Spanish 1311 - Section 009
TT – 12:30 – 1:45 ECDC 219A
Office Location TBA
361-825-5783 = Department of Humanities
manuel.hernandez@tamucc.edu

Textbook:
• Experience Spanish: Un mundo sin límites. (Textbook and “connectspanish” program required)
• A Spanish/English Dictionary = recommended

Course Description
This course is designed specifically for students with no previous knowledge of Spanish. It is aimed at developing listening, speaking, reading and writing skills—from the most basic notions to more elaborated ones—within a Spanish cultural framework. The student will develop the ability to function in natural contexts, convey and understand messages with reasonable accuracy, and carry on a simple conversation in Spanish.

Spanish Student Learning Outcomes:
At the end of this course students will demonstrate basic level ability to:
• Communicate in a range of situations at the basic level.
• Understand and use a variety of vocabulary in common usage in different situations.
• Understand and respond to oral and written material.
• Demonstrate an awareness of cultural elements and 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. Therefore, you’re expected to attend all of your classes. Absences will not only affect your academic performance...set you back, but will affect your final grade (after the third absence, you will lose 3 points of your final average grade for every class you miss thereafter.) Remember: absences do NOT exempt you from material (-s) covered, assigned or due in class during your absence. Employment predicaments or travel plans do not constitute legitimate absences. Furthermore, it is your responsibility to provide written documentation to be excused and permitted to make up missing work. Please, keep track of your absences and tardiness…I will.

Participation. Class participation is essential to the language learning experience. To maximize your understanding of the language concepts and their role in language proficiency, prepare carefully for class by completing all assignments in advance and be ready to participate. Complete the “connectspanish” exercises, review the assignment for the day, and volunteer in class. A positive attitude and your willingness to participate are key. In this course participation is evaluated by the level of engagement students’ display in class, their general knowledge of the material discussed, and the accuracy of their linguistic performance. Remember: errors are intrinsic to the learning process; therefore, take a chance and participate.

Weekly “Connectspanish” Assignments. You will complete your weekly 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. Students must complete all lab assignments through Blackboard (Bb9.tamucc.edu). For more information about the operation of MGHC ask your instructor. See addendum #1.

Composition. Your instructor will determine the writing assignment appropriate for his/her class and will inform you on how to get it done. You will be asked to write a N.L.T 200 word composition in Spanish twice. Draft #1 should represent your best effort in this exercise. Draft #2 must contain all the corrections and necessary additions highlighted on Draft #1. Your instructor will provide 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.

Interview/Presentation. During the semester, you will have a very brief interview (in Spanish, of course) with the professor. This will constitute 10 points of your final average. You will come to class early for a 5 minute meeting in which you will answer questions using the material you have learned in class during the semester. Use of the grammar and vocabulary learned during the semester will be expected. As you get closer to your interview, your professor will give you more information so you can
prepare in advance. A roster will be printed and handed out showing “who” will go on a given date and...the “time” of the interview. See Addendum # 3 - “Interview Guidelines”

**Quizzes.** There will be a total of 10 quizzes during the semester. They will be brief and administered the LAST 10 minutes of class on Monday or Tuesday depending on your class schedule (please see addendum #4 for more details). If you come to class regularly, complete your weekly assignments carefully, and maintain continuous study habits throughout the semester, you should not have any problem with this exercise. If you’re absent at any time, it is your responsibility to consult the syllabus and catch up with the rest of the class with the help of a tutor or by visiting your professor during office hours.

**Exams.** Exams are an important part of your learning experience and 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...no eating or drinking in class (this includes “water”)...and...there will be absolutely NO texting in class...at ANY time...for ANY reason. If you insist on doing so...you WILL be asked to leave the classroom and you WILL be counted absent. **NO eating...NO drinking** is allowed in class. Some people will arrive in class up to an hour early and bring their dinner and drink with them...“class hasn’t started yet”!!...NO...take your food and drink outside to the lounge area...**NO EXCEPTION!** Visitors...children...friends...personal pets are not allowed in class, unless explicitly permitted by the instructor beforehand. (AT THIS POINT...EVERYONE LOOK UP AT ME)...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. Pending funding...a tutor will be made available. Do not wait for this class to become unmanageable. Meet with your professor and seek the tutor’s help as soon as possible. If at any point you disagree with the professor’s guidelines about anything...food...drink...composition rules / guidelines...ANYTHING...take it outside...this will NOT be discussed in class in front of everyone and you will NOT take up my class time with personal issues. Come early...stay after class if you have to.

**Grade Distribution:**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homework</td>
<td>10 pts</td>
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<td>Participation</td>
<td>10 pts</td>
<td>80 - 89: B</td>
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<td>Weekly assignments (lab)</td>
<td>10 pts</td>
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<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>10 pts</td>
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<td>Comp-II (final draft)</td>
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<td><strong>Total:</strong></td>
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**IMPORTANT INFORMATION – FALL 2015**

**Dates to remember:**

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<th>October</th>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
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<td>Monday-Wednesday</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Classes begin</td>
<td>Labor Day Holiday</td>
<td>Last day to register or add a class</td>
<td>Last day of classes for 1st 7-week</td>
<td>Final Exams 2nd 7-Week Session</td>
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**Fall Commencement**

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<td>26/27</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday/Friday</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
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<tr>
<td>First Day of Classes 2nd 7-week session</td>
<td>Final Examinations</td>
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**Reading Day**

**Grading Days**

**Fall Commencement**

**Fall Grades Due**
**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 Advising**

The College of Liberal Arts requires that students meet with an Academic Advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. Degree plans are prepared in the CLA Academic Advising Center. The University uses an online Degree Audit system. Any amendment must be approved by the Department Chair and the Office of the Dean. All courses and requirements specified in the final degree plan audit must be completed before a degree will be granted. The CLA Academic Advising Office is located in Driftwood #203. For more information please call 361-825-3466 or log on to [http://www.tamucc.edu/~aac](http://www.tamucc.edu/~aac).

**Disability Services**

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**Grade Appeals 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 encouraged 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](http://cla.tamucc.edu/students/studentinfo.html). For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Associate Dean’s Office.

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**ADDENDUM 1**

**WEEKLY “connectspanish” ASSIGNMENTS (TAREAS)**

**ASSIGNMENTS/TAREAS**

**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).*

1. **Tutoring services.** (upon funding)

2. **Computer proficiency skills.** The completion of “Connect” 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.

3. **Completion dates.** The completion dates for each assignment are very clear on your syllabus. You have a full week to complete an assignment/tarea. Your weekly connectspanish assignment/tarea MUST be completed by Sunday at 10:59 PM and the assignment completion results 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.

4. **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.
*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.

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
- Spaleon.com
- 123teachme.com
- diccionario.reverso.net

ADDENDUM 2  COMPOSITION GUIDELINES

Description: During the semester you will be asked to write a 200-word composition in Spanish. Your professor will discuss the topic with the class in advance and provide additional information as needed. NOTE: Draft #1 (5 points) should represent your best effort in this exercise. Your instructor will highlight and code the mistakes on your composition (draft #1) without making any corrections. For draft #2 (5 points) you will be asked to make all the corrections and necessary additions highlighted on draft #1. To help you in the successful completion of your final draft, your instructor will provide a correction key. This exercise is meant to help you learn from your own mistakes while developing your writing skills in Spanish. No late work will be accepted without previous arrangements with your instructor. —Writing Assignments Guidelines will be provided by your instructor.

Objective: Compositions are designed to provide opportunities to practice the concepts taught in the classroom. You are expected to use only the concepts covered in the class up to the time of the composition. Please be sure to follow the guidelines accordingly to avoid any confusion.

Format:
- Compositions must be written entirely in Spanish. (...or...="0")
- Length of the composition itself should be N.L.T. 200 words. (...or...="0")
- Compositions must be typed and double spaced. (...or...="0"
- Compositions WILL have a cover-sheet with...
  a) your name
  b) my name
  c) name and number of the course (...or...="0")
  d) comp -1
  e) date
  f) title of the composition
- Margins must be 1" on each side.
- Use structures, tenses and vocabulary learned up to that point only.
- Avoid using online translators and or friends.

NOTE: THE SECOND PAGE IS DEDICATED ENTIRELY ON THE COMPOSITION ITSELF!

Failure to comply with these departmental requisites = "0"

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

Composition Topic: SPAN1311: “Yo soy...”
Divide your composition in three paragraphs. The first paragraph should address your identity, the second one your occupation(s) and responsibilities, and the third one your pastimes. Keep it SIMPLE and in the present tense. **Write it yourself.** Tutors’ help can be sought when you write draft II.

**Language Laboratory 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 #216 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.

****Keep simple…at your level…and…write it yourself****

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**ADDENDUM 3**

**INTERVIEW GUIDELINES**

**Objective.**
This interview will provide the opportunity for you to demonstrate the ability to carry on a simple conversation in Spanish; something all students should be able to do by the end of the semester.

**Interview.** During the semester, you will have a very brief interview (in Spanish, of course) with the professor. You will come to class early for a 5 minute meeting in which you will answer 15 questions about yourself, your occupation and your hobbies…etc. Use of the grammar and vocabulary learned during the semester will be expected. As you get closer to your interview, your professor will give you more information so you can prepare in advance. A roster will be printed and handed out showing “who” will go on a given date and… the “time” of the interview.

**Guidelines.**
Your work should be evidence of your performance in the class. Your interview should consist of grammatically correct sentences and pertinent vocabulary.
As with the compositions, it is suggested that you do not translate your interview from English directly to Spanish to avoid complication the process. There are many concepts and expressions that do not translate correctly between the two languages. Use vocabulary from the chapters we have covered.

**Available resources.**
The language Lab provides word processors with Spanish spell check available, as well as dictionary and verb conjugation software, which you can use to prepare your dialogue.

**Remember:**
Your interview must be entirely in Spanish.
Your interview will last about 5 minutes.
Your interview must contain usage of the structures, tenses and vocabulary covered in class.

**You have a “one week” window to make it up if…for any reason…you cannot comply with the scheduled time (as per the roster). Interview will NOT be accepted “AFTER” one week!**

**NOTE:** You will be given the opportunity to volunteer for a date and time of YOUR choosing…failure to do so means that it is “I” who shall choose your date / time of your “interview”. Rosters will be handed out in class.

**NOTE: THE INTERVIEW QUESTIONS YOU WILL BE ASKED INDIVIDUALLY WILL COME FROM THE 30 QUESTIONS ATTACHED. “SEE FOLLOWING PAGE”**
INTERVIEW QUESTIONS: YOU WILL BE ASKED 15 QUESTIONS FROM THE GIVEN.

1. Buenos días...¿quién eres tú?
2. ¿Cómo estás?
3. Cuéntame del___ al___.
4. Deletréame tu nombre completo.
5. ¿Cuáles son los días de la semana?
6. ¿Qué día es hoy?
7. ¿Qué día fue ayer?
8. Si hoy es___...¿qué día es mañana?
9. ¿Cuál es tu estación favorita?
10. ¿Cuáles son los meses de esta estación?
11. ¿Por qué es tu favorita?
12. ¿Quién es__? (here...I'll point out your partner)
13. ¿Qué lleva puesto?
14. ¿Qué hora es ahorita?
15. ¿A qué hora empieza la clase?
16. ¿A qué hora termina?
17. ¿Eres tú de Corpus Christi?
18. En este momento...¿dónde estás?
19. ¿Dónde es tu clase? (where is it to be found?)
20. ¿Quién está aquí contigo? (here...name your partner)
21. ¿Tú eres___? (here...I'll give you a profession)...No...yo soy______.
22. ¿Cómo eres tú?
23. ¿Tú eres casado (-a)?
24. Tú y_______...¿son amigos?
25. Cuando tienes frío...¿qué haces?
26. Si tienes dolor de cabeza...¿qué tomas?
27. ¿A qué hora te acuestas cuando tienes sueño?
28. Cuando sales de noche...¿tienes cuidado?
29. Ahorita mismo...¿de qué tienes ganas?
30. ¿Tú tienes miedo de noche?

NOTE: This will take approximately 5 minutes...

ADDENDUM 4

QUIZ SCHEDULE  
FALL 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>QUIZ #</th>
<th>CONTENT</th>
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</table>
Septiembre  14 / 15  Quiz # 1  □ Numbers (1-30), subject pronouns, the verb ser, descriptive adjectives, possessive adjectives, question words, and vocabulario (p. 52).

Septiembre  21 / 22  Quiz # 2  □ The verb Gustar, days of the week, telling time, regular verbs: –ar, er, ir, and vocabulario (p. 53).

Septiembre  28 / 29  Quiz # 3  □ Colors, some irregular verbs (p. 61), Ir +a+ Inf., and vocabulario (p. 56/7).

Octubre  05 / 06  Quiz # 4  □ Weather and Seasons, Numbers 31-100, the verb Estar, the present progressive, and vocabulario (p. 86).

Octubre  12 / 13  Quiz # 5  □ Deber/Necesitar + Inf., some stem-changing verbs, Idiomatic expressions with Tener, and vocabulario (p. 88/9).

Octubre  26 / 27  Quiz # 6  □ Stem-Changing Verbs, saber vs. conocer, and vocabulario (p. 116).

Noviembre  02 / 03  Quiz # 7  □ Numbers (100 ---), por vs. para, demonstrative adjectives and pronouns, and vocabulario (p. 120/1).

Noviembre  09 / 10  Quiz # 8  □ Comparisons: más/menos que..., tan, tanto/a/os/as... como, and vocabulario (p. 136/7).

Noviembre  16 / 17  Quiz # 9  □ Direct object pronouns, ser vs. estar, and vocabulario (p. 154/5).

Noviembre  23 / 24  Quiz # 10  □ Reflexive verbs, indefinite and definite words, and vocabulario (p. 169/70).

Nov/Dic  30 / 01  Quiz #11  □ Opcional

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**ESPAÑOL #1311 \ PROGRAMA DEL CURSO \ FALL 2015**

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<tr>
<th>Semana</th>
<th>En clase</th>
<th>Tarea semanal</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Semana #1</td>
<td>Evaluación inicial</td>
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<td>26-27 (agosto)</td>
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<td>¿Somos semejantes?</td>
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<td>31-03 (agosto/septiembre)</td>
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<td>Semana # 5</td>
<td>Tema II: ¿Estudia y trabaja Ud.?</td>
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<td>Semana # 13</td>
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**ADDENDUM 5**

You will be asked to do an Oral Presentation in front of the class...one at the very beginning of the semester...the second...toward the end of the semester...date-to-be-announced.

**O.P. – I**

**THIS IS THE FIRST –OF-TWO ORAL PRESENTATIONS:**  **DUE DATE = Wednesday – 2 Sep '15 (tentative)**

Tell us:

1. Who you are… your age
2. Where you are from
3. Where you went to high school
4. What courses you are taking presently
5. What schools you have attended…other than TAMUCC…if applicable
6. What your field of specialization is
7. Your reason for taking Spanish
8. If you work…what you do
9. Where your future is taking you
10. How comfortable you are with your language acquisition thusfar

**O.P. – II**

**FOLLOW THE CUES GIVEN ENCOMPASSING SOME OF THE ITEMS COVERED THUSFAR:**

1. Yo soy _X_. Hasta ahorita, me gusta / no me gusta esta clase porque _X_.
2. A mí me gusta _X_... _X_... y _X_.
3. A veces, yo prefiero _X_ porque _X_.
4. El tiempo (weather) que a mí más me gusta es el / la _X_ porque _X_.
5. A mí me gusta jugar al _X_. Por la television, me gusta ver _X_.
6. Este semester, yo estoy tomando _X_ (name your subjects)... y quisiera (key-see-ETTA) sacar una _X_ porque _X_.
7. Yo sé que la educación es buena porque _X_.

**NOTE: DATE FOR THIS SECOND PRESENTATION WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN CLASS.**