



## SPA101: Elementary Spanish I

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### Faculty Information

**Instructor:**

**Contact Info:**

**Office/Student Hours:**

**Link to Zoom:**

### Course Description

Welcome to Spanish 101: Elementary Spanish I. This **accelerated online** course will help you begin at the novice level according to [ACTEL](#). This course will give you a basic foundation of Spanish language skills and knowledge of the cultures of the Spanish-speaking world. This course is designed to help you develop your Spanish language proficiency in speaking, writing, reading, and listening and your intercultural communicative competence as it relates to Spanish-speaking cultures.

**Credits:** 4

**Note:** This is an **accelerated 7.5-week course** for students capable of working in a fast-paced environment. The time required for this course is 180 hours (about 20-24 hours per week). Students may be placed in SPA 101 through the [ASU Undergraduate Placement Test \(Spanish\)](#).

**Prerequisites:** Spanish Placement Test score of 0-249; Students may not enroll in SPA 101 if credit with C or better earned in SPA 102 or 110 or 111 or 201 or 202 or 203 or 204 or 210 or 313 or 314 or 315 or 316 or 325 or 412.

### Course Learning Outcomes

**ACTFL Guidelines**

Students who successfully complete SPA 101 will be able to communicate at the novice-mid level according to the [ACTFL Guidelines](#). This means that students will be able to:

1. **Communicate** short messages on predictable, everyday topics.
2. **Use** learned words and phrases to carry out simple conversations.
3. Successfully **participate** in simple conversations with native speakers and **be aware** of cultural differences.
4. **Explain** and draw comparisons of some cultural differences between their own culture and Hispanic cultures.

## Types of Communication

The content of this class has been designed to develop your ability to communicate in several different modes.

- **Interpersonal Communication:** Learners interact and negotiate meaning in spoken, signed, or written conversations to share information, reactions, feelings, and opinions.
- **Interpretive Communication:** Learners understand, interpret, and analyze what is heard, read, or viewed on a variety of topics.
- **Presentational Communication:** Learners present information, concepts, and ideas to inform, explain, persuade, and narrate on a variety of topics using appropriate media and adapting to various audiences of listeners, readers, or viewers.
- **Intercultural Communication:** Learners have the ability to interact with people from another country and culture in a foreign language.

For more information, visit the Modes of Communication page for examples.

Source: ACTFL (2017). NCSSFL-ACTFL Can-Do Statements: 2017 Edition. Alexandria, VA: ACTFL

## Course Learning Objectives

At the completion of this course, students will be able to do the following:

### Interpersonal (IP)

- IP 1.1: Communicate and exchange information about familiar topics using phrases and simple sentences.
- IP 1.2: Use non-verbal communication skills and the appropriate register of language in everyday contexts.

### Presentational (P)

- P 2.1: Provide basic information on familiar topics using memorized words and phrases, simple sentences, and already practiced language in oral and written formats.

## Interpretative (IT)

- IT 3.1: Identify the main idea and some details from authentic materials (oral and written format) about familiar topics related to everyday life.

## Intercultural (IC)

- IC 4.1: Describe people, products, practices, and perspectives of Spanish-speaking communities.

## What kind of Spanish will I be learning?

Students often ask what kind of Spanish they'll be learning. In reality, our learning materials are international, with audio and videos demonstrating accents, vocabulary, and cultural content from all over the Spanish speaking world, including from Spanish speakers in the United States. Although the specific variety of Spanish that you'll be hearing in class will depend on where your instructor is from/has lived/has studied or worked, you will be well prepared to use Spanish in the United States or anywhere that you go. It's also important to note that no one variety of Spanish is "better" or "worse" than another--although you'll be learning a more academic variety, varieties that Spanish speakers use at home or in informal settings are equally valid. A lot can be gained, both linguistically and culturally, from interacting with your peers, friends, family members, and other speakers of Spanish, regardless of where they're from or how "formal" or academic their Spanish is.

## Textbooks

The official textbook for this course is an online platform called **Contraseña 6.0** from **LingroLearning** by Gillian Lord, Amy Rossomondo, and Jennifer Vojtko Rubí. This course will use information from **Unidades 1-6**. Please see the "Purchase and Access Your Textbook on LingroLearning" page in Module 0 for more information about the online textbook and purchasing options.

## Course Access

Your ASU courses can be accessed by both [my.asu.edu](https://my.asu.edu) and [canvas.asu.edu](https://canvas.asu.edu); bookmark both in the event that one site is down.

## Computer Requirements

This is a fully online course; therefore, it requires a computer with internet access and the following technologies:

- Web browsers ([Chrome](#), [Mozilla Firefox](#), or [Safari](#))
- [Adobe Acrobat Reader](#) (free)
- Webcam, microphone, headset/earbuds, and speaker

- Microsoft Office ([Microsoft 365 is free](#) for all currently-enrolled ASU students)
- Reliable broadband internet connection (DSL or cable) to stream videos.

*Note:* A smartphone, iPad, Chromebook, etc. **will not be** sufficient for completing your work in ASU Online courses. While you will be able to access course content with mobile devices, you must use a computer for all assignments, quizzes, and virtual labs.

## Help

For technical support, use the Help icon in the black global navigation menu in your Canvas course or call the ASU Help Desk at 1+(855) 278-5080. Representatives are available to assist you 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

## Student Success

To be successful:

- check the course daily
- read announcements
- read and respond to course email messages as needed
- complete assignments by the due dates specified
- communicate regularly with your instructor and peers
- create a study and/or assignment schedule to stay on track
- access [ASU Online Student Resources](#)
- Schedule a [free tutoring appointment](#) with SILC Learning Support Services.

## Assignment Descriptions

### Course Readiness (2%)

Estimated time required: 1-2 hours at the beginning of the course

Description: This category helps you prepare for your course, including a syllabus quiz, LOM, and student introduction.

These activities are designed to prepare you for the course and give you a brief introduction to course content and structure. You will complete most activities in **Module 0** to complete this step.

### Vocabulary - Cerego (6%)

Estimated time required: 1 hour per week (10 minutes a day)

Description: Cerego is a memory-management tool that will help you learn vocabulary items more quickly and remember them longer, thanks to scheduled reviews personalized to your own progress.

In each module, you will work with the vocabulary of the associated chapter. In the review modules, you will work with the vocabulary covered until that point in the semester. You will receive credit for your performance in each set when you reach a 1.5 level. For good performance, you should study **10-15 minutes per day**. You will receive emails from Cerego reminding you to interact with the material and refresh your memories. We recommend that you use the **mobile app**. Download the Cerego app on the App Store or on Google Play. This type of application will allow you to use it on your way to work, while waiting in line for coffee or whenever you have a few free minutes.

### **Contraseña Homework (25%)**

Estimated time required: 4-6 hours per week

Description: LingroLearning is the online platform of the course. It contains grammar presentations, video tutorials, and practice activities. It is **crucial** that you spend the allotted time studying and practicing the different concepts as these activities will help prepare you for the successful completion of each module project. You will have three due dates per week but will receive one grade per module.

To help you process what you learn and establish good study habits, activities are due on LingroLearning three days a week. Since due dates are set from the beginning of the semester, you can always **work ahead**, but we recommend that you spend at least 4-6 hours a week with the material.

The grade assigned to each online assignment will be based on performance. Therefore, **BEFORE** doing your computer-graded activities, you **are expected to study the vocabulary and the grammar explanations** in LingroLearning. Grammar explanations are in English and are clear and concise. If after studying the explanations you still have doubts, discuss them with your instructor during their office hours, in the community forum with your classmates, or in another learning community.

For each activity, you will receive a grade based on the accuracy of your performance. For most activities, you will be allowed unlimited attempts, however, there may be some activities that have set attempts. Note that spelling and accent marks will signal a difference in your performance, as will proper vocabulary and sentence structure.

Online activities are due **at 11:59 pm Arizona time**. After that time, homework will **NOT** be accepted.

### **Instructor Virtual Sessions Meetings (12%)**

**Instructor session - a virtual synchronous meeting with your classmates and your instructor.**

This assignment will take place via Zoom, ASU's video conferencing software. These sessions are designed for you to practice the grammar concepts and vocabulary of the module and your oral communication skills with your classmates with the guidance of your instructor. You will be expected to prepare for the module before the session through a material review of grammar and vocabulary. Your instructor will provide you with feedback

during and/or after the session on your progress and you are also expected to produce Spanish impromptu during the session.

### **Linguameeting Virtual Sessions Meetings (18%)**

Expected time required (each): 1.5 hours per week (1 hour of preparation, 30 min of speaking)

#### **Linguameeting: a virtual meeting with your classmates and a native speaker.**

This assignment will take place via Linguameeting. These sessions are designed for you to discuss Hispanic cultures in context and to practice your Spanish using the vocabulary and grammatical structures of the module with a native speaker and your classmates. You will be expected to prepare before the session through a material review of grammar and vocabulary to enable you to express yourself in Spanish according to the sessions topic listings (included in the Linguameeting links included in all modules and the lowest score will be dropped automatically. **During the course you will be able to drop your lowest of the 6 meetings for a total of 5 meetings counting toward your score.**

### **Module Projects (3) (25%)**

Expected time required: 4-6 hours per module

Description: Three module projects will be assigned on LingoLearning during the course. Each project, corresponding to a unit on LingoLearning, consists of four interconnected assignments that will require you to use either oral or written communication as well as to react to your peers' assignments and reflect on your own language learning process. The four assignments will focus on a specific context related to each module and will include *preparar* (preparing), *publicar* (publishing), *comentar* (commenting), and *reflexionar* (reflecting). **These projects have parts where the student has to produce oral and/or written in Spanish (Preparar, Publicar, Comentar) and some in English (Preparar and Reflexionar).**

### **Grammar Checks (6) (12%)**

Expected Time Required: ~30 minutes per module (30 minutes of testing + review)

Description of the Grammar Checks: This short assessment will take place at the end of the module to help you understand where you are in terms of your understanding of the grammar. While our courses focus on projects and what we can **do** with the language, grammar is still an important part of language learning. Each grammar check will have **three attempts** and be timed for 50 minutes. Grammar checks will cover unit **vocabulary**, **gramática I** and **gramática II**. These low-stakes assessments are meant to help you as you continue to acquire structures that will help you in your speaking, writing, listening, and reading. We recommend that you follow the instructions closely before beginning the exam. You should truly focus on what you **can do** to get an accurate representation of your needs!

# Course Schedule

The following schedule is an overview of each module.

Module	Tareas
Module 0 - Bienvenidos	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Course Readiness Activities (Necessary to begin course)</li><li>- LingroLearning</li><li>- Language Orientation Module (LOM)</li></ul>
Module 1 - Unidad 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- LingroLearning 1</li><li>- Cerego 1</li><li>- Virtual Session with Instructor 1</li><li>- Grammar Check 1</li><li>- Linguameeting 1</li></ul>
Module 2 - Unidad 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- LingroLearning 2</li><li>- Cerego 2</li><li>- Linguameeting 2</li><li>- Module Project 1 (begin)</li><li>- Grammar Check 2</li></ul>
Module 3 - Unidad 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- LingroLearning 3</li><li>- Cerego 3</li><li>- Virtual Session with Instructor 2</li><li>- Module Project 1 (finish)</li><li>- Grammar Check 3</li><li>- Linguameeting 3</li></ul>
Module 4 - Unidad 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- LingroLearning 4</li><li>- Cerego 4</li><li>- Linguameeting 4</li><li>- Module Project 2 (begin)</li><li>- Grammar Check 4</li></ul>
Module 5 - Unidad 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- LingroLearning 5</li><li>- Cerego 5</li><li>- Virtual Session with Instructor 3</li><li>- Module Project 2 (finish)</li><li>- Module Project 3 (begin)</li><li>- Grammar Check 5</li><li>- Linguameeting 5</li></ul>

Module 6 - Unidad 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- LingroLearning 6</li> <li>- Cerego 6</li> <li>- Linguameeting 6</li> <li>- Module Project 3 (finish)</li> <li>- Grammar Check 6</li> <li>- Final Course Evaluation</li> </ul>
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## Grading

Assignment	Percentage
Course Readiness	2%
Vocabulary (Cerego) (6)	6%
Online Coursework (LingroLearning) (6)	25%
Virtual Sessions with Instructor (3)	12%
Projects (Canvas, based on LingroLearning) (3)	25%
Virtual Sessions with Linguameeting (5)	18%
Grammar checks (6)	12%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>



# Grading Schema

Your grade will be determined based on the following grading schema:

Grade	Percentage
A+	100% - 97%
A	<97-93%
A-	<93-90%
B+	<90-87%
B	<87-83%
B-	<83-80%
C+	<80-76%
C	<76-70%
D	<70-60%
E	<60%
EN	Failing Never Participated
EU	Failing Did Not Complete

For more information on ASU Grades and grading policies please visit <https://students.asu.edu/grades>

## Submitting Assignments

All assignments, unless otherwise announced, **MUST be submitted to the designated area of Canvas**. Do not submit an assignment via email.

Assignments will be submitted on Canvas using a variety of tools. Please see Module 0 for more information on the types of tools you will be using.

Assignment due dates follow Arizona Standard time. Click the following link to access the [Time Converter](#) to ensure your account for the difference in Time Zones. Note: Arizona does not observe daylight savings time.

## Grading Procedure

Grades reflect your performance on assignments and adherence to deadlines. Most graded assignments will be available within 72 hours of the due date via the Grades.

## Late or Missed Assignments

Notify the instructor **BEFORE** an assignment is due if an urgent situation arises and you are unable to submit the assignment on time. Make sure to include documentation when applicable (Review [ASU Online Course Policies](#)).

Follow the appropriate University policies to request an [accommodation for religious practices](#) or to accommodate a missed assignment [due to University-sanctioned activities](#).

Remember that participation and submission of required assignments begin from your first day of enrollment in the course. If you added late, please contact your instructor immediately to make a plan and get in writing the dates by which you are able to submit any assignments already missed.

## Academic Integrity

Note: For all written or oral assignments, you may not use your textbook to copy phrases or sentences or any electronic device with the exception of a dictionary. Please be aware that we encourage the use of dictionaries such as <http://www.wordreference.com/>, spell checkers such as <http://www.spanishchecker.com>, and spell checking tools built into Microsoft Word or Google Docs, but the use of AI, online translation tools, copying information from websites or consulting a Spanish-speaking person while completing assignments is not allowed. All work that you submit must be your own and must be written in your own words. Translating or having a tutor or native speaker alter your work will be treated as violations of the Academic Integrity Policy.

# Track Your Progress

We encourage you to use the "What-If Grades" feature in Canvas to track your progress in this course. You can enter a hypothetical grade for any assignment to approximate how a certain grade may impact your overall grade in the course. Visit "[How do I approximate my assignment scores using the What-If Grades feature](#)" for more information.

## Communicating with the Instructor

### Community Forum

This course uses a discussion topic called "Community Forum" for general questions and comments about the course. Prior to posting a question or comment, check the syllabus, announcements, and existing posts to ensure it's not redundant. You are encouraged to respond to the questions of your classmates.

Your instructor will not answer any questions in this forum. Use Canvas Inbox or Email questions of a personal nature to your instructor. You can expect a response within 24 hours.

### Email

ASU email is an [official means of communication](#) among students, faculty, and staff. Students are expected to read and act upon email in a timely fashion. Students bear the responsibility of missed messages and should check their ASU-assigned email regularly.

***All instructor correspondence will be sent to your ASU email account. You must send a new email from your ASU email to contact your instructor.***

### Canvas Announcements

It is your responsibility to activate email notifications for your Canvas announcements for this course. If you need help reviewing your notifications, please check the appropriate Canvas forum [here](#). You can also view your course announcements via your [MyASU page](#) under "My Classes" on the home page.

### Netiquette for Online Students

Netiquette, or "good" online behavior, is essential to maintaining a healthy and productive learning environment in online classes. Check out these tips to ensure you're being professional and friendly in your online classes.

<https://asuonline.asu.edu/newsroom/online-learning-tips/netiquette-online-students/>

## Course Policies

View the [Spanish Department Course Policies](#) that include:

- Student Code of Conduct
- Establishing a Safe Environment
- Academic Integrity
- Title IX
- Inclusion
- Disability Accommodations
- Harassment
- Mental Health
- Trigger Warning

## ASU Online Course Policies

View the [ASU Online Course Policies](#)

## Accessibility Statements

View the [ASU Online Student Accessibility](#) page to review accessibility statements for common tools and resources used in ASU Online courses.

If any other tools are used in this course, links to the accessibility statements will be listed below this sentence. Please review this [document](#) on modifying your notifications if you are not sure they are activated.

## Syllabus Disclaimer

The syllabus is a statement of intent and serves as an implicit agreement between the instructor and the student. Every effort will be made to avoid changing the course schedule but the possibility exists that unforeseen events will make syllabus changes necessary. Remember to check your ASU email and the course sites often. If you have any questions, please contact your course instructor first, then the program coordinator, Dr. Daniel Vargas, [daniel.vargas@asu.edu](mailto:daniel.vargas@asu.edu)

## Title IX

Title IX is a federal law that provides that no person be excluded on the basis of sex from participation in, be denied benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity. Both Title IX and university policy make clear that sexual violence and harassment based on sex is prohibited. An individual who believes they have been subjected to sexual violence or harassed on the basis of sex can seek support, including counseling and academic support, from the university. If you or someone you know has

been harassed on the basis of sex or sexually assaulted, you can find information and resources at <https://sexualviolenceprevention.asu.edu/faqs>.

As a mandated reporter, I am obligated to report any information I become aware of regarding alleged acts of sexual discrimination, including sexual violence and dating violence. ASU Counseling Services, <https://eoss.asu.edu/counseling> is available if you wish to discuss any concerns confidentially and privately. ASU online students may access 360 Life Services, <https://goto.asuonline.asu.edu/success/online-resources.html>.