Long Beach City College  
Spring 2016 - Spanish 1

Instructor: Francisca Mejía-López  
Email: fmejia-lopez@lbcc.edu  
Phone: 562-938-4635  
Office: LAC M-201A  
Office hours: Mon & Wed 10:30-11:00 and Tues & Thurs 9:45 – 11:45

Classroom: M 105  
Days/Time: T TH 2:40-5:45pm  
Section #: 30808

Required Text:
Exploraciones, Mary Ann Blitt, Margarita Casas. Cengage, 2015 (with activities manual)

Recommended Texts:
Spanish / English dictionary

Course description
This is the first course in Spanish. It introduces students to the four skills necessary for language acquisition: listening, speaking, reading and writing. It is not recommended for native speakers of Spanish or for students who have completed one year of high school Spanish with a grade of B or better. Students will learn the sound system and basic grammatical structures. This course exposes students to everyday situations and cultural topics of the Hispanic world.

Course Objectives
Upon successful completion of this course you will be able to understand and respond in Spanish to: basic commands in the classroom, greetings and personal information; describe / identify people and things; tell time; count; indicate location and possession. You will also be able to understand, read, write and talk about; origin/ nationality; family members; clothing and colors, parts of the body; meals and food; the weather and holidays; likes and dislikes; future plans; describe ongoing activities; daily routine, abilities/ skills; desires and obligations.

Student Learning Outcomes:
At the end of this semester students will be able to:
1. Formulate ideas orally at a medium elementary level.
2. Formulate ideas in writing at a medium elementary level.
3. Demonstrate reading comprehension at a medium elementary level.
4. Demonstrate aural comprehension at a medium elementary level.
Course Tools / Materials

Time
You will need time to study outside of the classroom in order to make progress and develop your Spanish. The homework and study time appropriate for a five unit course is approximately ten hours per week. Before class, you are expected to study the grammatical explanations given in the text and to recognize the format of these grammatical structures before each lesson is covered in class. After class, you should continue to reinforce and review the material that was covered that day, and complete the homework exercises that correspond to the topics covered in class.

A Positive Mindset
Many of you have previously taken a Spanish course. It is important to know that regardless of how successful or challenging the experience might have been, as long as you are willing to put forth the effort and do the work you can and will succeed in this class.

Willingness to Participate
Learning a language requires active participation. This entails consistently and appropriately interacting in Spanish with your instructor and classmates, asking questions or making comments related to the topics of discussion, volunteering answers, and contributing during group activities.

We will devote the majority of our classroom time to activities that will allow you to practice your skills of communicating and understanding in Spanish, as well as develop your fluency. You cannot learn how to speak Spanish if you are not willing to speak the language. With this in mind, make an effort to speak Spanish; do not get frustrated when you make errors or stop yourself when you detect an error. Remember that it takes time and practice to learn a new language.

The following is the participation grade scale that will be used to assess each student’s performance.

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>100-90% (A)</th>
<th>89-80% (B)</th>
<th>79-70% (C)</th>
<th>69-0% (D/F)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Student is always prepared for class, actively involved, and contributes to class by volunteering answers and asking questions. Student consistently makes an effort to speak Spanish. Student always follows directions and stays on task during individual and class activities. Student always completes activities in the time given and never has to be asked twice to begin an activity or stay on task.</td>
<td>Student is prepared, contributes to class by volunteering answers and asking questions most of the time. Student consistently makes an effort to speak Spanish. Student follows directions and stays on task during individual and class activities. Student completes activities in the time given most of the time and never has to be asked twice to begin an activity or stay on task.</td>
<td>Student sometimes contributes to class by volunteering answers and asking questions. Student does not consistently make an effort to speak Spanish. At times student has to be reminded to follow directions and stay on task during individual and class activities. Student sometimes does not complete activities in the time given.</td>
<td>Student is rarely or never prepared for class, fails to volunteer answers or ask questions. Student makes very little effort to speak Spanish. Student (most of the time / always) has to be reminded to follow directions and stay on task during individual and class activities. Student does not complete activities in the time given.</td>
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Students are expected to refrain from using electronic devices such as cell phones, iPhones and iPads, as well as working on other class assignments or reading materials that are not related to this class.
Because using the target language is the best way to learn a language, participation in a language course is essential. Your participation grade is composed of the following:
You will earn the first 50 points of your participation grade through 10 classroom activities which will be completed in class, collected, and graded. Please note that if you are not in class, you will not have the opportunity to earn these points. The remaining 50 points of your participation grade are based on my assessment of your participation in class throughout the course.

**Homework:** Homework will be submitted regularly and will be checked by the professor for credit. All homework assignments must be completed. No credit will be given for incomplete assignments.

**Workbook:** The workbook/Lab Manual will be submitted once each chapter has been completed (see course calendar for due dates). In order to receive full credit, students must correct their own exercises using the answer key located in the back of the workbook/Lab Manual. The process of self correction will help students identify the areas in which they may need additional practice or help. Incomplete workbook pages and workbook pages without corrections will not receive credit.

Homework assignments are intended to complement and reinforce the work done in class. Completing the exercises on time will benefit and ease the learning process, while failing to do so will only make it more difficult for you to keep up with the work. Late work is not accepted.

Lab Manual: The language lab is located in M-103. One hour per week is reserved for students to work in the lab. While in the lab students will work on various activities, including, but not limited to, audio exercises from the lab manual. If missed, lab hours cannot be made up.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Participation</th>
<th>Homework and Lab Manual</th>
<th>Quizzes</th>
<th>Exams</th>
<th>Presentation</th>
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<td>There will be five short quizzes throughout the semester. These quizzes will include vocabulary and grammar. There will be no make-up or late quizzes administered.</td>
<td>A total of two chapter exams will be given throughout the semester. These exams will include vocabulary, grammar, listening and reading comprehension, and writing components. There will be no make-up or late exams administered.</td>
<td>Each student will select the topic of their choice, create, and give a presentation. Instructions and guidelines will be provided when presentations are assigned.</td>
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| 100pts | 150pts | 150pts | 200pts | 100pts |

Each student will select the topic of their choice, create, and give a presentation. Instructions and guidelines will be provided when presentations are assigned.

**Final Exam**
The final exam will be comprehensive & must be taken the last day of class.
ATTENDANCE

Attendance is mandatory and is recorded from the first day of the semester. However, you may miss one class meeting without penalty, except that you will not be able to make up class work or participation activities. Additional absences will result in a reduction of your participation grade by 4 points per absence (For example: If you miss two classes and your participation grade is 90, you will receive an 86 for participation. If you miss three classes, your grade will be 82 and so on).

Only a documented illness (doctor’s note) or other verifiable documented emergency will be excused.

Please be punctual. Late arrival to class or early departure from class is counted as half an absence.

It is important to be aware that three (3) consecutive absences or five (5) in any order will result in a W before the withdrawal deadline.

You can consult p. 29 in the Long Beach City College Catalog for more information on attendance policies and procedures.

Proper College Etiquette

A proper teaching environment is the cornerstone of getting a good education. Everyone at Long Beach City College is responsible for helping to create this environment, including students. Simple rules of courtesy apply.

• Respect for the Instructor
  This means arriving on time, not leaving early, bringing appropriate materials, not speaking with other students while a lecture is in progress, not being loud, boisterous, or argumentative.

• Respect for Other Students
  This means not interfering with the rights of others to listen and participate, not being disrespectful, not using inappropriate language, or harassing others in any way.

For further information, see the “Creating a proper teaching environment” section on p.111 in the Long Beach City College schedule of classes.

Note: This course may be taken for a letter grade or Pass/ No Pass. To receive a PASS, a student’s percentage in the class must be 70% or higher. If you wish to receive a P/NP, you must fill out the appropriate forms at the Admissions and Records Office by the official deadline.

GRADE DISTRIBUTION

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<td>Participation</td>
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<td>Homework</td>
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<td>Presentation</td>
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<td>Quizzes</td>
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<td>Chapter Exams</td>
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<td>Final Exam</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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al nopal lo van a ver, sólo cuando tiene tunas.
YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES IN THIS CLASS

• Complete your homework assignments and come to class prepared.
• Consult the course calendar for all exam and assignment due dates.
• Speak to me if you have any questions or concerns related to this class.
• If you need help, be pro-active; form a study group, see me during office hours, or request tutoring.
• If for any reason you are absent, email me or have a classmate pick up any material passed out while you were away. Absences are not an excuse for not completing homework or keeping up with the course material.
• Follow proper college etiquette.

REMEMBER

Learning a new language is an enriching experience. Learning how to speak Spanish in the U.S. is practical and, in some instances, essential. In part to this practicality and usefulness, Spanish is the most commonly studied foreign language in the U.S. So whether you are taking this course to fulfill unit requirements, or simply because you want to learn Spanish; remember that although learning a new language takes time, hard work, and dedication, it can also be exciting and very rewarding.