

SPN100 Spanish I (2 Credits)

SPN101 Spanish I Practice (1 Credit)

Instructor: Dr. Percival Santos

Time: Tuesdays and Thursdays 0900-1040 (section 1), 1210-1350 (section 2)

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Term: Spring 2010

Course Description

This is a beginner's course in Spanish for students with little or no previous knowledge of the language. It shall be taught using the communicative approach. The themes to be taught in this course are: how to express oneself and one's surroundings using simple phrases, how to describe people and things and daily routines, how to express likes and dislikes, how to reply and react to simple questions in day to day situations, how to write simple phrases, etc.

Course Objectives

The general objective of the course is to equip students with the necessary knowledge and strategies so that they can attempt to communicate basic ideas and topics in a Spanish-speaking environment. The student will learn basic phrases, vocabulary, and the use of the present tense in order to function in at least a Novice Level in terms of communicating basic needs, feelings and questions, as well as the comprehension of simple readings.

The student will be able to perform the following linguistic tasks:

- Greetings and introductions
- Talking about one's job, nationality, age
- Asking for and giving opinions
- Asking for and giving directions
- Describing objects, colors and locations
- Describing people (physical appearance, personality, clothes)
- Talking about the family
- Expressing needs, wants and preferences
- Talking about likes and dislikes
- Asking about and telling the time
- Describing habitual actions
- Talking about daily routines and frequency of actions
- Expressing agreement and disagreement

- Describing actions which are occurring right now
- Talking about the weather
- Talking about future plans and projects
- Talking about things one has to do
- Talking about past actions
- Narrating personal experiences
- History and geography of the Hispanic World
- Cultural knowledge about the Hispanic World

Assessment

The course will be assessed as follows:

- Midterm oral and written exam- 50%
- Final oral and written exam- 50%

The midterm and final exams will follow the same format and will have 2 components:

- Oral
- Written

The oral component will be performed by pairs of students doing a 3-5 minute spoken task. It will consist of 2 communicative activities from a list of themes which have been covered up until the time of the exam (e.g. asking for and giving opinions, describing people, talking about the family, etc.). Out of the list the student will pick one activity and I shall pick another.

The written component will consist of a 200 word essay which students will write at home and submit to me on the day of the exam. I shall inform students of the content of the essay a week before the day of the exam.

Textbook

Prisma- Metodo de Español Para Extranjeros. Level A1 Comienza. 2002. Madrid. Editorial Edinumen.

Exercise book

Prisma de Ejercicios. Level A1 Comienza