

The University of Montana – Fall 2017

SPNS 201 Intermediate Spanish I

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

This is a four-credit hour intermediate course designed for students who have completed the equivalent of two semesters of college Spanish. Students should already be familiar with the present indicative and the imperfect and preterit forms of the Spanish past tense before enrolling in this course. However, we do begin with a review of these tenses if you need a review. This course is conducted in Spanish and students are expected to communicate with one another in the target language (Spanish) in “real life” situations. Some of the grammar will be introduced in English briefly, but students are required to read the grammar explanations carefully before coming to class. The average student will study 2-3 hours per class in order to pass this class. Please note that as Spanish courses advance, they are more challenging. You will read and write more than you did in the first year of study.

EXPECTED LEARNER OUTCOMES: The student will...

1. Begin to cultivate the competency to understand and communicate in Spanish with a native speaker of the language.
2. Acquire or enhance proficiency in reading in Spanish appropriate to the intermediate level.
3. Develop the aptitude to communicate effectively through writing in Spanish at the intermediate level.
4. Deepen an understanding, and appreciation for the various peoples and cultures that speak the Spanish language.

REQUIRED MATERIALS: Online Textbook Through your Moodle Site

The only required material for this course is the electronic Connect version of the ¡Avance! textbook and workbook, which is available to you on the Moodle, link for this class. Go to your Moodle page for this class. Click on the puzzle piece icon. Get your redemption code. Go to the Connect link, which is also in Moodle, and open your account. Keep your passwords in a safe place where you can retrieve them if you forget them. Also, use the university email for your Connect account.

If you would like to purchase a loose-leaf version of the text in addition, Connect offers it on the website for \$40. If you would like a hard copy textbook, you'll need the following information:

Bretz M.L., Dvorak, T., Kirschner, C., Bransdorfer, R., Kihyet, C. (2013). *¡Avance! Student Edition: Intermediate Spanish (3rd ed.)*. New York, NY: McGraw-Hill.
ISBN#: 978-0-07-338539-6

This syllabus and dates are subject to change by instructor.

EXTRA WEBSITES

¡Avance! Student Website (tailored to each chapter of the *¡Avance!* textbook):
http://highered.mheducation.com/sites/007288181x/student_view0/index.html

Barbara Nelson Spanish (general grammar review):
<http://personal.colby.edu/~bknelson/SLC/>

GRADING SCALE

A 93-100	A- 90-92	B+ 87-89	B 83-86	B- 80-82	C+ 77-79
C 73-76	C- 70-72	D+ 67-69	D 63-66	D- 60-62	F 0-59

GRADING

Final Exam	10%
Exams	25%
Quizzes	20%
Class Participation and Homework	45%

EXAMS

There will be two exams and a cumulative final exam. Only one missed exam is allowed if you have a documented excused absence. In this case, the final exam grade will be duplicated for the missed exam. Please make your travel plans accordingly.

Exam I (Chapters 1-2): Thursday, September 29th

Exam II (Chapters 3-4): Monday, November 6

Final Exam (Chapters 1-6 with an emphasis on 5-6): TBA, December _____ at _____

QUIZZES

There will be approximately six chapter quizzes over the course of the semester. There are no make-ups, but the lowest quiz grade will be dropped at the end of the semester. Quiz Dates will be announced in class and on Moodle. Students must also be prepared for pop-quizzes and several self-quizzes will also be given over the semester.

PARTICIPATION

You must come to each class prepared and be actively engaged in all class activities. Speak the Spanish language during class. At the end of the semester you will receive a grade for your participation. Your class participation is important and is based on the following: you arrive to class on time, you attend class, your homework is completed before coming to class, you are ready share answers from your homework, you work with other in the class during team and partner activities, you participate in discussions, you attend to what others

are saying and are a good listener, you are on task during class, you do not look at social media that is not relevant to the current class activity, you do not read or send texts during class, you keep your worksheets neatly in a binder, you are able to access the online materials for Avance! as needed and written assignments are turned in on the due date. If you do all of the above, your participation grade will be an A!

HOMEWORK

Homework assignments are to be completed before coming to class so that you arrive already prepared and ready to practice and share. The instructor will answer questions on the material. Read the explanations, instructions and grammar information in the textbook carefully. You are responsible for knowing the content assigned for homework and in the course calendar. Read all of the grammar explanations in your text carefully.

Connect Online Exercises:

Please pay attention to the Connect online exercises due dates. Complete all of the work assigned for a chapter before major quizzes and exams on those chapters.

Other Homework Assignments:

Some other possible homework assignments may include textbook exercises, readings, compositions, podcasts, videos, etc. This homework may be collected and/or checked at random. Late assignments will receive a 10% reduction for each class the assignment is late¹. Do not e-mail late assignments or any assignments.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance is mandatory and will be recorded. You may miss up to four classes during the semester without it affecting your final grade unless you miss a quiz or exam. Pop and Self quizzes are worth 5pts and if you miss the days that these are given, you will get a zero for that self or pop quiz. Please do not contact your instructor regarding excusing your absence(s) unless you have a documented excuse indicating serious illness or an emergency. Please write the contact information of two classmates that you may contact to find out what you missed in the case of an absence.

1. Name _____ Contact Info: _____

2. Name _____ Contact Info: _____

CULTURAL EVENTS

- I will notify you if there are any cultural events of interest and you can let us know of any events that you think might be interesting to others.

TUTORING

Study Jam tutoring sessions are free. They are in the UC Commons food court and usually held on Mondays and Wednesdays from 6:30-9 pm, but the exact times will be announced when known.

The Writing Center in Lommasson 271 offers free, one-to-one tutoring for writing papers. Sign up at: <http://www.umt.edu/writingcenter>.

You might qualify for free one-on-one tutoring on campus if you qualify for TRIO. To see if you are eligible: <http://www.umt.edu/trioss/eligibility.php>.

There are also private tutors available that advertise on the bulletin boards in the LA building.

DISABILITY SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

Let me know by the second week of classes if you have a documented disability that may require assistance, contact the Disability Services for Students (DSS), located in the Lommasson Center, Room 154, x2243. The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and DSS. The instructor will need to see a letter from DSS verifying your right to reasonable accommodation.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

Academic misconduct is subject to penalty. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. Please note that the code includes (but is not limited to) plagiarism, copying from another student's work, giving examination information to others, etc. The Code is available online for review at:

http://www.umt.edu/vpsa/policies/student_conduct.php

STUDENT CONDUCT

"Faculty members have the independent authority to exclude a student from any class session in which the student displays disruptive behavior that threatens the learning environment or safety and well-being of others in the classroom."

http://www.umt.edu/vpsa/policies/student_conduct.php

Please note that this includes hate speech, disruptive talking, disrespectful behavior, etc.

IMPORTANT NOTICES

No grade of "I" (incomplete) will be given.

For information on how to drop/add this class or change your grading option, please reference the Registrar's website.

Personal situations will not be addressed in the classroom. Please make the effort to discuss your concerns with the instructor during office hours.