

**Three Rivers Community College  
Norwich, CT 06360**

**Syllabus**

**Elementary Spanish 111 Section 1  
(CRN# 30321)**

**Mohegan Campus  
Fall, 2008**

**Credit hours:** 4 semester credits

**Course Schedule:** Monday and Wednesday 9:00 to 10:50  
Room #SB024

**Instructor:** Raquel Nasser

**Office:** Annex Building, room # 11 Mohegan Campus

**Office hours:** M. T. & Th. 11:30 to 12:00 and 2:30 to 3:30  
W. 2:00 to 2:30 and by appointment

**Office Phone:** (860) 892-5709

**Email:** [rnasser@trcc.commnet.edu](mailto:rnasser@trcc.commnet.edu)

**Course description:** Elementary Spanish 111 introduces the basic principles and grammatical structures of the Spanish Language. The course focuses on developing all skills of language learning: listening, reading, writing and speaking, plus cultural understanding. Students are involved in class activities in pairs and groups that allow them to begin applying what they are learning. Their interactions are based on controlled exercises from the textbook that represent realistic situations and reflect the practical usage of the language.

Six chapters of the Textbook, the Workbook and Laboratory Manual are covered in the first semester. Six more chapters are covered in Elementary Spanish 112 the following semester.

**Course objectives:** To provide an atmosphere where students can practice and apply the language, and to develop all language learning skills while providing a strong cultural base.

**Learning outcomes:** With practice and motivation at the end of this semester students should be able to do the following:

- To recognize, pronounce and read the Spanish Sound System.
- To recognize and apply grammar structures (present, present progressive, future tenses, etc.) connecting grammar with communication.
- To develop and use the vocabulary and topics of conversations presented in the six introductory lessons of the textbook. These topics reflect how Spanish speakers communicate in the real world.
- To write questions and answers and short paragraphs based on the material presented in the textbook.
- Read and understand the short narratives that the textbook offers.
- Understand Spanish spoken at a slow speed, based on controlled questions and answers.
- Students will demonstrate basic knowledge of the customs and contributions of the different ethnic groups that form the Hispanic world.

**Criteria of evaluation:**

1. Completion of all assignments and exams. There will be a **Chapter test** after every Chapter, **one** Mid-term and **one** Final exam (written and oral).

**Important note: Make up tests or exams are not allowed.** The instructor must be notified **in advance by phone or note** if the student is under extenuating circumstances and has to miss a class or a test. To be fair to other students in the class, up to **five points** will be deducted from the student's grade for makeup tests, or for late assignments.

2. Completion of the material in the Textbook and in the Activities Manual.

Listening to the tapes that correspond to the Laboratory Manual in the Activities Manual is **mandatory** (minimum one hour per week).

**Note:** the **Activities Manual** is reviewed twice: during the **Mid-term** and during the **Final Exam**. This is part of your final grade. Make a note to remind yourself to bring it on these dates.

3. Individual and group participation

Because of the cumulative nature of language learning, attendance is very important, frequent exposure to the material and keeping up **with the assignments is essential**. **Students should attend all classes and must come to class prepared. If absences are not justified student's participation grade will be affected.**

If you miss a class take responsibility for keeping up with the assignment. Check with a classmate for any changes or additions to the syllabus.

Failure to fulfill any of the categories mentioned above can have a negative impact on your grade.

**Grading Policy:**

Chapter tests (written & oral)	40% of final grade
Mid-term and final Exams (written and oral)	40% of final grade
Participation	10% of final grade
Preparation of class assignments, Textbook and Activities Manual	10% of final grade

**Numerical Grading Equivalent**

A = 100 - 94	B+ = 89 - 87	C+ = 79 - 77	D+ = 69 - 67
A- = 93 - 90	B = 86 - 83	C = 76 - 73	D = 66 - 65
	B- = 82 - 80	C- = 72 - 70	D- = 64 - 60
			F = 59 - 0

**College Withdrawal Policy:** A student who finds it necessary to discontinue the course must complete a withdrawal form in the Registrar's office. Withdrawals are recorded with a "W" a carry no penalty. Students who stop attending but fail to formally withdraw are assigned "F" for a grade.

**Disabilities Statement:** If you have a disability that may require certain modifications, please contact the Counseling and Advising Center at 383-5217 as soon as possible. I cannot provide accommodations until I receive a letter from the Disability Counselor. Your cooperation is appreciated.

**Academic Dishonesty:** False representation of a student's academic performance constitutes academic dishonesty. Knowingly or intentionally assisting another student to do so in any way (during a quiz, exam or written assignment) will have serious consequences. I reserve the right to award an "F" for the course to the individuals involved.

**Disruptive Behavior:** Will not be tolerated. Students will be removed from the course if the problem is not corrected.

**Cell phones:** Please turn off cell phones during class.

**Course Revisions:** This syllabus has been prepared as accurately as possible, but it could be modified and revised at the discretion of the instructor.

## Suggestions on how to study and learn a foreign language

### Learning to speak:

**Practice** the language as much as you can.

**Imitate** as exactly as you can. Say everything **out loud**. If you read silently you are only using your visual memory if you study out loud, you triple your efficiency by adding auditory memory and motor memory.

Learn **one concept** at a time. Break up a lesson into small units.

**Study for short periods of time.** Start off with twenty minutes to a half an hour at the most; then turn to some other work; then come back for another twenty minutes; and so on. Four half hour periods of study will produce far better results than two uninterrupted hours.

**Make full use of class time.** Don't close your mind off when somebody else is responding in class. Recite mentally with him or her and get half the learning job done that way.

**Keep up with the assignments** and don't fall behind. Language learning is cumulative. You build on what you learned previously. You must know the concepts on chapter 10 before chapter 11.

**Come to class prepared.** Don't stay away from class if you are unprepared. You'll fall still farther behind. Tell your instructor and learn from the classroom work.

**Learn to apply the grammatical rules you are learning** rather than learn the rule. If you can't apply them, they are of no use to you.

### Learning to read:

**Read** the assignment twice once for pronunciation and the second time for content. Don't look up every word you don't know. Verbs are the most important words in a sentence, if you know the meaning of the verbs, you can guess the rest.

**Read** the whole sentence before you look up a word that you don't know in a paragraph.

**Literal translation** from one language to another is not possible in many cases. Learn to read for meaning rather than just translating

**Don't try** to cover the whole assignment in one sitting. Break up, re-read each part and then re-read the whole.

**Don't agonize** over passages you just can't understand. Ask your instructor.

**Make a list** or flash cards of your own particular nuisance words; words you have to look up again and again spend special time on them. Except for such nuisance words, don't write out list of words you had to look up- unless you think you have time to waste.

Use the language as often as possible with a classmate, Spanish-Speaking people or by yourself.

Listen to the Spanish Speaking people, radio stations or watch the news on the Spanish TV channels. Participate in the cultural activities offered by the **Organization of the Latin-American Experience OLE** at the college. Come to the first meeting, become an active member. We want to hear your suggestions on activities that interest you. Look for notices and announcements of events in the Bulletin Board next to the cafeteria: in the past the organization has done Study /Travel courses, cultural videos, dinner / dance parties etc. Welcome to the Hispanic world where over three hundred and fifty million people speak the Spanish language. Join us! ¡ **Bienvenidos!**

**Components of the course:** Textbook-Activities Manual and CD's

**1. Textbook;** Dawson/ Dawson **Dicho y Hecho:** Beginning Spanish 7th edition, John Wiley & Sons. 2004.  
It includes two CD's, one CD covers the **Escenas** sections of the textbook Chapters 1-14, and the other CD covers the **Así se pronuncia** and the **¡A escuchar!** Sections of all chapters in the Textbook.

**2. Student Activities Manual includes Workbook /Laboratory Manual = Cuadernos de ejercicios escritos and Manual de laboratorio:** Dawson & Gonzalez

**3. Audio Program: CD's** that correspond to the exercises of the **Manual de laboratorio**

1. The **Textbook** introduces the basic grammatical structures of the language. Each chapter provides a large number of activities to help you practice the structures introduced. The chapters provide practice in pronunciation, writing and reading the language. The readings (**Noticias culturales and Panorama cultural**) offer a wide range of historical, social, political and artistic information to increase the student's knowledge and understanding of the Hispanic world. In class activities are based on the **Práctica y comunicación** exercises to develop speaking skills.

2. The **Student's Workbook** (Cuaderno de ejercicios escritos) and the **Laboratory Manual** (Manual de Laboratorio) are essential tools that offer extensive practice in writing, listening and the application of the structures introduced in the Textbook. Each chapter of the *Cuaderno* and the *Manual de Laboratorio* corresponds in theme, vocabulary and grammatical structures to the Textbook. The **Cuaderno de ejercicios** provides exercises on learning how to write the language; the CD's correspond to the exercises of the **Manual de Laboratorio** and they offer practice in comprehension and pronunciation of the same material.

The Internet Discovery is an optional activity that provides the student with supplementary materials such as on-line dictionaries, Spanish grammar exercises, etc.

Log on the Communication Center: [www.wiley.com/college/dawson](http://www.wiley.com/college/dawson)

Another site for grammatical practice is [studyspanish.com](http://studyspanish.com)

### **Course outline=Plan de Trabajo**

Out of class preparation is essential for language learning. Do the assigned material prior to coming to class, not during class. Class time reinforces the material you have already studied at home. Do the exercises in the Workbook and the Laboratory Manual in conjunction with the structures assigned in the Textbook's exercises. Make sure you finish the material of the three components and do the self test (*autoprueba y repaso*) at the end of a chapter before a test. It will help you become familiar with the structures and will let you know what you need to study.

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Note for assignments: **WB** refers to Workbook=**Cuaderno de ejercicios** and **LM** refers to Laboratory Manual = **Manual de Laboratorio**

## September=Septiembre

- W.3 Introduction to the course. Assignment for Monday  
**Textbook:** Review all chapter. **Así se pronuncia** pp. 2 to 5  
**Así se dice**; pages 8 & 9; **Exercise A p.10 written.**
- M. 8 Review previous class assignment  
Assignment for Wednesday: **Textbook: Nuevos encuentros**  
Estructura 1 p.12. Memorize personal pronouns and the verb **to be.**  
Study pages.16, 19, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 27 to 29.  
**WB** pages 1 to 11; **LM** pages 1 to 10
- W.10 Review previous class assignment  
Assignment for Monday: **Textbook:** Autoprueba y repaso p.31  
Noticias culturales p.18.  
Finish Chapter in the **WB** pages 1 to 11; **LM** pages 1 to 10. Prepare for Chapter test
- M.15 Review previous class assignment. **Chapter test (Nuevos encuentros)**  
Assignment for Wednesday: **Textbook: Capítulo 1. La vida universitaria**  
**Así se dice** pp. 34 & 35; Exercise 1-1 p. 36 written  
Memorize Estructura 1 p.40
- W.17 Review previous class assignment  
Assignment for Monday: **Textbook: Capítulo 1.**  
Memorize Estructura 2 p.42; Estructura 3 p.48, Memorize p.49  
**WB** pages 14 to 25; **LM** pages 11 to 18
- M. 22 Review previous class assignment  
Assignment for Wednesday:**Textbook: Capítulo 1.**  
Estructura 4 p. 52; Memorize p.53  
Panorama cultural.pp.58 to 60; Autoprueba y repaso p.63  
Finish Capítulo 1 in the **WB& LM.** Prepare for Chapter test
- W.24 Review previous class assignment **Chapter test (Capítulo 1)**  
Assignment for Monday: **Textbook: Capítulo 2. Así es mi familia**  
**Así se dice** pp. 66 & 67; Exercise 2-1 written p.68  
Memorize Estructura 1 p.71
- M.29 Review previous class assignment  
Assignment for Wednesday: **Textbook: Capítulo 2**  
Estructura 2 Memorize p.74&75; Estructura 3 p.76 Memorize pp.77&78  
**WB** pages 28 to 39; **LM** pages 19 to 28

## October=Octubre

- W.1 I will not be in class**  
Assignment for Monday: **Textbook: Capítulo 2**  
Estructura 4 p. 84, Memorize pp. 85 & 88  
Panorama cultural.pp.92 & 94; Autoprueba y repaso p.97  
Finish Capítulo 2 in the **WB& LM.**

- M.6 Review previous class assignment:  
Assignment for Wednesday: Prepare for Chapter test
- W.8 Chapter test (Capítulo 2) :Textbook: Capítulo 3. ¡ A la mesa!**  
Assignment for Monday: **Así se dice** pp.100 & 101; Exercise 3-1 written p.102  
Memorize Estructura 1 p.105 &106; Estructuras 2 pp.108&109  
**WB** pages 42 to 53; **LM** pages 29 to 38
- M.13 **Columbus Day –No classes**  
Assignment for Wednesday: **Textbook:** Capítulo 3  
Memorize;Estructura 3 p.119; Estructura 4 p. 123
- W.15 Review previous class assignment:  
Assignment for Monday: **Textbook:** Capítulo 3  
Panorama cultural pp.128 to 130. Autoprueba y repaso p.133  
Finish Capítulo 3 in the **WB & LM.** Prepare for MidTerm
- M.20 Review previous class assignment and general review for Mid-term
- W.22 Examen parcial escrito= Written Mid Term Exam (1, 2 & 3) Bring Activities Manual.**
- M.27 Examen parcial oral=Oral Mid-Term exam**  
Assignment for Wednesday: **Textbook: Capítulo 4. Recreaciones y pasatiempos**  
**Así se dice** pp.136 & 137; Exercise 4-1 written p.138  
Estructura 1 p.142 Memorize p.145
- W.29 Review previous class assignment  
Assignment for Monday **Textbook:** Capítulo 4  
Estructura 2 p.150; Memorize p.151  
**WB** pages 56 to 67; **LM** pages 40 to 48

### **November=Noviembre**

- M.3 Review previous class assignment  
Assignment Wednesday: **Textbook: Capítulo 4**  
Memorize Estructura 3 p154; study pp.156 &157
- W.5 Review previous class assignment  
Assignment for Monday: **Textbook: Capítulo 4**  
Panorama cultural pp.160 to 162; Autoprueba y repaso p.165  
Finish Capítulo 4 in the **WB& LM.**
- M.10 Review previous class assignment **Chapter test (Capítulo 4)**  
Assignment for Wednesday: **Textbook: Capítulo 5. La rutina diaria**  
**Así se dice** pp.168 & 169; Exercise 5-1 written p.170  
**Memorize** Estructura 1 p.173  
**WB** pages 71 to 83; **LM** pages 50 to 57
- W.12 Review previous class assignment.  
Assignment for Monday:**Textbook:** Capítulo 5  
Memorize Estructuras 1 p.173 & Estructura 2 p.177





