

Spanish 1301

Elementary Spanish I for Non-Native Speakers

Eight-Week Semester

Term: Spring 2022

Instructor: Graciela I. Echávarri

E-mail: giechavarri@utep.edu

Office Location and Hours: LART 129; MW 1:30 – 2:30; TR 10:30 – 11:30

Location and Meeting Schedule: Classroom Building C201, MW from 12:00-1:20 pm

About the Course:

Elementary Spanish 1 is an introductory course for non-native speakers with emphasis on pronunciation and the basic elements of grammar; practice in understanding, speaking, reading, and writing. Spanish 1 is a beginning Spanish course designed for students who have not previously studied Spanish or have no practical command of the language.

You may be admitted to Spanish 1301 only if you have taken the Spanish Placement Test and have placed directly into SPAN 1301, or if you have contacted the Undergraduate Spanish Advisor to remove the departmental approval requirement. The Department of Languages and Linguistics reserves the right to rectify errors in placement caused by a student's failure to observe these guidelines, including the option to drop a student enrolled in an inappropriate course.

Credit Hours: 3 Credit Hours

Prerequisite Courses: None

Prerequisite Skills and Knowledge:

- Completion of the Spanish Placement Test with direct placement into SPAN 1301
- Documented removal of the departmental approval requirement

Student Learning Outcomes:


1. Listening: At the end of Spanish 1301, the student will be able to understand sentence-length utterances consisting of re-combinations of learned elements in a limited number of content areas, particularly if strongly supported by the situational context. Content refers to basic personal background and needs, social conventions, and routine tasks, such as getting meals and receiving simple instructions and directions. Listening tasks pertain primarily to spontaneous face-to-face conversations.

2. Writing: Student will be characterized by the speaker's ability to create with the language by combining and recombining learned elements, though primarily in a reactive mode; initiate, minimally sustain, and close in a simple way basic communicative task; and ask and answer questions.

3. Reading: Able to understand main ideas and/or some facts from the simplest connected texts dealing with basic personal and social needs. Such texts are linguistically noncomplex and have a clear underlying internal structure—for example, chronological sequencing. They impart basic information about which the reader has to make only minimal suppositions or to which the reader brings personal interest and/or knowledge. Examples include messages with social purposes and information for the widest possible audience, such as public announcements and short, straightforward instructions dealing with public life. Some misunderstandings will occur.

4. Speaking: Able to satisfy partially the requirements of basic communicative exchanges by relying heavily on learned utterances but occasionally expanding these through simple re-combinations of their elements. Can ask questions or make statements involving learned material. Shows signs of spontaneity, although this falls short of real autonomy of expression. Speech continues to consist of learned utterances rather than of personalized, situational adapted ones. Vocabulary centers on areas such as basic objects, places, and most common kinship terms. Pronunciation may still be strongly influenced by first language. Errors are frequent and, in spite of repetition, some Novice-High speakers will have difficulty being understood even by sympathetic interlocutors.

Course Materials:

-  **CONTRASEÑA** Contraseña: Your password to Foundational Spanish by Amy, Rossomondo and Gillian, Lord
(Contraseña is a completely mobile and digital immersive experience. There is no required printed textbook.)
- A good Spanish-English dictionary
- You must have a computer headset (microphone and earphone set).

Computer Readiness:

This Spanish course requires you to watch and record videos, make voice recordings and complete other assignments that require an updated computer. To avoid frustration with technological issues, please make sure you do the following before beginning this course:

- Update all of your browsers (Firefox, Safari, and Chrome).
- Make sure that you have access to your UTEP email address and Blackboard so that you receive all of my emails and announcements.

Communication with the Instructor :

Communication between you and your instructor is crucial. You must check your UTEP e-mail, Contraseña and the [Blackboard](#) announcements regularly. All communication from your instructor will go to your UTEP e-mail address/BB messages. I strongly recommend that you use your [Blackboard](#) account for all e-mails regarding the course. If you use another email service or non-UTEP account there is a risk that your email will be blocked or end up in a spam filter and not be received by your instructor. You should also save copies of any messages you send to your instructor via e-mail (or cc

On your own, you complete independent preparation for each section of a unit.

- In **Preparar**: you watch animated videos that explain concepts, read brief texts, and complete activities to check your comprehension.
- In **Aplicar**, you practice what you learned and complete self-checks.
- In **Comprobar**, you evaluate your learning.

The independent work complements and prepares you for pair and group activities (communicative practice) where you put the language you learned to use with your classmates.

Each unit begins with the Unit Goal: what you will accomplish by the end of the unit.

At the end of each unit, you create a **Proyecto**, a written or oral project. All projects are posted in an ePortfolio called LingroFolio, so your instructor and classmates can see and comment on your work. The activities throughout the unit prepare you to be able to complete the **Proyecto** successfully.

Learning Objectives appear at the top of each section to remind you what you will learn in that section and represent one of the pieces needed to complete the Proyecto.



Contraseña: Proyecto

Preparar: Guided preparation for planning and organizing your proyecto.

Publicar: Instructions and tools to create your proyecto.

Comentar: Guidance on how to comment on your classmates' proyectos.

Reflexionar: Activities for reflection on your proyecto and what you've learned throughout the lesson.

Social learning

In this course, all activities are designed to engage you with your classmates and with your instructor in authentic, purposeful social interactions informed by cultural study. In all sections of Contraseña, you will be able to engage by creating projects to an e-portfolio site in which the whole class can participate all while experiencing, reflecting, analyzing and applying corresponding unit themes/activities in different contexts.

Unit components

Each unit contains:

1. Learning Goals for the Unit.

2. An Activity Plan, which lists the assignments you need to complete to master that Unit's goal and complete the project. The Activity Plan will assign exercises in Contraseña. Each exercise is assigned points. The final grade for these exercises will be determined by adding all points received for each activity completed. Not all unit activities will be assigned—only those listed in Activity Plan will be included in the gradebook. You are encouraged to complete additional exercises for further practice and review, but they will not be counted toward this portion of the grade. Contraseña is designed to provide immediate feedback and exercises can be completed three times. Therefore, you can (and should) practice an activity before submitting it for credit. The due dates vary but activities closing time is at 11:59 pm MT, unless otherwise indicated. For submission of exercises reflect the latest possible time the assigned work will be accepted for credit. I suggest that you begin the assignments well before the due date.

Class Attendance:

To expand your proficiency in a language, you must be present in class to engage in active practice. Good attendance is a course requirement. Therefore, if you are absent an excessive number of times during the drop period—from the first day after the end of late registration through the last day for faculty to drop students—your instructor will drop you from the course. Here are the rules:

1. **You will be dropped from class after you've been absent two times without any justification.** You will not be dropped from the course if you miss one class. If you miss class a second time, you will be immediately dropped from the course with a W. **If the course drop deadline has already passed, you will be dropped with an "F".**
2. Late arrivals and early departures also carry penalties. Two late arrivals equal one absence, two early departures equal one absence, and one late arrival plus one early departure equal one absence. If you arrive late to class, it is your responsibility to tell your instructor at the end of the class period that you arrived late but that you were indeed present, for if you do not, it is possible he or she will mark you absent.
3. Exceptions to the above-stated policies are only made under these circumstances: (1) a medical emergency requiring hospitalization, (2) jury duty or (3) official UTEP business such as athletics. Documentary proof of official UTEP business or jury duty must be provided ten calendar days before the fact; documentary proof of hospitalization must be provided on the day you return to class. Babysitting, work schedule changes, personal problems, unexpected events, or workload are not exceptions for this attendance policy.

About this Course:

***Office hours:** Request an appointment and meet with the instructor to ask all your questions and receive tutoring if you need. You can contact your instructor by email on any day. The easiest way is to come during office hours.

***Announcements:** Students are responsible for reading any announcement and emails posted to Course Announcements and Course Messages. These may include changes in policy, due dates, assignment requirements, etc. that you must be aware of, so, it is very important that you know of these as it might make you miss a dateline or submit an assignment with the wrong requirements.

***Emails:** You must use your university's email for everything in this class. Please use Blackboard's course messages. Check your emails three or more times a week. You are responsible for being informed and respond in a timely manner to your instructor when he/she expects a response from you.

***Time management:** The tentative schedule contains all assignments and deadlines in detail, so you can plan ahead. Be aware of datelines of all the assignments; regularly check your course calendar, make the effort of doing homework every day, do not let work accumulate and then struggle to submit all on the same day it is due. Let your instructor know if you have any difficulty with the schedule; things can be worked out for you.

Individual Performance Components:

Here are some of the activities you must do during the semester in order to learn the language. You must do this consistently:

- Log in regularly on both platforms [Blackboard](#) and [Contraseña](#)
- Complete the homework from LingroHub or any other assignments given by your instructor.
- Use Contraseña and the online exercises to review material covered and prepare for the next class.
- Complete all assignments, proyectos, etc. on time.
- Make good use of writing assignments (in compositions and online exercises)—these are opportunities when you can challenge yourself to express complex ideas, write complex sentences, and utilize a diverse range of vocabulary.
- Have a good knowledge of the vocabulary studied in the course; review past vocabulary as much as necessary to master it.
- When in class, do your best to work effectively and productively with other students.
- When outside of class, look for opportunities to speak, listen and write the language every day, including with family or friends.
- **Have confidence in your ability to use the language expressing your ideas on a subject.**

Grading Scale and Distribution:

The following scale will be used to calculate your final grade:

A	90.0 – 100%	D	65.0 - 69.9%
B	80.0 - 89.9%	F	64.9% or less
C	70.0 - 79.9%		

Contraseña Activities.....25%

This includes all assignments from the *Contraseña* website, along with any other work that your instructor may assign. Homework is not accepted late. The course calendar gives you a general idea of what parts of the content will be covered during each week; you must therefore read the course calendar very carefully. All the homework assignments that you turn in will receive full credit provided that they are

complete and also **submitted on the date set by the instructor**. The online homework is **mandatory** and **you can be dropped from the course for Lack of Effort if you do not submit homework in Contraseña and Blackboard for 2 consecutive weeks or if you have missed multiple homework activities in that time frame.**

Contraseña Proyectos (2; mandatory)40%

You will work on two projects for this class. You will find the project description in your Contraseña site. Projects are **mandatory assignments** and must be completed on time. **If you miss one class project, you will be dropped from the course.** There are no late submissions unless an extraordinary circumstance is proved by the student. **If you know in advance that you might not submit your project on the assigned date, please let your instructor know to make arrangements and prevent being dropped.**

Oral Discussions.....10%

You will have weekly oral discussions in this course. They will be available on Blackboard and they provide a great opportunity for you to prove that you have a fairly good knowledge of the grammatical structures and vocabulary you have reviewed in class. **These are part of the homework activities and missing them count as Lack of Effort along with the Contraseña homework and weekly quizzes. Discussions open on Wednesdays and are due on Fridays at 11:59 pm. In order to receive a grade, you must comment the discussions of two classmates.**

Weekly Quizzes.....10%

You will have a quiz due every Sunday at 11:59 pm. These quizzes will evaluate you on topics you have studied and topics you will study on the upcoming unit. Do not forget to take your quizzes. There are no make ups.

Attendance and Participation.....15%

You must come to class. We will meet on Mondays and Wednesdays (the course is hybrid) and you must be in the classroom those days. Arrive on time and do not leave early (unless there is a reason). Discuss in advance with your instructor any situation in which you will need to be absent, arrive late or leave early, so it will not count against you. Participate in class, have a good disposition, be willing to make mistakes, and do not take them too seriously. You will be required to speak in Spanish and it is important to understand that perfection is not expected, so relax!

Academic Honesty:

Engaging in any behavior that involves taking credit for work that is not your own will be penalized. There is zero tolerance for cheating and/or allowing others to copy your work on assessments and/or homework. Penalties for academic dishonesty range from an "F" on an assignment to dismissal from the course and/or the college.

Course Policies: Cheating, Plagiarism, Scholastic Dishonesty, and Student Discipline:

Any student who commits an act of scholastic dishonesty is subject to discipline. Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the 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.

a. Cheating:

"Copying from the test paper of another student, engaging in written, oral, or any other means of communication with another student during a test, or giving aid to or seeking aid from another student during a test; possession and/or use during a test of materials which are not authorized by the person giving the test, such as class notes, books, or specifically designed "crib notes"; using, obtaining, or attempting to obtain by any means the whole or any part of non-administered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program; using a test that has been administered in prior classes or semesters but which will be used again either in whole or in part without permission of the instructor; or accessing a test bank without instructor permission; collaborating with or seeking aid from another student for an assignment without authority; substituting for another person, or permitting another person to substitute for one's self, to take a test; and falsifying research data, laboratory reports, and/or other records or academic work offered for credit"

b. Plagiarism:

"Means the appropriation, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any means another's work and the unacknowledged submission or incorporation of it in one's own academic work offered for credit, or using work in a paper or assignment for which the student had received credit in another course without direct permission of all involved instructors"

c. Collusion:

"Means the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing academic assignments offered for credit or collaboration with another person to commit a violation of any provision of the rules on scholastic dishonesty".

Students with Disabilities:

The University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP) is committed to providing for the needs of enrolled or admitted students who have disabilities under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA). Therefore, it is the policy of UTEP that the campus makes services available for any student who, through a recent assessment, can document a disability. If you have a disability and need classroom accommodations, please contact The Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) at 747-5148, or by email to cass@utep.edu, or visit the office located in UTEP Union East, Room 106.

For additional information, please visit the CASS website at www.sa.utep.edu/cass.

COVID-19 PRECAUTION STATEMENT

Please stay home if you have been diagnosed with COVID-19 or are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms. If you are feeling unwell, please let me know as soon as possible, so that we can work on appropriate accommodations. If you have tested positive for COVID-19, you are encouraged to report your results to covidaction@utep.edu, so that the Dean of Students Office can provide you with support and help with communication with your professors. The Student Health Center is equipped to provide COVID-19 testing.

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that people in areas of substantial or high COVID-19 transmission wear face masks when indoors in groups of people. The best way that Miners can take care of Miners is to get the vaccine. If you still need the vaccine, it is widely available in the El Paso area. For more information about the current rates, testing, and vaccinations, please visit epstrong.org

