

OBJECTIVES

- To acquire basic Spanish language ability by developing the four basic language skills (listening, speaking, reading and writing)
- To encourage awareness of the Hispanic culture inside and outside the classroom setting
- To enable students to express themselves in different cultural contexts
- To enhance students' intercultural competence by exploring and understanding the Spanish culture

LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the end of the course, students should be able:

- To handle survival situations in terms of language use
- To maintain a conversation in a daily life context (about weather, daily routine, relationships, student life, news, etc.)
- To relate past experiences, to give and ask for information, to express feelings and opinions, to describe a person, a thing or an event in the present and the past
- To read short Spanish texts
- To recognize several aspects of the Hispanic Culture

REQUIRED MATERIALS

Vistas -Volume 1 (1-10; Loose Leaf) Supersite Plus Package

José A. Blanco, Philip Redwine Donley
Vista Higher Learning, 5th Edition (2016)

Please note: the online version of the textbook will give you access to a vText, which is the full Vistas textbook (1-18) and to all online material. Make sure you buy the Supersite Plus Package.

It is not recommended for students to purchase a used copy of Vistas. Access to the online material is compulsory for this course and you will need to buy it separately.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

This course gives you the option of participating in Community Outreach.

- Choosing this option is completely voluntary but it is a decision not to be taken lightly.
- Community Outreach aims to connect the classroom with the university community in a way that is mutually beneficial to all participants: students, instructors and the Hispanic Studies Program. The university community contributes in multiple and meaningful ways to student learning objectives.
- Community Outreach is open to a maximum of 25 students enrolled in SP 1030.

Objectives of CO

- Understand the socio-cultural environment of the Hispanic community within the university
- Discover the living aspect of the Spanish language by listening and speaking it with native Spanish speakers and members of the faculty
- Appreciate the relevance of learning Spanish by putting it into practice

- **Students who choose the Community Outreach option must commit to it until the end of the course.** Students will have until September 30th to leave the Outreach program. After this date the student will lose 15% of the total grade for the course and will have to complete the activities (assignments, tests, etc.) of the regular stream.
- **See the Outreach grading breakdown below (Evaluation)**

EVALUATION

ALL PROGRAMS	OPTION 1 Regular Program	OPTION 2 Community Outreach
Participation & Progress 8% Homework 6%		
9 Quizzes (online) (0.89% x 9 lessons) 8% Video tutorials online (0.3 x 10 lessons) 3% Drop-in sessions (3 per semester) 3%		
4 Tests (grammar, oral comprehension and compositions) 24%		
	2 Compositions (2 x4%) 8% 2 Oral presentations (4% +6%) 10%	Post (4 x 2%) 8% Preparation events 4% Participation /Attendance 6%
Final exam 30%		
TOTAL 82%	Regular Program 18%	CSL London 18%

CLASS MANAGEMENT

Important: students must attend all evaluations unless exceptional circumstances exist (medical reasons only).

THERE WILL BE NO MAKE-UP ASSESSMENTS: QUIZZES, TESTS, COMPOSITIONS OR ORAL PRESENTATIONS IN THIS COURSE.

If a student misses an assessment and academic consideration is granted, the percentage of the assessment missed will be added to the next assessment percentage of that type. If there are no more assessments, the percentage will be added to the final exam percentage. For example, if a student in the regular program misses the first composition, which would be a 4% of the course, and is granted academic consideration, the second composition is then worth 8%. If, instead, the second composition is missed, and because there are no more assessments of the composition (i.e. there is no third composition), the 4% corresponding to the second composition is assigned to the final exam, which would, in this case, be worth 34%.

Participation & Progress (8%):

Students are expected to come to class regularly and attendance will be strictly monitored. Active participation in class is essential to this course. Grades are not given for mere attendance but for your participation, your contribution to the class, and for showing progress. All absences will affect the participation grade.

- **Students with more than 3 absences per semester without academic consideration will get 0 on the participation grade for that semester (4%).**
- Students must be ready in their seats before the class starts and stay until the end of the class. Arriving late disrupts the class, as well as leaving early. If a student arrives late or leaves early three times, that will be counted as an absence.
- Please advise your instructor in cases of unavoidable absence, and contact your Home Faculty Academic Counsellor for academic consideration. Without academic consideration, your Attendance grade will be affected.
- In case of illness, you should bring with you to your medical appointment the Student Medical Certificate (SMC) that can be found in the Student Center Page.

For **class participation** marking guidelines please refer to the section “SP1030 Marking Guidelines”.

Please be aware of the following university regulation: “Because attendance is so important in language courses, **any student who, in the opinion of the course coordinator, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course, will be reported to the Dean (after due warning has been given). On the recommendation of the Department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course (see UWO Academic Calendar)**”.

For a complete and detailed academic policy, please check our Department Academic Policy:

<http://www.uwo.ca/modlang/undergraduate/policies.html>

Weekly Homework (6%):

Regular completion of homework is expected every week. A list of daily homework will be provided at the beginning of each semester. Most of the homework will be done on Supersite (online platform that accompanies Vistas textbook).

Quizzes- online (8%):

There will be 9 online quizzes (lessons 2-10, one per lesson) that will be done in Supersite². Students must do all the online quizzes before the deadline. Students missing an online quiz will receive a 0 on that quiz. Each online quiz counts for 0.89% of your final grade.

Video Tutorial - online (3%):

In this course all the grammar is presented by video tutorials that are available online. Grades are given for watching the video tutorials online before the deadline. There are a total of 40 video tutorials, each tutorial lasting between 2 and 5 minutes. Watching the tutorials on time will give you 0.075% per tutorial. While you will be allowed (and expected) to ask questions and clarify doubts in class about the video tutorials, watching these videos is absolutely necessary to ensure progress in the class since instructors will not, in any case, explain theory in class.

² Supersite is the web platform associated with the textbook. You are encouraged to use the Supersite as a study resource. Besides online quizzes, your instructor will assign exercises and video tutorials from Supersite that will count towards your homework grade. All exercises should be completed before the deadline.

Drop-in sessions (3%):

Drop-in sessions are seminars designed to develop your Spanish skills. They will focus primarily on oral skills to give you an opportunity to practice, in a different environment, everything you have learnt in class. Along the year there will be weekly drop-in sessions scheduled for you to attend. There will be a few options available each week. You are required to attend 3 sessions per semester, although you are encouraged to attend as many as possible. Attendance will be monitored in each session as well as your participation. If you do not attend 3 sessions per semester you will lose the percentage assigned for this part of the course. If you attend the 3 sessions, your grade will be based on your participation during the session. Grades will not be given only for attendance, active participation in the sessions is required.

Tests (24%):

There are four in-class tests in the year. Tests will focus on the most recent covered material but they are cumulative, which means material from past lessons can be tested. All students have to write the four tests. Students who miss a test without a valid reason (academic consideration is needed) will receive a 0, which will count towards the final grade.

Compositions (8%):

There will be 2 in-class compositions, and its subject will be announced the day of the composition. Students doing Community Outreach will not have to write compositions, they will write 4 blog posts instead. Detailed information about the blogs will be given at the beginning of the course. Compositions and blogs are corrected by the instructor, who will simply indicate where an error has been committed. Student must correct the errors in the compositions or blogs, and the composition or blog must be recopied and re-submitted to the instructor, within a week. If a student resubmits the composition or the blog once it has been corrected, the composition or blog grade will increase between 0%-20%. The instructor will determine the percentage in each individual case.

Oral presentations (10%):

There will be 2 group oral presentations in the form of a video, one per semester. The subject will be announced at the beginning of each semester. Each group will work together during the course, and a sense of cooperation and responsibility is essential. The oral presentations must include the vocabulary and the grammar learned in class. Students cannot read in the presentation; they are expected to talk naturally. If a student reads, she or he will receive a 0. Students in Community Outreach will do not have to do oral presentations, instead they will have to prepare events and participate and attend the Community Outreach meetings.

Final Exam (30%):

There will be a written final exam in the April 2017 exam period. This exam is cumulative and will include everything studied on the course.

MISSED ASSIGNMENTS or ASSESSMENTS:

Students must attend all evaluations unless exceptional circumstances exist. If a problem arises students are expected to contact their instructor before the exam or assignment is due. Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed test, exams, participation components and/or assignments must apply to the Academic Counseling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. The instructor or department cannot grant academic accommodation.

Faculty of Arts and Humanities Medical Accommodation:

http://uwo.ca/arts/counselling/procedures/medical_accomodation.html

IMPORTANT: Documentation is required for either medical or non-medical academic accommodation. Students must submit such documentation directly to the appropriate Faculty Dean's office and not to the instructor. It will be the Dean's office that will determine if accommodation is warranted.

If no official accommodation request is provided to the professor, late assignments will not be accepted and will receive a grade of "0."

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site: <http://uwo.ca/ombuds/student/cheating.html>

The **Department of Modern Languages and Literatures Policies** which govern the conduct, standards, and expectations for student participation in Modern Languages and Literatures courses is available in the Undergraduate section of the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures website at:

<http://www.uwo.ca/modlang/undergraduate/policies.html>

It is your responsibility to understand the policies set out by the Senate and the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures, and thus ignorance of these policies cannot be used as grounds of appeal.

SDC's Learning Skills Services, Rm 4100 WSS, www.sdc.uwo.ca/learning

LS counsellors are ready to help you improve your learning skills. They offer presentations on strategies for improving time management, multiple-choice exam preparation/writing, textbook reading, and more. Individual support is offered throughout the Fall/Winter terms in the drop-in Learning Help Centre, and year-round through individual counselling.

Cell phones, tablets and Laptops in the classroom:

- The **use of laptops and tablets is not allowed** in the classroom unless specified by the instructor or for valid, documented medical reasons.
- Please remember to always **switch off your cell phone** before entering any classroom, and please, **no texting or cell phone activity** during class. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.
- Using your cell phone, tablet or laptop for purposes other than taking notes will be considered disruptive behaviour and liable for prosecution under the Student Code of Conduct and you could be expelled from class. The instructor reserves the right to disallow the use of cell phones, tablets and laptops in the classroom (except for those under special circumstances with written permission).

EMAILS:

A certain email etiquette is expected from your emails. Include a courteous greeting and closing. Make sure that the answer to your questions is not contained in your syllabus. Your emails will be answered as soon as possible (normally, within 24 hours) but allow for a longer time if you email your instructor on the weekends.