

SPN 221D: Intermediate Spanish I

Fall 2011

Prof. April Post

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Carlton 318 | MW 3-5, T 2-4, & TH/F by appt

facstaff.elon.edu/apost

www.elon.edu/spanish

Course information

Sec. D | M/W/F 12:15-1:25 | Alamance 203

Grades and attendance: <http://facstaff.elon.edu/apost/gradesonline>

Consult the Moodle website frequently for announcements, daily lesson plans, and course material.

Sec. D Final Exam | Sat. Dec. 10th from 8:30-11:30 am

Why take this course?

Perhaps you dream about traveling to Spanish-speaking countries, becoming a teacher who can understand his/her Spanish-speaking students and their parents, using Spanish in your future career, understanding the menu at your favorite Mexican restaurant, or knowing what the person behind you in line is saying. Welcome to Spanish 221, the third course in a four course series designed to help you get one step closer to your communication goals.

A part of the university's mission is to prepare you "to be global citizens and informed leaders." Historically, Americans' failure to understand other cultures has led to poor policy-making and a lack of respect from the global community. If you're taking this course, you probably recognize that learning about other cultures, a part of which is their language, is essential to being a well-informed global citizen. It is my hope that this course will be a part of helping you to become a better global citizen and that learning a new language will be as exciting for you as it has been for me.

What you need

De la Fuente, María José, Ernesto J. Martín Peris and Neus J. Sans. *Gente*. 3rd edition. Pearson, 2012. *

Access to *My Spanish Lab* website for 6 months. The course ID is CRSCDXD-252726. (included in textbook package)

Access to Moodle website.

A **good** Spanish-English, English-Spanish dictionary. Oxford, Langenscheidt's, Harper-Collins, or Simon & Schuster are recommended. (www.wordreference.com is a good online dictionary)

* You can purchase the standard package direct from www.mypearsonstore.com for \$148.00. This includes the textbook and My Spanish Lab access code for 6 months. The ISBN for this package is 978-0-205-20368-0. Enter member code "Fall11" at checkout to get 15% off your purchase. Shipping is free.

If you have purchased a *used* textbook, you will need to order the My Spanish Lab passcode with 6-month access separately by going to www.mypearsonstore.com. The ISBN for the access code is 0-205-14983-9 and the cost is \$45.10.

NOTES: To take this course, you should have completed Spanish 122 at Elon or placed into Spanish 221 when you took the placement exam. If you choose to minor in Spanish, this course will count towards the 20 hours required to complete the minor.

Goals and objectives

The goals of this course are to improve students' reading, writing, listening, oral and cultural awareness skills by guiding students to complete a series of task-based assignments. The transition to a task-based communicative program could be unsettling for those of you who have come from a traditional grammar-based instructional approach. Make sure you take advantage of all of the available grammar tutorials, verb charts, and additional practice activities, such as flashcard activities, games for vocabulary development and self graded practice quizzes in My Spanish Lab.

Throughout the course you will...

1. complete the following 6 tasks: plan a weekend in a city in Spain, design a “smart” house, write the end of a mystery story, create a business and an ad to promote it, discuss a global problem and prepare an action plan to resolve it, and select a movie to watch over break.
2. express yourself using complex grammatical structures such as different forms of the subjunctive, preterit and imperfect, and if-clauses.
3. expand your knowledge and understanding of the notions of culture(s) by becoming familiar with current events in several Spanish-speaking countries.
4. develop vocabulary having to do with leisure and entertainment, science and technology, literature, economy and commerce, world affairs, and personality and emotions.
5. improve pronunciation through careful practice and attention during oral exercises in class and on My Spanish Lab.
6. learn strategies for reading journalistic texts, narrations, and essays.
7. practice expository writing, write a narrative, and write an argumentative essay.
8. work towards a proficiency goal on the ACTFL scale of Intermediate-Mid.

Expectations of students¹

The student is an *engaged collaborator and participant* in his/her learning community in and outside of the classroom and continually *reflects* and *assesses* independent learning strategies with the support of the textbook and My Spanish Lab. Your learning is dependent upon your commitment level and effort. In this course, you should:

1. Demonstrate curiosity, preparation, and participation in a way that furthers your learning and the group’s learning. This includes accepting—but addressing—mistakes.
2. Be punctual, and attend all class meetings. Attendance has an ethical component: your presence helps the group learn, and your absence hurts the group. Perfect attendance thus earns 1 bonus point on the final grade. Students with more than three absences should consider dropping, and will be penalized 3 points off the final grade for each successive absence. No distinction is made between excused and unexcused absences. (This is departmental policy.)
3. Speak only Spanish unless the instructor uses English or you’re granted permission to speak English.
4. Seek help when needed.
5. Demonstrate respect for professor and peers.
6. Expect the above from your peers.

Expectations of the professor¹

The professor is the *facilitator* and content expert who coordinates the learning connections and maintains the link between the face-to-face exchanges in the classroom and the outside learning spaces and experiences provided in My Spanish Lab.

To do my job, I must:

1. Make clear my expectations. This includes holding students to the expectations listed above.
2. Provide clear explanations of new concepts and promote thorough understanding of them.
3. Provide clear explanations of assignments, graded work, and evaluation criteria.
4. Provide prompt feedback on student work (4 class days for major assignments, 1-2 for others).
5. Solicit feedback from students on the progress and conduct of the course.
6. Be accessible.
7. Treat students fairly and with respect. This extends to evaluating work and assigning grades.
8. Provide substantive, compelling, and challenging opportunities for learning and intellectual growth.
9. Help identify strengths and weaknesses, and devise strategies for improvement.
10. Make clear why we’re doing what we’re doing.

¹Adapted from Dr. Scott Windham’s GER 221 syllabus with his permission.

Course components

My Spanish Lab (15% of final grade)

My Spanish Lab is an online resource where you can practice vocabulary, grammar, listening and speaking skills. This tool offers pronunciation practice, verb charts, tutorials, an electronic version of your book, and much much more. You will be assigned activities almost on a daily basis so that you come to class ready to engage in the material being presented. Most of these activities offer immediate feedback and are graded automatically; however, others will be graded by me. You must complete the assigned activities before class on the day they are due. Assignment sheets for each lesson will be posted on My Spanish Lab and Moodle so that you can keep up if you are absent. Please check your My Spanish Lab site and Moodle regularly for updated information and assignments.

Written, oral and linguistic assessments: (30% of final grade)

You will be given many opportunities this semester to work on your written, oral and linguistic abilities in Spanish. Some assignments will be completed individually, and others in groups. Please read carefully the instructions and rubrics posted to Moodle for each of these assignments. You can also visit El Centro de Español or La Casa de Español if you would like to work on your Spanish in an informal environment.

Exams: (30% of final grade, 6% each)

Five exams will be given after chapters 15-19. These exams will test your comprehension of the cultural content of the lessons and your ability to produce and use accurately the vocabulary and grammatical structures presented in those specific lessons. Please don't wait until the day before an exam to ask for help! You can schedule an appointment to talk to me, go to Elon's tutoring center, ask for help in El Centro de Español, or join a study group.

Final exam: (15% of final grade)

The final exam is cumulative and will test your achievement of the course goals and objectives. It will include listening comprehension and it will test your semantic (i.e. vocabulary), syntactic (i.e. grammar) and cultural knowledge. Exam days and times cannot be changed so please make sure your parents do not schedule flights during your exam!

Class participation and preparation: (10% of final grade)

In Elon's Department of Foreign Languages, class participation is a major component of a foreign language course and a great deal of the development of foreign language proficiency occurs as a result of activities conducted in class. Good participation is characterized by focused involvement in individual, small-group, and whole-class activities. Spanish should be used in ALL interactions, including before class officially begins. Also, each student is expected to attend class daily, to arrive on time and to remain in the class the entire period. I will assign grades for general participation two times during the course (mid-semester and end of term) according to the criteria listed below:

For an A (Superior)

- Play a leading role in class discussion and be an active listener.
- Daily, thoughtful contributions in Spanish.
- Speak Spanish from the moment you enter the classroom.
- Always have homework and other materials prepared.

For a B (Good, Above Average)

- Play an active role in class discussion and be an active listener.
- Frequent, thoughtful contributions in Spanish.
- Almost always speak Spanish from the moment you enter the classroom
- Most of the time have homework and other materials prepared.

For a C (Average)

- Play a reasonably active role in class discussion and sometimes be an active listener.
- Speak up occasionally in Spanish when called upon.
- Sometimes speak Spanish from the moment you enter the classroom.
- Sometimes have homework and other materials prepared.

For a D (Deficient) or F (Failing)

- Let others handle most of the discussion and not always listen.
- Speak up rarely to occasionally and/or use English when doing so.
- Almost always speak English from the moment you enter the classroom.
- Rarely have homework and other materials prepared.

How your work will be evaluated

Elon defines grades as follows: A is for superior work, achieved by none or few; B for above-average work, achieved by many; C for average work demonstrating a basic understanding of the subject, achieved by the majority; D for passing with deficiencies; F for failure.

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

Grades will be determined as follows:

My Spanish Lab	15%
Written, oral and linguistic assessments	30%
Exams (5 – after each of the first five chapters, 6% each)	30%
Final exam (cumulative)	15%
Participation, preparation	<u>10%</u>
	TOTAL: 100%

If you will be absent on the day of an exam or a previously-announced assessment for any reason, you must contact me ahead of time or you will NOT be allowed to make up the missed work. *If you have not contacted me ahead of time, the grade will be recorded as a zero.*

NOTE: I keep track of your grades and attendance using an online grade program. The website to access your grades is <http://facstaff.elon.edu/apost/gradesonline/> and will be updated at least once a week. It is YOUR responsibility to check your grades and attendance to verify the information I have entered. Please be sure to check this site frequently and let me know immediately if you see any error in your grade and/or attendance. The default password is your student id. If you would like a different password, please e-mail it to me. Passwords should be a minimum of 7 letters and/or numbers.

Academic Message

An Elon student's highest purpose is Academic Citizenship: giving first attention to learning and reflection, developing intellectually, connecting knowledge and experiences and upholding Elon's honor codes. Elon's honor pledge calls for a commitment to Elon's shared values of Honesty, Integrity, Respect and Responsibility. To be clear about what constitutes violations of these values, students should be familiar with the Judicial Affairs policies in the student handbook, including violations outlined at <http://www.elon.edu/e-web/students/handbook/violations/default.xhtml>. Students with questions about the specific interpretation of these values and violations as they relate to this course should contact this instructor immediately. Violations of the academic-related areas will be documented in an incident report to be maintained in the student's judicial record, and may result in a lowering of the course grade and/or failure of the course with an Honor Code F.

Please be aware that you are not allowed to use online translators or receive help from anyone on your assignments without prior approval from the professor.

Academic Accommodations for Disabled Students: If you are a student with a documented disability who will require accommodations in this course, please register with Disabilities Services in the Duke Building, Room 108 (278-6500), for assistance in developing a plan to address your academic needs. For more information about academic accommodations, please visit <http://www.elon.edu/e-web/academics/advising/ds/>.

General policies and procedures

Religious Holidays: In recognition that observance of recognized religious holidays may affect students' classroom attendance and the submission of graded work in courses, Elon University has established procedures to be followed by students for notifying their instructors of an absence necessitated by the observance. This policy reflects the University's commitment to being responsive to our increasing diversity and to encourage students' spiritual development. Please notify your instructor within the first week of the semester (by Wed. Sept. 7th, 2011) that you will miss class in order to observe a religious holiday. Official notification requires that you complete the Religious Observance Notification Form found at http://www.elon.edu/e-web/students/religious_life/ReligiousHolidays.xhtml. In addition, you must send another notification to your instructor at least one class before each absence and you must make prior arrangements with your instructor for completion of any work missed during your absence. All classes missed due to religious holidays will count as one of your three absences allowed during the semester.

Attendance policy: Regular attendance is required; this is a skills-development course, and your progress in learning Spanish depends on active participation each day. To allow for illness and other unforeseen circumstances, you are allotted 3 absences. (Three late arrivals and/or early departures constitute one absence.) Every absence over 3, excused or unexcused, will result in your final grade being lowered by 3 points. If you are late to class or cannot come, you are responsible for telling me the reason so it can be documented. You can track your absences on the grades and attendance website: <http://facstaff.elon.edu/apost/gradesonline> As written under Student Expectations, students with more than three absences should consider dropping. Perfect attendance earns 1 bonus point on the final grade.

Please read carefully the entire department attendance policy found on Moodle and online at http://www.elon.edu/eweb/academics/elon_college/foreign_languages/student/attendance.xhtml

Class Absences Due to Flu-Like Illness: If you are experiencing flu-like symptoms, please *do not come to class*. You should stay home and self-isolate according to CDC recommendations. Notify me via e-mail as soon as you realize you are ill and cannot attend class. Students who are ill and have flu-like symptoms should consult with Health Services by phone or in person regarding their illness. This will allow for appropriate assessment and treatment and will also create a documentation source for notifying faculty members if a student must self-isolate and miss classes. There are procedures in place for notifying faculty when students are ill and cannot attend class.

E-mail: Be sure to check your e-mail daily in case there are changes in assignments, announcements about events, etc. It is your responsibility to keep your Elon mailbox in working order. (Empty unnecessary deleted items and sent items frequently to avoid using all of your space.) Please do NOT e-mail assignments to me. If you are absent and need to turn in your work, you can put it in my box outside my office in Carlton 318.

Moodle: If you are absent, homework and daily class activities will be posted on Moodle shortly after class so that you can turn in missed assignments BEFORE the next class. Late work will be penalized one letter grade for each day it is late and will not be accepted after 5 days. Please check this site regularly for updated information and assignments.

PROGRAMA DEL CURSO

Note: Although I do not expect to need to do so, I reserve the right to alter indicated assignments for pedagogical reasons. Specific homework assignments will appear on the assignment sheets posted to Moodle for each lesson throughout the semester. Online work should be completed by 12:10 pm on the day it is due. Makeup tests are not given except in extreme circumstances. If you are absent, leave missed assignments in the box outside my door in Carlton 318 **before** the next class.

Fecha	En clase ese día	Exámenes
El miércoles, 31 de agosto	Introducción al curso, presentación general, repaso del sílabo	
El viernes, 2 de septiembre	Clase en el LMC (Language Media Center: Carlton, 2nd floor) Capítulo 15	
El lunes, 5 de septiembre	Capítulo 15	
El miércoles, 7 de septiembre	Capítulo 15	
El viernes, 9 de septiembre	Capítulo 15	
El lunes, 12 de septiembre	Capítulo 15	
El miércoles, 14 de septiembre	Capítulo 15	
El viernes, 16 de septiembre	Examen Capítulo 15	Examen Capítulo 15
El lunes, 19 de septiembre	Capítulo 16	
El miércoles, 21 de septiembre	Capítulo 16	
El viernes, 23 de septiembre	Capítulo 16	
El lunes, 26 de septiembre	Capítulo 16	
El miércoles, 28 de septiembre	Capítulo 16	
El viernes, 30 de septiembre	Examen Capítulo 16	Examen Capítulo 16
El lunes, 3 de octubre	Capítulo 17	
El miércoles, 5 de octubre	Capítulo 17	
El viernes, 7 de octubre	Capítulo 17	
El lunes, 10 de octubre	Capítulo 17	
El miércoles, 12 de octubre	Capítulo 17	Presentación de John Henry, un colombiano con Witness for Peace
El viernes, 14 de octubre	Examen Capítulo 17	Examen Capítulo 17
Descanso de otoño – el 17 y 18 de octubre		
El miércoles, 19 de octubre	Capítulo 18	
El viernes, 21 de octubre	Capítulo 18	



Fecha	En clase ese día	Exámenes
El lunes, 24 de octubre	Capítulo 18	
El miércoles, 26 de octubre	Capítulo 18	
El viernes, 28 de octubre	Capítulo 18	
El lunes, 31 de octubre	Examen Capítulo 18	
El miércoles, 2 de noviembre	Capítulo 19	
El viernes, 4 de noviembre	Capítulo 19	
El lunes, 7 de noviembre	Capítulo 19	
El miércoles, 9 de noviembre	Capítulo 19	
El viernes, 11 de noviembre	Capítulo 19	
El lunes, 14 de noviembre	Examen Capítulo 19	
El miércoles, 16 de noviembre	Capítulo 20	
El viernes, 18 de noviembre	Capítulo 20	
El lunes, 21 de noviembre	Capítulo 20	
El 23 al 27 de noviembre – Descanso del Día de Acción de Gracias		
El lunes, 28 de noviembre	NO SE REUNE LA CLASE, TAREAS EN MY SPANISH LAB(I have to attend presentations by senior Spanish majors)	
El miércoles, 30 de noviembre	Capítulo 20	
El viernes, 2 de diciembre	Capítulo 20	
El lunes, 5 de diciembre	Repaso para el examen final	

Examen final

EL sábado, 10 de diciembre 8:30 – 11:30 a.m.	Sección D: Examen final en Alamance 203
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Final exam scheduled dates and times cannot be changed for individual students or classes without prior approval from the appropriate Department Chairperson (Dr. Scott Windham, swindham@elon.edu).

Students must verify the exam schedule prior to making final travel plans.

NOTE: A student's continued enrollment in this foreign language course implies his/her understanding of the departmental policies with regard to attendance, lateness, participation, quizzes, exams (including the final exam), assignments and make-up work.

Acceptance of Syllabus

Please sign and return this page by September 9, 2011.

I have a printed copy of the syllabus for Spanish 221, and have read and understood it. All of the course provisions and requirements as described in the syllabus are clear to me. I realize that to be successful I am required to complete several hours of work outside of class every day.

In particular, I have understood and agree to:

- The course goals and objectives.
- The academic integrity provisions.
- The attendance and tardiness policies. (More than 3 absences results in 3 pts being taken from the final grade. Perfect attendance earns 1 pt. on final grade.)
- The provisions for evaluation and assessments.
- The course schedule including due dates for major assignments and dates of major exams.

(Print Name)

(Signature)

(Date)