Spanish 1312.001

Days: MTWR
Time and Location: 001: 8-9:55 Island Hall 158
Professor: E. Ruiz
Office: Faculty Center 253A
Office Hours: MT 10-11:30, WTR 10-11 or by appointment
Contact: eduardo.ruiz@tamucc.edu (Please allow 24 hours for email response), Phone: (361) 825-3015

Text:
*Experience Spanish: Un mundo sin límites.* (Textbook and “connectspanish” program required)

**Course Description.** This is the second part of the First Year Spanish course. It is designed specifically for students with little knowledge of the language. This second semester concentrates on the study of past and future tenses, verb usage, prepositions, the subjunctive mood, sentence structure, and vocabulary. This course is aimed at developing listening, speaking, reading and writing skills, from the most basic notions to more elaborate ones, within a Spanish cultural framework.

**Spanish Student Learning Outcomes.** At the end of this course students will demonstrate basic-level ability to:
- Communicate in a range of situations.
- Understand and use a variety of vocabulary in different situations.
- Understand and respond to oral and written material.
- Demonstrate an awareness of cultural elements and understand their role in communication.

**Attendance.** Regular attendance and active participation are vital in learning a foreign language. To better understand linguistic concepts and practice them in a supportive environment, you must be in class. You are expected to attend all classes. Absences will affect your academic performance and your final grade. **After the third absence, you will lose five points from your final average grade for every absence thereafter.** Remember: Absences do not exempt you from material covered, assigned or due in class during their absence. Furthermore, it is your responsibility to provide written documentation to be excused. Please, keep track of your absences and tardiness.

**Participation.** Participation is essential to the language learning experience. To maximize your oral proficiency prepare before coming to class. Complete the “connectspanish” exercises, review the assignment for the day, and volunteer in class. A positive attitude and your willingness to participate are key. Participation in class is evaluated by your level of engagement displayed in class, the general knowledge of the material discussed, and the accuracy of your linguistic performance. **Remember:** errors are intrinsic to the learning process; therefore, take a chance and participate.

**Weekly “connectspanish” assignments (tareas).** You will complete your weekly lab assignments via McGraw Hill Connect (MGHC). MGHC is a web-based assignment and assessment platform that helps you connect to the coursework assigned by your instructor. It will consist of exercises
related to what we do in class, such as writing and listening comprehension exercises. You may complete these assignments, at your own pace, as long as you finish them by Sunday at 10:59 PM. For more information about the operation of MGHC ask your instructor. See addendum #1.

**Composition.** A composition will consist of a minimum of one-page exercise in Spanish. Draft #1 should represent your best effort in this assignment. Draft #2 must contain all the corrections and necessary additions highlighted on Draft #1. Your instructor will hand out a correction key to help you in the successful completion of Draft #2. No late work will be accepted without previous arrangements with your instructor. For a more detailed description of the composition guidelines. See addendum #2.

**Quizzes.** There will be a total of four quizzes during the semester. Your weekly assignment at the language lab should help you prepare for them. If you come to class regularly, complete your weekly assignments carefully, and maintain continuous study habits, you should not have any problem with this exercise. If you’re absent, at any time, it is your responsibility to check your syllabus and catch up with the help of a tutor or by visiting your professor during office hours. You must bring a pencil and a Scantron form to take the quiz.

**Exams.** Exams are an important part of your learning progress in class. These examinations give you an opportunity to assess your understanding of language concepts and to identify areas of difficulty. You will have two major exams during the semester (see attached "Programa del curso" for exam dates). No make-ups will be given under any circumstance, unless previously arranged with the instructor.

**Miscellaneous.** Please reduce unnecessary distractions to the minimum. Cell phones must be set on vibration mode and put away; laptop users must sit in front row. Visitors are not allowed in class, unless permitted by the professor in advance. Students are expected to follow the Student Code of Conduct as described by the University Student Handbook and to have an amicable and respectful attitude towards their instructor, language lab staff and fellow students.

**Course Evaluation / Final Grading:**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Grade Range</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>10 pts</td>
<td>90 - 100 = A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly Lab Assigns.</td>
<td>10 pts</td>
<td>80 - 89 = B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>20 pts</td>
<td>70 - 79 = C</td>
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<tr>
<td>Composition</td>
<td>10 pts</td>
<td>60 – 69 = D</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
<td>25 pts</td>
<td>59 and below = F</td>
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<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>25 pts</td>
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<td><strong>Total:</strong></td>
<td>100 pts</td>
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**IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

**SUMMER 2014**

**Dates to remember:**

- **July 7** ………………… Monday 
  Classes begin
- **July 8** ………………… Tuesday 
  Last day to register or add a class
- **July 25** ………………… Friday 
  Last day to drop a class
- **August 5** ………………… Tuesday 
  Last day to withdraw
- **August 7** ………………… Thursday 
  Final Exams (Summer Session II)
- **August 9** ………………… Saturday 
  Summer Commencement

**Students with Disabilities and Veterans.** The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal
anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with
disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be
guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their
disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please call or visit
Disability Services at (361) 825-5816 in Corpus Christi Hall, Room 116.

If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the
classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at (361) 825-
5816.

**Academic Advisement.** Academic advisors are available to assist students with course selection,
degree plans, and other academic matters. Each college has an academic advising center, staffed
by full-time, professional advisors. Students who have yet to declare a major are advised by the
Academic Advising Transition Center. For more information please call (361) 825-5931 or log on
to [http://www.tamucc.edu/~aac](http://www.tamucc.edu/~aac)

**Grade Appeal Process.** Students who feel that they have not been held to appropriate academic
standards as outlined in this class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading,
may appeal the final grade given in the course. A student with a complaint about a grade is
couraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details on the process of
submitting a formal grade appeal, please visit the College of Liberal Arts website,
cla.tamucc.edu/students/studentinfo.html. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal
process, students may contact the Associate Dean.

**Addendum # 1: Weekly Lab Assignments**

**Description.** Weekly “connectspanish” Assignments (Tareas) are to be completed every week, to
the best of your ability. These assignments are an important part of your coursework, not only
because they represent 10% of your grade, but also because they help you study, give you the
necessary practice to understand the class material and strengthen your overall proficiency in the
language.

*Students must complete all lab assignments through Blackboard (Bb9.tamucc.edu)*

**Tutoring services.** Tutoring schedule will be provided by your instructor.

**Computer proficiency skills.** The completion of “connectspanish” assignments requires that you
have a minimum of computer proficiency skills. If you don’t know how to operate a computer,
please consult with the Student Computer Help Desk, for one-on-one tutorial help.

**Completion dates.** The completion dates for each lab assignment (tarea) are very clear on your
syllabus. You have a full week to complete an assignment. Your weekly “connectspanish” lab
assignment / tarea MUST be completed by Sunday at 10:59 PM and the assignment completion
results will be recorded on Monday. Only in extreme circumstances, may you complete an
assignment for credit after the due date. Your instructor must evaluate and approve your situation,
then consult with the First Year Coordinator.

**Material covered by assignments.** Weekly “connectspanish” assignments are based on material
covered and practiced in class during the week, so you should be familiar with the exercises. If you
have problems understanding the material (and consequently the exercises), do not keep it to yourself; discuss it with your instructor. S/he may need to refer you to the tutor for extra help.

Helpful Websites: The following websites have been provided to assist you in finding additional information and practice.

- studyspanish.com
- donquijote.org
- dummies.com
- musicalspanish.com
- spanishspanish.com
- Trinity.edu/mstroud/grammar
- Colby.edu/~bknelson/SLC/index.php
- Drlemon.net/grammar
- Lingolex.com
- www.rae.es (diccionario)
- 123teachme.com
- verbix.com

*This program has been planned to help you learn Spanish in a natural and relaxed class environment. It requires your best effort and disposition. Above all, it is meant to be a fun activity that can teach you a useful skill, while you learn about the language and its diverse culture.

Addendum # 2: Composition/Writing Assignment Guidelines

Description. During the semester you will be asked to write a one-page composition in Spanish. Your instructor will discuss the topic in advance and provide additional information as needed. (Note: Draft # 1 should represent your best effort) Write it, rewrite it, and... The mistakes will be highlighted and/or coded on your composition (draft #1) without making any corrections; then, you will be asked to make all the corrections indicated for draft # 2. To help you in the successful completion of your final draft, your instructor will provide a correction key. Remember: this exercise is meant to help you learn from your own mistakes and develop your writing skills in Spanish.

-No late work will be accepted without previous arrangements with your instructor
-Writing Assignment Guidelines will be provided by the instructor

Objective. Compositions are designed to put into practice the concepts taught in the classroom and practiced in lab exercises. You are expected to use only the concepts covered in class up to the time of this assignment. To avoid any confusion, please adhere to the following guidelines.

- Write composition entirely in Spanish
- Use structures, tenses and vocabulary learned in class only
- Use Times New Roman font—size 12
- Avoid using online translators and/or friends
- It should be one-page long, typed, double spaced, and w/one inch margins

Guidelines. Your work should be evidence of your performance in class. Please write it by yourself and at your own level. No more will be expected of you. Should your work not coincide with your overall performance in class, your instructor will suspect the use of outside help, such as online translators or Spanish-speaking proofreaders, and s/he will ask you to rewrite your composition. To avoid complicating the writing process, do not write it in English and then translate into Spanish. There are many concepts and expressions that do not translate literally between the two languages. Once again, stick to simplicity. Use grammar, activities, and vocabulary covered in class; in short, use basic sentences.

**Keep it simple, at your level, and write it yourself**
Composition Topic: SPAN1312: *A short story or a personal experience*

Begin your short story/personal experience by introducing your characters and setting up the background information. This is usually done in the *imperfect* because you describe ongoing “states” and “actions.” Likewise, the *preterit* is used to describe a series of separate actions that occurred in sequence and then were completed. See pp. 282-287 for a review on the difference between the tenses.

**Available Resources:** The Foreign Language Lab offers state of the art equipment with the latest multimedia resources. Students are encouraged to visit the language lab in Corpus Christi #224 and/or use the virtual language lab any time from home. We encourage you to visit, become familiar and take advantage of the resources available to enhance your learning experience.

**PROGRAMA DEL CURSO**

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<td>7 de julio</td>
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<td>● Gustar 30-32, Present 44-47, -go verbs 61-62</td>
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<td>● Future 65-66, Stem-changing verbs 105-107</td>
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<td>8 de julio</td>
<td>● <strong>Tema II:</strong> ¿Salimos a comer o comemos en la casa?</td>
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<td>● Vocabulario: At the dinner table 200-201, 215-16</td>
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<td>● Preterit Regular verbs 207-211</td>
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<td>[● Concurso de videoblogs: Merfry]</td>
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<td><strong>Capítulo 7: ¡Vamos de compras!</strong></td>
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<td>● <strong>Tema I:</strong> ¿Está de moda?</td>
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<td>● Vocabulario: Clothing 218-21, 247</td>
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<td>● Preterit: Irregular Verbs 222-26</td>
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<td>[● Nota cultural: La guayabera: moda del Caribe]</td>
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<td>● Actividad D: El Carnaval de la Vega 229-30</td>
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<td>10 de julio</td>
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<td>● <strong>Tema II:</strong> Los mercados y los almacenes</td>
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<td>● Vocabulario: Shopping 233-35</td>
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<td>[● Conexiones culturales en vivo: la comida 249]</td>
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Segunda semana

Lunes
14 de julio

Quiz # 1
Capítulo 8: En la comunidad
- **Tema I**: La ciudad y la vida urbana
- Vocabulario: Cities and suburbs 252-54
- **Tú commands** 256-61
- Adverbs 262-65

**Martes**
15 de julio

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- **Tema II**: La vida de los pueblos y el campo
- Vocabulario: la comunidad rural 268-70, 281-82
- The Imperfect Tense 273-77

**Miércoles**
16 de julio

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- Vocabulario: Las etapas de la vida 299-301, 313
- Pastimes and activities 300-301
- Preterit vs. Imperfect 302-307
[● Conexiones culturales en vivo: La naturaleza 315]

Jueves
17 de julio

Capítulo 10: Salgamos a explorar
- **Tema I**: De viaje
- Vocabulario: En el aeropuerto 318-20, 350
- Present perfect 322-25
- Hace + time + que… 329-32

Tercera semana

Lunes
21 de julio

Quiz # 2
- Review for Midterm

**Martes**
22 de julio

- **Midterm Exam**

**Miércoles**
23 de julio

Capítulo 10: Salgamos a explorar
- **Tema II**: Las vacaciones
- Vocabulario: On vacation 336-39, 350
- Introduction to the Subjunctive 340-45

Jueves
24 de julio

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- Vocabulario: Los días festivos 352-54, 379
- Present Subjunctive: Volition 356-59
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Cuarta semana

Lunes
28 de julio

Quiz # 3
Capítulo 11: La música, el arte y las celebraciones

**Weekly Assignment #2**
Due: Sunday, July 20

**Weekly Assignment #3**
Due: Sunday, July 27

**Weekly Assignment #4**
Due: Sunday, August 3
● Tema II: Las bellas artes
● Vocabulario: Las expresiones artísticas 366-69
● Present Subjunctive: Doubt, denial, and uncertainty 370-73
[● Conexiones culturales en vivo: La música y la danza 381]

Martes
29 de julio

Capítulo 12: El bienestar
● Tema I: La vida social
● Vocabulario: Las relaciones sentimentales 384-87, 414
● Present Subjunctive: Impersonal Expressions 388-92
● Stressed Possessive Adjectives and Pronouns 393-95

Miércoles
30 de julio

Capítulo 13: Nuestro futuro
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● Vocabulario: Las profesiones y los oficios 416-19
● The future tense 421-25

Jueves
31 de julio

Capítulo 14: La vida moderna
Tema I: La tecnología y la comunicación
● Vocabulario: Los avances tecnológicos 478-82
● The Conditional Tense 483-86

Quinta semana
Lunes
4 de agosto

Quiz # 4
● The Conditional Tense 483-86
● Composition questions/practice

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Tema II: La calidad y las presiones de la vida
● Vocabulario: Los retos de la vida moderna, Las cuentas y los gastos, el bienestar físico y mental 490-94

Martes
5 de agosto

● Si (If) clauses 495-98
● Composition — Final version due today
● Multimedia (movie)

Miércoles
6 de agosto

● Final Exam Review

Jueves
7 de agosto

● Final Exam

Sábado
9 de agosto

● Graduación