



SPAN 101: Elementary Spanish I

Syllabus Fall 2023

Class Time: Tue and Thu 1:30 PM - 2:45 PM

Classroom: G204

Instructor: Moisés Rodríguez Hernández

Office Location: G 672

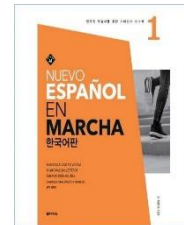
Office Hours: Tue 11:00 AM – 12:00PM

E-mail: mrodri76@gmu.edu

Tel: 032-626-5126

Course Materials:

- Nuevo español en Marcha 1 (textbook).
- PDF files (blackboard) and printed material.



Course Description:

This course is a 3-credit semester program for beginning students of Spanish with no previous knowledge of the language. The course focuses on developing the four basic skills in language necessary to communicate with native Spanish speakers—listening, speaking, reading, and writing. It also includes essential vocabulary and elementary grammar for oral and written communication, exploring aspects of Spanish and Latin American culture and society. In addition, “youtube” videos, games, music and listening files will be used to enhance development of communication skills.

Course Objectives:

Language Objectives:

- Understand basic information from Spanish speakers and simple conversations.
- Use the vocabulary and expressions learnt in class together with basic grammatical structures to write short essays on personal information and daily life (introducing people and family, describing the neighborhood, explaining our daily routine).
- Be able to use the present tense (regular and irregular verbs) and conjugate the different verbs in the right form.

Communication Objectives:

- Participate and interact in basic communicative exchanges, answering and asking questions, making statements, formulating commands, expressing preferences.

Cultural Objectives:

- Understand different aspects of Spain and Latin America culture and society.
- Discover the festivals, traditions, daily life, food and monuments of the Spanish speaking countries.

Course requirements:

Dedication, interest, and cooperation are necessary to succeed in this course and will also contribute positively to the progress of the entire class. To make sure learning Spanish is fun and valuable for everyone, students should commit and comply with the following requirements:

1. Attendance: Class attendance is essential to progress. Students should keep in mind that part of their grade is based on attendance and that absences count against them.

2. Preparation & In-Class Performance: Students are required to review the materials covered in each session and do their homework. Students are expected to participate in all class activities, including projects and presentations. In-class participation and performance are graded. More details will be given in class and blackboard. Students are required to check blackboard daily for important updates, materials, resources, and announcements.

3. Midterm & Final Exam:

There are midterm and final exam. The midterm exam date will be discussed in class. The final exam date will be the 7th of December. The midterm and the final exam will consist of two parts: **oral test** and **written test**. The oral test will be an interview with the instructor about the contents learnt in class. The questions for the oral test will be given a week before the exam and practiced during class time. The written test will consist of different reading comprehension, writing skills and grammar exercises.

Coursework Breakdown:

Students' final grades are composed as follows:

Attendance: 10 % (10points)

Attitude & Participation: 5% (5points)

Daily homework: 5% (5 points)

Presentations: 15% (15 points)

Mock tests (quiz): 15% (15 points)

Mid Term Exam: 25% (speaking: 10% + writing: 15%) (25 points)

Final Exam: 25% (speaking: 10% + writing: 15%) (25 points)

Total: 100% (100 points)

Grading Scale:

A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D	F
100%	94.9%	91.9%	89.9%	84.9%	81.9%	79.9%	74.9%	71.9%	69.9%	59.9%
- 95%	- 92%	- 90%	- 85%	- 82%	- 80%	- 75%	- 72%	- 70%	- 60%	- 0%

Class Schedule:

Date	Class work	Homework	Remarks
08/22	Course presentation Spanish alphabet	Spelling exercises	
08/24	Greetings and giving personal information	Revision of expressions for conversation in class	
08/29	Vocabulary (countries and nationalities) Gender and number for nouns and adjectives	Vocabulary exercises (nationalities)	
08/31	Numbers (0-100)	Exercises with numbers	
09/05	SER / ESTAR / TENER verbs	Grammar exercises	Quiz (numbers)
09/07	Expressing "there is / are" and quantity (hay). The use of articles. Vocabulary (the classroom).	Vocabulary exercises (the classroom). Exercises with articles.	
09/12	Vocabulary (professions)	Vocabulary exercises (professions)	
09/14	The present tense (regular verbs)	Grammar exercises (present tense)	
09/19	Vocabulary (family)	Vocabulary exercises (family)	Quiz (regular verbs)
09/21	Describing people and personality (adjectives)	Presentation: my favorite celebrity	
09/26	The present tense (irregular verbs)	Grammar exercises (irregular verbs)	
09/28	Chuseok (no class)		
10/03	National Foundation Day (No class)		
10/05	Vocabulary (describing the house)	Vocabulary exercises (house and furniture)	This lesson will be recorded for observation
10/10	Describing the city and the neighborhood. Adverbs of position.	Vocabulary exercises and activities with the adverbs of position	Quiz (irregular verbs)
10/12	Irregular verbs ("ir" / "venir"). Vocabulary (shops and transportation).	Presentation: my bedroom. Vocabulary exercises (the shops and transportation)	

10/17	Giving commands (asking directions in the street)		
10/19	Revision for the midterm exam (oral)		
10/24	Midterm test (oral)		
10/26	Revision for the midterm exam (writing exam)		
10/31	Midterm test (writing)		
11/02	Expressing times and dates	Vocabulary exercises (clock and calendar)	
11/07	Daily routine. Reflexive verbs.	Grammar exercises (reflexive verbs)	
11/09	Reading comprehension (daily routine) Expressing frequency	Essay writing (my daily routine)	
11/14	The verb "gustar". Expressing likes and dislikes.	Grammar exercises (gustar)	
11/16	Vocabulary (free time activities and hobbies)		
11/21	Vocabulary (the weather and the seasons)	Vocabulary exercises (weather)	
11/23	The present progressive. Describing images.	Grammar exercises (present progressive)	
11/28	Vocabulary (body parts and sickness). The verb "doler".	Vocabulary exercises (body parts)	
11/30	Last lesson (revision of contents for the final exams)		
12/05	Final exam (oral)		
12/07	Final exam (writing)		
12/12			

*This class schedule could be subject to changes according to the progress of the course and the understanding of the contents by the students.

** Students are expected to be present for all examinations. Students who miss an exam without any proof of emergency justification will receive 0% on that test. The instructor will have the final decision on whether to change the test date and a possible penalty on the final score.

Enrollment:

Students are responsible for verifying their enrollment in this class. Schedule adjustments should be made by the deadlines published in the Academic Calendar available from George Mason Korea:

<https://masonkorea.gmu.edu/academic-calendars/fall-2023>

Academic Integrity:

It is expected that students adhere to the George Mason University Honor Code as it relates to integrity regarding coursework and grades. The Honor Code reads as follows: *“To promote a stronger sense of mutual responsibility, respect, trust, and fairness among all members of the George Mason University community and with the desire for greater academic and personal achievement, we, the student members of the university community, have set forth this Honor Code: Student members of the George Mason University community pledge not to cheat, plagiarize, steal, or lie in matters related to academic work.”*

More information about the Honor Code, including definitions of cheating, lying, and plagiarism, can be found on the Committee of Academic Integrity’s website at <https://masonkorea.gmu.edu/mkaa/cai>

Title IX:

Notice of mandatory reporting of sexual assault, interpersonal violence, and stalking:

As a faculty member, I am designated as a “Responsible Employee,” and must report all disclosures of sexual assault, interpersonal violence, and stalking to Mason Korea’s Deputy Title IX Coordinator pursuant to University Policy 1202 and 1412. If you would like to speak confidentially with the Mason Korea counselor, please visit:

<https://masonkorea.gmu.edu/resources-and-services/counseling-and-wellness>

For more information about what Title IX is, please visit:

<https://masonkorea.gmu.edu/resources-and-services/title-ix>

Students with Disabilities:

If you are a student with a disability and you need academic accommodations, please inform me, and contact the Office of Academic Affairs at 032-626-5060. All academic accommodations must be arranged through the Office.

Mason Diversity Statement:

George Mason University promotes a living and learning environment for outstanding growth and productivity among its students, faculty, and staff. Through its curriculum, programs, policies, procedures, services and resources, Mason strives to maintain a quality environment for work, study, and personal growth.

An emphasis upon diversity and inclusion throughout the campus community is essential to achieve these goals. Diversity is broadly defined to include such characteristics as, but not limited to, race, ethnicity, gender, religion, age, disability, and sexual orientation. Diversity also entails different viewpoints, philosophies, and perspectives. Attention to these diversity aspects will help to promote a culture of inclusion and belonging, and an environment where diverse opinions, backgrounds and practices have the opportunity to be voiced, heard and respected.

The reflection of Mason's commitment to diversity and inclusion goes beyond policies and procedures to focus on behavior at the individual, group, and organizational level. The implementation of this commitment to diversity and inclusion is found in all settings, including individual work units and groups, student organizations and groups, and classroom settings; it is also found with the delivery of services and activities, including, but not limited to, curriculum, teaching, events, advising, research, service, and community outreach.

Acknowledging that the attainment of diversity and inclusion are dynamic and continuous processes, and that the larger societal setting has an evolving socio-cultural understanding of diversity and inclusion, Mason seeks to continuously improve its environment. To this end, the University promotes continuous monitoring and self-assessment regarding diversity. The aim is to incorporate diversity and inclusion within the philosophies and actions of the individual, group, and organization, and to make improvements as needed.

¡Ánimo y buena suerte! ^^