



Fall 2008

DESTINOS ELEMENTARY SPANISH I

Name of Course: Destinos
Course #: SPN101.910 Elementary Spanish I
Faculty: Nancy Virumbrales, Foreign Language Instructor
Office: Bodie 248
Office Hours: Contact instructor
Phone Number: (630) 466-7900, ext. 2382
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Timeline: You must complete all course work by [December 8th, 2008](#).

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Course Description: *Destinos* is a beginning language course that allows learners to hear Spanish and experience some of the cultural diversity of the Spanish-speaking world. Through a comprehension-based approach, students develop listening, writing, reading, and some speaking skills. Emphasis is on listening to native speakers in story-based conversations and explanations that students can understand at the elementary level and from which they can learn.

Course Objectives: Upon completion of this course the student viewer should be able to:

1. Understand most Spanish spoken at a slower than normal pace and understand some Spanish spoken at a normal pace.
2. Use skills and coping strategies for filling in the gaps of imperfect comprehension.
3. Ask and answer questions briefly on a variety of everyday topics.
4. Describe people, places, and things with elementary vocabulary.
5. Narrate briefly in the present tense.
6. Begin to use the past tense.
7. Perform daily routines such as greeting, leave-taking, and answering the phone.
8. Read simple materials and begin to understand materials written for native speakers.
9. Write brief descriptions and narrations in the present tense.
10. Write elementary-level sentences about past events using regular verbs.

Textbooks, DVD's and CDs: Both the student textbook and the workbook/study guide are required and available from the bookstores at both the Sugar Grove and Aurora campuses. The textbook will come with a set of CDs for use with the textbook readings. The CDs that come with the book may be sold back

with the book or (if you decide to keep the book) kept.

1. Destinos: An Introduction to Spanish. (2nd ed. of alt. ed.)
Bill van Patten, Martha Alford Marks & Richard V. Teschner,
McGraw-Hill, 2002.
2. Destinos: An Introduction to Spanish, Workbook & Study Guide I.
(2nd ed. of alt. ed.) Bill van Patten (Lecciones 1-26), McGraw-Hill, 2002.

This course also requires the use of a telecourse box set which includes DVDs and CDs. The CD's that come with the box set are not the same as the CD's you receive with the textbook and must be returned with the set. The box set is available through the Distance Learning Office, Sugar Grove campus, Collins Hall, room 145. There is no extra fee to rent a complete box set. If you are unable to come to the Sugar Grove campus to pick up a complete set, please call to explore your options. The phone number is 630-466-2402.

Course Requirements:

A. Tests

Lessons 1 through 13 must be completed for Elementary Spanish I. For study and testing purposes, the 13 lessons have been grouped as follows and each of the five tests requires a listening portion as well as a writing portion. All tests will be made available [August 25](#) and should be taken in the Center for Learning Assessment on either the Sugar Grove or Aurora campus.

Test #1	Lessons 1, 2, 3
Test #2	Lessons 4, 5, 6
Test #3	Lessons 7, 8, 9
Test #4	Lessons 10, 11, 12
Test #5	Lessons 13, review of 1-12

B. Conversation / Help Sessions

There will be three conversation/help sessions offered during the semester. You are required to attend at least one of them, but may attend all of them for practice, questions, and review. If you cannot attend these sessions because of work or family obligations, you must arrange some alternative activity with your instructor. The instructor will not call you. You must communicate your situation to the instructor.

C. Written Assignments

For each of the 13 lessons, you will complete a worksheet and a self-test found at the back of the Workbook / Study Guide. The written activities correspond to the lesson for each video (i.e. for Lesson 1, do activity C on page 6). A completed worksheet and self-test must be handed into your instructor for each lesson. You can mail the materials or leave them in your instructor's mailbox in Bodie Hall at Waubensee's Sugar Grove campus. Lesson 6 is a review lesson and has no self-test. Do the activities

and write a short composition for this lesson on you and your family. The composition should be at least 15 sentences in length.

D. Oral Interview

You will speak in Spanish with your instructor, using vocabulary and structures learned in lessons 1-13 for the last test. Call me to set up an interview time of 10-15 minutes during finals week.

E. Field Assignment

You are required to experience the Hispanic world in one field assignment from the following possibilities. Choose one topic and report on it in either written or oral form as indicated.

- 1) Interview a Hispanic person you know about his or her "familia." Find out who is in the family, their names, where they live, what they are like, and any other significant information. Prepare your questions in advance in Spanish and write out what you learn in Spanish (12-15 sentences in Spanish).
- 2) Go to the Waubensee Library, use the Internet or any other research tool and find out who Francisco Goya (or any other Spanish or Latin American artist) was, where he lived, what made him famous. Write a 12-15-sentence summary in the present tense about your findings in Spanish.
- 3) Go to a Mexican or Latin American Grocery store. Explore and find out if there are any differences between your grocery store and this one. What kind of chiles, beans, tortillas, and herbal cures are available? Are the fruit and meat sections different? Write up your observations in Spanish in 12-15 sentences using the present tense.

Grading:

Your final grade will be based on the following required activities that total 760 points.

Five (5) tests values at 100 points each.

Twelve (12) homework assignments (worksheets and self-tests) and one composition for Lesson 6 valued at ten (10) points each.

One conversation / help session valued at 50 points.

One field assignment valued at 80 points.

A = 711 points or higher

B = 632 points or higher

C = 553 points or higher

D = 474 points or higher

If you are unable to complete the course on or before [December 8](#), you may request an extension **in writing to me**. You may also withdraw

officially from the course by writing to either the registrar or myself. Failure to withdraw officially from the course will earn a grade of "F" in the course because you will have failed to complete all of the course requirements.

Notes:

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me using the contact information on the first page of this syllabus or contact the Distance Learning Office at (630) 466-2402.

(Please contact your instructor for more information regarding the Possible Test Schedule. The instructor will also mail copies of the test schedule to all Fall 2008 SPN101.910 students when it is finalized. Thank you.)

Possible Test Schedule

Orientation to course (Call instructor before you begin to study or if you have any questions.)	_____
Test # 1	_____
Conversation/Help Session # 1	_____
Test # 2	_____
Conversation/Help Session # 2	_____
Test # 3	_____
Conversation/Help Session # 3	_____
Test # 4	_____
Test # 5	_____

These dates for testing are suggestions about how you could divide your time in order to complete the course in a timely manner.

The Conversation/Help Sessions are held in my office, Bodie 248. You are responsible for attending at least one of them. If you cannot attend, you must call me to schedule another activity.