



SPA 101 Elementary Spanish Section 25521 Syllabus

Glendale Community College
Fall 2024

Instructor Information

- **Instructor:** James T. Abraham, Ph.D.
- **Office Location:** GCC Main 02-104/GCC North A 114
- **Office Hours:** M/W 3-4 PM North/T/Th 8:30 – 9, 11-11:30 AM, by appointment
- **Phone:** 623.239.1202 (Google Voice)/623.845.4609 (my GCC Main office)
- **Email:** james.abraham@gccaz.edu

Course Information

- **Course format:** Online
- **Credit hours:** 4
- **Classroom location:** N/A
- **Course days and times:** August 19 – December 13, 2024
- **Instructional Contact Hours & Out-of-Class Student Work:** For this 4 credit hour course, you should plan to spend at least 5 hours on course content outside of class.
- **Final Exam day and time:** Arranged during week of December 9-13

Course Description

Basic grammar, pronunciation and vocabulary of the Spanish language. Includes the study of the Spanish-speaking cultures. Practice of listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills.

Prerequisites: None.

Course Competencies

1. Demonstrate comprehension of written and oral passages that include biographical information, basic questions and descriptions, short narratives, brief dialogues, survival vocabulary, and current events.
2. Compose written passages that include biographical information, basic questions and descriptions, short narratives, brief dialogues, survival vocabulary, and current events.
3. Ask and answer oral questions to satisfy basic needs, express biographical information, provide short descriptions, and participate in very simple conversations.
4. Identify cultural aspects of the target language.



Textbooks, Materials and Technologies

Textbooks

No textbook required. All content will be delivered on the web.

Materials and Technologies

Required

- Learning Modules - <http://jtabraham.org/escape/spanish101modules.aspx>
- Class Wiki - <http://ekbalam.pbworks.com/w/page/61457869/Learning%20Modules>

Recommended

- Spanish Dictionary – <http://spanishdict.com>
- [OER textbook by Jared Reynolds \(will be sent to you via email\)](#)

Attendance Requirements

Attendance in lecture is strongly encouraged and necessary for adequate performance in the class. If you are unable to attend class, please let me know so that I can give you information needed for the following class. This will allow you to actively participate and complete any missing assignments.

Grading Standards & Practices

Your final grade will be based on the percentage of points you earn as follows:

Enrollment: Graded

Letter Grade	Percent Range
A	90-100%
B	80-89%
C	70-79%
D	60-69%
F	0-59%

You will receive a grade of F if you fail to complete the course by the established date or without benefit of an official withdrawal.



Enrollment: Credit/No Credit

Letter Grade	Percent Range	Point Span
P	60-100%	300-500
Z	0-59%	0-299

You will receive a grade of Z if you fail to complete the course by the established date or without benefit of an official withdrawal.

Evaluation Procedures - You are starting the class with 0 points. All points will be earned by completing the following activities. You should keep track of all your points so you know where you stand in the class.

Final Exam Interview	10 pts
Midterm Exam Interview	10 pts
Midterm Exam	10 pts
Final Exam	10 pts
Learning Module Assessments (85)	40 pts
Cultural Paper (2 x 10 pts)	20 pts
Total	100 pts

Midterm/Final Exam Interview: Interviews will be conducted in class. I will ask 5 questions directly from the samples provided and 5 alternated slightly (change of subject, change of information). If you answer correctly, you will receive 1 point. If I need to help you answer, you will receive .5. If you are unable to answer the question, you will receive 0 points for the question.

Midterm/Final Exams: The midterm will cover modules 1-23 and the final 24-45. The exams will be sent to you via email for you to complete at home. Please complete the exam directly in Word and send it back to me as a Word attachment.

Learning Module Assessments: You will complete the 45 grammar and 10 each reading, writing, listening and speaking modules (40 total). You will receive a percentage based on the number of modules you complete during the semester. You must score 100% on the grammar modules to receive credit. See: <http://jtabraham.org/escape/spanish101modules.aspx> to create your account and access the modules.



One-page cultural papers: To better understand Spanish-speaking culture, students will investigate a **topic of their choice**. After considering what they have learned, students will write a one-page summary of their findings. See this page for details, **possible** topics and format: <http://jtabraham.org/spanish102/culturalpaper.aspx>.

Course Outline – Suggested Dates – Nothing closes

Week	Dates	Modules	Other
1	August 19 – August 25	1-4	
2	August 26 – September 1	5-9	Writing 1, Speaking 1
3	September 2 – September 8	10-13	Cultural Paper 1
4	September 9 – September 15	14-15	Listening 1, Reading 1
5	September 16 – September 22	16-18	Writing 2, Speaking 2
6	September 23 – September 29	19-21	
7	September 30 – October 6	22-23	Listening 2, Reading 2, Written Midterm, MIDTERM INTERVIEW
8	October 7 – October 13	24-27	Writing 3, Speaking 3, Listening 3, Reading 3
9	October 14 – October 20	28-29	Writing 4, Speaking 4
10	October 21 – October 27	30-31	Listening 4, Reading 4
11	October 28 – November 3	32-33	Writing 5, Speaking 5, Listening 5, Reading 5
12	November 4 – November 10	34-37	Writing 6, Speaking 6, Listening 6, Reading 6 Cultural Paper 2
13	November 11 – November 17	38-39	Writing 7, Speaking 7, Listening 7, Reading 7
14	November 18 – November 24	40-42	Writing 8, Speaking 8, Listening 8, Reading 8
15	November 25 – December 1	43-45	Writing 9, Speaking 9, Listening 9,



			Reading 9
16	December 2 – December 8		Writing 10, Speaking 10, Listening 10, Reading 10
	December 9 – December 13	Finals	Written Final, FINAL INTERVIEW (12/14/2023)



Instructor/Student Expectations

I would like to challenge you this semester to think about learning in a new way. We are often taught that education is about jumping through hoops to get a grade. I understand. I was a student. This semester, challenge yourself not to merely complete the tasks, but to truly learn. The idea is that you will seek out information until you fully understand a concept. You will be given pages to read and exercises to complete within the online materials. Sometimes these materials are not enough to truly reach an understanding of the concept presented. What I would like to encourage you to do is to seek out other resources to help you totally master the concepts. These resources might be Spanish-speaking contacts, Google, class wiki, web pages or even me (I am glad to meet with you anytime online or in-person). After all, this course should give you real skills that you can employ in your daily life and provide you with more opportunities for being successful.

You will be responsible for gaining access to the technology to complete the course. A computer with high speed Internet access, an Internet Browser, and a headset with microphone (if you would like to conference online) will be required. The High Tech Centers at the GCC campus offer computers, but all coursework may be completed on any computer.

We will not be using a learning management system (LMS) like Canvas. Instead, you will be using a web-based collection of resources including web pages, audio, video, games and activities. I have developed the site myself so you may run into technical issues (I'm a Spanish professor, not a professional software developer ;-)). I would appreciate your help and patience as the semester progresses. Please let me know if you run across any problems or errors. I would like to correct them for future students.

To begin, create an account at <http://jtabraham.org/escape/spanish101modules.aspx>. Do not use any overly personal information since I will have access to the database and do not want to know any of your personal passwords. Use something simple like your name + a number (no spaces). Your username and password can be the same. Once you have created your account and logged in, you'll find a list of all the learning modules, assignments and exams that you will need to complete in order to receive a grade in the course. You can complete these modules in any order, but if you are new to learning Spanish, you will probably want to complete them in order. Learning a language is a process of building on previous knowledge. You will also find links to all resources on my website.



We will be using a class WIKI (<http://ekbalam.pbworks.com>) to keep track of questions and answers related to the learning modules. Before asking a question about a specific module, please check the WIKI to see if your question has already been answered. This should lead to a more organized and specific question/answer space (compared to a discussion board). If you do run into a question in a learning module you are unable to answer, please do not spend too much time trying to figure out the answer on your own. The modules are meant to be done relatively quickly. If you can't answer a question, please seek help so that you don't become overly frustrated and waste your time. It is better to look for an answer or post your question to the WIKI and come back later to find your answer. I do not want you to waste your time endlessly submitting answers to questions until you get the right one. Your time is very valuable and I want you to understand what the correct answer is and how you arrived at it. If your question is a personal matter, please contact me by e-mail. You should expect a reply from me within 12 hours.

Classroom Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Maricopa County Community College District (MCCCD) and its associated colleges are committed to providing equitable access to learning opportunities to students with documented disabilities (e.g. mental health, attentional, learning, chronic health, sensory, or physical). Each class/term/semester that a student is in need of academic adjustments/accommodations, the qualified student is required to work with the Disability Resources & Services Office (DRS) at their individual college(s). Contact with the DRS should be made as soon as possible to ensure academic needs are met in a reasonable time. New and returning students must request accommodations each semester through DRS Connect online services. To learn more about this easy process, please contact your local DRS office.

If you have not yet established services through DRS, but have a temporary health condition or permanent disability that requires accommodations, you are welcome to contact DRS by using the information listed on the following webpage: <https://district.maricopa.edu/consumer-information/disability-resources/contacts>. The DRS offers resources and coordinates reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities and/or temporary health conditions qualifying for accommodations/academic adjustments. Reasonable accommodations are established through an interactive process between you, your faculty, and DRS; and only those academic adjustments/reasonable accommodations granted by the DRS are recognized by the college and District. It is the policy and practice of the MCCCD to create inclusive and accessible learning environments consistent with federal and state law. If you are pregnant or parenting (as protected



under Title IX) and would like to discuss possible academic adjustments, please contact Disability Resources & Services Office.

Addressing Incidents of Sexual Harassment/Assault, Dating/Domestic Violence, and Stalking

In accordance with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, MCCCDC prohibits unlawful sex discrimination against any participant in its education programs or activities. The District also prohibits sexual harassment—including sexual violence—committed by or against students, District employees, and visitors to campus. As outlined in District policy, sexual harassment, dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking are considered forms of "Sexual Misconduct" prohibited by District policy.

District policy requires all college and District employees in a teaching, managerial, or supervisory role to report all incidents of Sexual Misconduct that come to their attention in any way, including but not limited to face-to-face conversations, a written class assignment or paper, class discussion, email, text, or social media post. Incidents of Sexual Misconduct should be reported to the college Title IX Coordinator. MCCCDC will provide on its [Title IX Coordinators web page](#), a link to all the [Title IX Coordinators](#) in the district. Reports may also be reported at: <https://district.maricopa.edu/consumer-information/reporting>.

Student Rights & Responsibilities

You are expected to know and comply with all current published policies, rules and regulations as printed in the college [Academic Catalog](#), [Syllabus](#), and/or [Student Handbook](#).

Academic Catalog: <http://www.gccaz.edu/gcc-catalog>

Student Handbook: <http://www.gccaz.edu/student-life/office-student-life/student-handbook>

The information in this syllabus is subject to change based on the discretion of the instructor. You will be notified by the instructor of any changes in course requirements or policies.

Information for Students with Academic Adjustment Needs

- If you have a documented disability (as protected by The Americans with Disabilities Act Amendment Act), please contact Disability Resources & Services Office.
- If you are pregnant or parenting (as protected under Title IX) and would like to discuss possible academic adjustments, please contact Disability Resources & Services Office.



- If you are experiencing difficulty accessing course materials because of a disability, please contact your instructor and the Disability Resources & Services Office. All students should have equal access to course materials and technology.