



Course Title: **Spanish 1**

Date of Last Revision: **March 2020**

Course Grade Levels: **9th Grade**

Prerequisite: **none**

### Course Overview:

This course introduces students with little or no previous knowledge of Spanish to important grammar and vocabulary to assist them in developing the four basic language skills: speaking, listening, reading, and writing. Students secure a grasp of the fundamentals of Spanish using the following methods: drill, continual review of vocabulary, listening exercises, short readings, writing assignments, in-class presentations, dialogues and other conversational activities. They are also exposed through readings and projects to cultural elements of the Spanish-speaking world.

To achieve the course objectives, students are expected to adhere to the following guidelines:

1. Students must prepare thoroughly for each class session by completing all of the homework assigned.
2. Students must participate actively during in class exercises and activities while limiting themselves to speaking primarily in Spanish.
3. Students will be directed to appropriate online dictionaries (WordReference.com). They must avoid using English or Spanglish in completing homework assignments, during in-class activities, while doing in-class presentations or when taking an oral test.
4. Students are encouraged to ask questions after class or they should set up a time for extra help sessions if they remain unclear about any of the course material after a lesson.

### Texts and Materials Used for Instruction:

1. Descubre 1 textbook and online Supersite and e-Cuaderno (Vistas Higher Learning)
2. Supplemental readings, TPRS mini-novels

### Course Content:

#### A. Grammar

1. Introduction to the functions and structures of the language
2. The verb ser
3. Singular/plural of nouns
4. Adjectives: gender, number and position
5. Adverbs
6. Present tense of regular ar, er, ir verbs
7. Present tense of irregular ar, er, ir verbs
8. Present tense of stem changing ar, er ir verbs

9. Tener and expressions with Tener
10. Possessive adjectives
11. Present progressive
12. Simple future tense (ir + a + infinitive)
13. Reflexive pronouns
14. Ser vs. Estar
15. Conocer vs. Saber
16. Gustar and verbs like gustar
17. Demonstratives
18. Indefinite and negative words
19. Interrogative words
20. Direct and indirect object pronouns
21. Introduction to the preterite tense

#### B. Vocabulary

1. Greetings and salutations
2. Interrogative words
3. Items in a classroom/subjects in school and other related vocabulary
4. The numbers (0 - 1,000,000)
5. Ordinal numbers
6. Colors
7. Day months, and seasons
8. Time
9. People/characteristics/professions/origins/nationalities
10. Sports and other recreational activities
11. Places in the city
12. Daily routine activities / personal hygiene
13. The family
14. Modes of transportation and other related activities
15. Clothing

#### A. Culture

1. Educational systems in Hispanic countries
2. Country focus (USA, Spain, Ecuador, Mexico, Puerto Rico, Cuba, Perú and Guatemala)
3. The importance of family / family relationships
4. Pastimes / sports in Hispanic countries
5. Hispanic holidays
6. Popular songs in Spanish
7. Indigenous cultures in Latin America (Mayas, Aztecs, Incas)
8. Stores and shopping in Hispanic countries

### Instructional Methods & Strategies:

The course is conducted in primarily in Spanish with occasional use of English for clarification. An immersion method is

used to develop students' oral proficiency and listening skills as well as communicative strategies in the target language. Additionally, video, audio, print and textual media provide exposure to the Spanish-speaking world. Previously studied linguistic and vocabulary topics are recycled along with introduction of new topics. Board work and oral work, listening and reading comprehension activities, conversational pair or small group work, language games, video or audio viewing and discussion make up the elements of class work.

### **Typical Assignments:**

#### **A. Homework**

Homework is assigned after each class meeting and is divided into Day 1 and 2 to encourage students to practice on days when class does not meet. Assignments may be online exercises from their textbook Supersite, written activities on worksheets, oral comprehension activities via the text online audio, original sentences or short paragraphs or short reading assignments. Assignments may also include oral practice in preparation for their oral assessments.

#### **B. Written assessments**

During the first semester, students learn to write statements and questions using proper syntax and gradually learn to construct complex sentences and paragraphs. Beginning in the second semester, Students will have in class writing assessments at the completion of each thematic unit that require the incorporation of vocabulary and grammar indicated by the teacher along with paying close attention to language structures already introduced. Students will be asked to revise the essays after the instructor has marked any errors with correction symbols.

#### **C. Oral assessments**

Students will receive an oral participation grade based on in-class exercises such as: questions-answers using gram-

matical patterns, verb drills, role playing, pair conversation language games, debates and skits. Students' positive attitude, general demeanor, citizenship, and self-initiative also contribute to their participation grade. Oral evaluations may entail recording themselves answering personal questions or questions of interpretation about a reading using the Descubre Voiceboard or online tools, giving presentations (an original dialogue or sharing information about oneself), or recitation of a poem. Oral evaluations are based on accuracy, use of target vocabulary and grammar, fluency and correct pronunciation.

#### **D. Tests and quizzes**

Short quizzes may be given at any time typically at the end of a class period to summarize the main points of a lesson, or at the beginning of a class as a homework comprehension check. These may be given orally, online or with short written answers.

Vocabulary and grammar exams are given upon completion of a thematic unit, generally once a month. Exams are cumulative, though focus on the most recently learned material. Studying for a quiz or test involves reviewing the previous grammar and vocabulary learned. Students will not be allowed to retake any quiz or exam, though if they do poorly, they are required to come correct their tests and may earn some points back. Unit tests may consist of

1. Vocabulary
2. Grammar
3. Short composition
4. Translations
5. Listening comprehension
6. Reading comprehension

The final exam at the end of each semester will include an oral exam that will be given during the last week of classes.



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