Gramática A (156-158) • Paso 3 Gramática B (160-161) 	Due: Discussion C4 Tarea C4 Quizzes C4
Semana 16 10-16 de diciembre		Due: Examen C4

More on UTRGV Policy Statements

MANDATORY COURSE EVALUATION PERIOD:

Students are required to complete an ONLINE evaluation of this course, accessed through your UTRGV account (<http://my.utrgv.edu>); you will be contacted through email with further instructions. Online evaluations will be available TBA. Students who complete their evaluations will have priority access to their grades.

ATTENDANCE: Students should contact the instructor in advance of the excused absence and arrange to make up missed work or examinations.

SCHOLASTIC INTEGRITY: As members of a community dedicated to Honesty, Integrity and Respect, students are reminded that those who engage in scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and expulsion from the University. Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to: cheating, plagiarism, and collusion; submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person; taking an examination for another person; any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student; or the attempt to commit such acts. Since scholastic dishonesty harms the individual, all students and the integrity of the University, policies on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced (Board of Regents Rules and Regulations and UTRGV Academic Integrity Guidelines). All scholastic dishonesty incidents will be reported to the Dean of Students.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT, DISCRIMINATION, and VIOLENCE: In accordance with UT System regulations, your instructor is a “responsible employee” for reporting purposes under Title IX regulations and so must report any instance, occurring during a student’s time in college, of sexual assault, stalking, dating violence, domestic violence, or sexual harassment about which she/he becomes aware during this course through writing, discussion, or personal disclosure. More information can be found at www.utrgv.edu/equity, including confidential resources available on campus. The faculty and staff of UTRGV actively strive to provide a learning, working, and living environment that promotes personal integrity, civility, and mutual respect in an environment free from sexual misconduct and discrimination.

COURSE DROPS: According to UTRGV policy, students may drop any class without penalty earning a grade of DR until the official drop date. Following that date, students must be assigned a letter grade and can no longer drop the class. Students considering dropping the class should be aware of the “3-peat rule” and the “6-drop” rule so they can recognize how dropped classes may affect their academic success. The 6-drop rule refers to Texas law that dictates that undergraduate students may not drop more than six courses during their undergraduate career. Courses dropped

at other Texas public higher education institutions will count toward the six-course drop limit. The 3-peat rule refers to additional fees charged to students who take the same class for the third time.