

**SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY  
PROGRAM OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES  
SYLLABUS**

**SPANISH 141 - ELEMENTARY SPANISH I**

4 Credit hours: 3 class hours, 1 lab hour weekly

Fall 2007

Evans 318

TT 8-9:20am

**Professor John Pluecker**

\_\_\_\_\_@shsu.edu

Office: SK 210

Office Hours: TTh 10-12:00; other days & times by appointment

**DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:** An introduction to the basics of speaking and understanding Spanish. Stress is placed on aural and oral skills. One one-hour language laboratory periods weekly are required.

\*For non-native speakers of Spanish. Native Spanish speakers should take the CLEP or register for 264.

**STYLE**

This course has two delivery methods: an on-line BLACKBOARD for information outside class meetings and a student-centered format in class meetings. Material is presented in a variety of ways to facilitate understanding and enable practice of concepts. Activities emphasize listening comprehension, speaking and writing of Spanish.

**GENERAL GOALS (Optimal results):**

1. Increased **AWARENESS** of and **APPRECIATION** for Hispanic language and culture
2. A minimal **VOCABULARY** in Spanish.
3. Ability to **CONJUGATE** regular, stem-changing, and many irregular verbs in basic tenses.
4. Ability to carry on minimal **LIFE-SUPPORT CONVERSATIONS** related to visiting/living in a Spanish-speaking country, e.g., arrange and execute transportation, accommodations, meals, etc.
5. Ability to carry on minimal **SOCIAL CONVERSATIONS**, adapting to unexpected questions or responses

## **COURSE OBJECTIVES (Optimal activities)**

1. To **LISTEN** to and comprehend a survival percentage of standard Spanish spoken at average native speed by concentrating on major words known (with the help of cognates) and by making educated guesses at the rest.
2. To **SPEAK** without notes (or read aloud) a survival percentage of standard Spanish with few enough pronunciation errors (speed secondary) to be comprehended by a native speaker
3. To **READ** and comprehend a survival percentage of standard Spanish by concentrating on major words known (with the help of cognates) and by making educated guesses at the rest.
4. To **WRITE** at a survival level in standard Spanish with few enough grammar errors to be comprehended by a native speaker.

## **CLASSROOM RULES OF CONDUCT**

Please refer to <https://www.shsu.edu/students/guide/dean/codeofconduct.html>

**PLACEMENT EXAM:** If you have previous experience with the Spanish language, you should take the CLEP exam to determine your level and to gain credit by examination. Those wanting to take the CLEP exam should sign up with Ms. Terri Harvey, Undergraduate Admissions, Tel 294-1221. She will schedule a time for you to take the exam.

**TEXTBOOK:** Eduardo Zayas-Bazán and Susan M. Bacon; ¡Arriba! Comunicación y cultura; Fifth Edition. Along with your textbook, you will be purchasing an access code which will allow you to use the online version of the workbook and lab manuals. The access code will be in a sealed, cardboard envelope. Do not misplace it. Take the access code to the first day of lab.

**EXAMS:** There are five (5) Exams during the semester. There will be no provision for making up any of them. If you miss one of them, the following test will count double. If the last test is missed, the test will count for "0" unless there is an extremely well justified reason in which case a make up exam will be scheduled within 24 hours.

**ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY:** A total of THREE HOURS (whether justified or not) of absences are permitted. After 3 hrs. of absences, each subsequent hour will deduct ONE POINT from the semester grade. FYI: TWO absences from the lab = ONE from the classroom. Please note that this reflects SHSU's current attendance policy as stated in the Student Handbook. Regardless of the reason for your absence, you are

required to complete any in-class work. Obtain the information regarding what you missed from the instructor.

**EVALUATIONS:** Your final grade will be based on the following:

- 50% 5 chapter exams
- 20% Comprehensive final exam
- 10% Homework – Workbook and Lab
- 10% Quizzes
- 10% Oral Interview

**\*\*\*IT IS MANDATORY THAT EVERY STUDENT TAKE THE FINAL EXAM.  
ALL FINAL EXAMS ARE COMPREHENSIVE!\*\*\***

**Student Syllabus Guidelines:** You may find online a more detailed description of the following policies. These guidelines will also provide you with a link to the specific university policy or procedure:

<http://www.shsu.edu/syllabus/>

**Academic Dishonesty:** Students are expected to maintain honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. *See Student Syllabus Guidelines.*

**Classroom Rules of Conduct:** Students are expected to assist in maintaining a classroom environment that is conducive to learning. Students are to treat faculty and students with respect. Students are to turn off all cell phones while in the classroom. Under no circumstances are cell phones or any electronic devices to be used or seen during times of examination. Students may tape record lectures provided they do not disturb other students in the process.

**Student Absences on Religious Holy Days:** Students are allowed to miss class and other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. Students remain responsible for all work. *See Student Syllabus Guidelines.*

**Students with Disabilities Policy:** It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the university. Further, they shall not be denied the benefits of these programs nor shall they be subjected to discrimination. Students with disabilities that might affect their academic performance should visit with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Counseling Center. *See Student Syllabus Guidelines.*

**Visitors in the Classroom:** Only registered students may attend class. Exceptions can be made on a case-by-case basis by the professor. In all cases, visitors must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. Students wishing to audit a class must apply to do so through the Registrar's Office.